

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2014, 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	R. Gage T. Kroeker D. Laird D. Rainer G. Swan L. Ward
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Secretary Treasurer	K. Black
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Lutter

AGENDA

14/140 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

14/141 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held September 17, 2014, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Enrolment Update

The Superintendent advised that the district is down thirty (30) students from projections at the bricks and mortar schools. He noted the projected amount was 1,930 versus the actual of 1,900 students. He further noted that SCIDES has seen a large increase and is currently sitting at 161 FTE versus the 85 projected.

Board/Authority Authorized Courses

The Superintendent provided an overview of the following proposed Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses from South Central Interior Distance Education School:

- Forensic Science 11: Secrets of the Dead
- Forensic Science 12: More Secrets of the Dead
- Veterinary Science: Course Syllabus
- World Religions 12

He noted these would be considered electives.

14/142

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the following as Board/Authority Authorized Courses:

Forensic Science 11: Secrets of the Dead;
 Forensic Science 12: More Secrets of the Dead;
 Veterinary Science: Course Syllabus; and
 World Religions 12

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Class Size Report

The Superintendent advised that the Class Size data is not available at this time as it is still being compiled. He noted the report is due to the Ministry by November 14, 2014.

Strategic Plan

The Superintendent updated the Board on the current stage of the strategic plan. He advised that Principals have reviewed the plan as a group and are bringing it to their respective staffs for discussion.

LIF Update

The Superintendent advised that the LIF total for 2014/2105 is \$478,978. He explained the LIF is broken into three components for this school year:

Education Fund	\$383,182
CUPE – EAs	38,216
CUPE – Support staff	<u>57,580</u>
Total	\$478,978

He advised that the CUPE – Support Staff allocation will be combined with the CUPE – EAs starting the 2015/2016 school year.

Consultation is taking place at the school level with plans to be brought forward for discussion with the two local Presidents.

Remembrance Day

The Secretary Treasurer advised that Remembrance Day is fast approaching and historically, the Board has had a Trustee and a Student Trustee present a wreath at each community's services. It was discussed that Trustee Ward and a Student Trustee would present a wreath for Princeton and Trustee Laird and a Student Trustee would present a wreath in Merritt.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent provided a review of the following activities in the district:

- Swim to Survive grant in partnership with the City of Merritt for grade three students;
- After school PacificSportz program;
- Learning Commons;
- John Allison Garden Celebration;
- Elementary Band running in both Merritt and Princeton;
- Growth plans are now completed for Administrators;
- A heads-up for Merritt Secondary School field trip to Europe for summer 2015;
- MDI – Middle Years Development Instrument to be completed for grade four and seven.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

LINKS Update

The Superintendent reviewed the LINKS funding for the 2014/2015 school year.

Strike Savings

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the Ministry of Education provided guiding principles for the strike savings for the thirteen (13) days in September:

Strike savings should be reported where spending budgeted for the thirteen strike days in September is not being deferred to a later time.

If a school district has experienced increased costs in September that were due to deferral of work from a prior period, it is expected that school districts utilize the 20% of strike savings they retained up to August 31, 2014 to cover those costs.

If school districts are experiencing particular financial difficulty as a result of the strike, the Ministry will work with districts on a case-by-case basis to recognize reasonable incremental costs and net revenue losses, factoring in the district's financial situation.

He advised this report is due October 17, 2014 and the Finance Committee is currently finalizing the numbers. He noted the main area of savings reported will be for teacher and TTOCs wages. Other areas that were looked at were utility savings, as well as fuel savings due to buses not running for the thirteen days.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Nicola-Canford Elementary School Modular Project Update

The Maintenance Supervisor advised that the Nicola-Canford project is approximately 99% complete and the only remaining items are the deficiency list where some back and forth will likely occur.

Merritt Secondary School Boiler Upgrade Update

The Maintenance Supervisor advised that the venting at the school is completed and the boilers will be up and running shortly.

Collettsville Elementary School Gym Update

The Maintenance Supervisor advised that the gym floor will receive a second coat on October 24, 2014.

Mosquito Sound Vandalism Repellant

The Maintenance Supervisor advised that due to some recent graffiti at Merritt Secondary School (MSS), he would like to move forward with the installation of mosquito sound repellant equipment.

He advised that the cost would be in the neighborhood of \$800 to \$1100 installed. He explained the purpose of the equipment is to emit a noise frequency that is age specific that will detract those targeted from being in the area. He noted that the targeted area is the MSS court yard and that the equipment will be placed on a timer so that it does not impact student/community use of spaces at appropriate times.

There was consensus that he proceed with the pilot.

Parking Lots

The Maintenance Supervisor advised that he is currently auditing parking lots for safety and traffic flow.

Formal Signing of Lease at CMS

The Secretary Treasurer advised that a formal signing or press conference for the lease of Coquihalla Middle School to Interior Community Services Society will take place on October 20th at 12:30 p.m.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings and events:

Trustee Gage for Diamond Vale and Merritt Central Elementary Schools, Trustee Swan for Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Ward for Vermilion Forks Elementary School, Trustee Kroeker for Colletville Elementary School, Trustee Laird for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for John Allison Elementary School and Trustee Comeau for Princeton Secondary School and SCIDES.

Student Trustee

The Chairman noted the district is currently looking at preparing a guideline for Student Trustees. He noted the proposal is to have two Student Trustees, one in Grade 11 and one in Grade 12, on a staggered system whereby the grade 11 Trustee would be on a two-year term.

Other Reports

Trustee Laird reported on the recent BCSTA Branch meeting.

Trustee Ward spoke to the Student Trustee plan and process. She advised of the two documents circulated, one would be for advertising and the other would be the Board policy.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and action taken:

- Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC regarding the proposed \$10/Day Child Care Plan
- Weyerheuser Canada providing a grant of \$13,000 to Princeton Secondary School for their Learning Commons.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer