

MINUTES

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 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

It was requested that Student Trustees be added to the Education Committee and One-Ton Trucks and Photocopiers be added to the Building Committee.

14/122 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the agenda be approved as amended:

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

14/123 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held June 11, 2014 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

14/124 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held August 29, 2014 be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Preliminary Enrolment

The Superintendent advised that enrolment estimates were requested from Principals. He estimated this year's preliminary enrolment to be 1,907 versus the projected 1,930. He advised the enrolment estimates do not include SCIDES.

He stated that three band schools are reporting increased enrolment. Estimates have N'Kwala School located at Upper Nicola Band, being up by 25, Lower Nicola Band School being up by 30 and Coldwater Band School being up by 15 for a total estimated increase of 70 students at band schools.

LIF

The Superintendent advised that the district is currently awaiting the final allocation from the Ministry of Education for LIF dollars. He noted that he has informed Principals that a similar process as in the prior year will be put into place which will involve consultation with staff prior to discussing with the Union Co-Chairs.

Labour Relations Update

The Chairman advised that the CUPE Collective Agreement has been fully ratified by all parties. He noted that as per the Provincial Agreement, CUPE staff will receive their Employee Support Grant (ESG) payments within thirty (30) days.

The Superintendent advised that the BCTF and BCPSEA have reached a tentative agreement. He noted that Principals met this morning to discuss a back to school action plan.

The Chairman noted how pleased the Board is that the parties have come to a negotiated agreement. He advised that once the tentative agreement has been received and reviewed by the Board, the Board will need to ratify the agreement.

NSPVPA Growth Plans

The Superintendent advised that he and the district administration staff will be preparing the Nicola Similkameen Principal and Vice Principals' Association growth plans.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent highlighted the following events that have occurred in the district:

- Strategic planning work – with the Board and Administrators;
- Elementary Principals have been meeting regularly during the labour dispute;
- LEA meetings have taken place to discuss student support during the strike;
- SCIDES has experienced a large increase in course registration.

Student Trustees

Trustee Ward spoke to the pilot project of having Student Trustees on the Board for the 2013/2014 school year. She advised she would like to put her name forward as a mentor.

It was suggested that the Student Trustees have staggered starts, i.e. grade eleven (11) students for two (2) years and grade twelve (12) students for one year.

There was consensus that Trustee Ward put together a draft framework to be brought back for review.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2013/2014 Audited Financial Statements

The Secretary Treasurer provided a review of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2014. This included the review of the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Operations. He reminded Trustees that this is the second year of financial statements under Public Sector Accounting Standards, and the statements are now a consolidation of all three funds, Operating, Special Purpose and Capital. He noted that the supporting schedules 2, 3 and 4 provide a detailed breakdown of each fund.

He indicated that the district currently has an accumulated surplus of \$18,302,910 broken out as follows:

Internally Restricted Operating	\$3,362,486
Unrestricted Operating	3,074,463
Capital Fund	<u>11,865,961</u>
Total Accumulated Surplus	<u>\$18,302,910</u>

14/125

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Audited Financial Statement for School District No. 58 (Nicola-Similkameen) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 be accepted and approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Underexpenditure of Targeted 2014/2015 Aboriginal Funding

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the surplus for the targeted dollars for Aboriginal Education. He noted that the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) has approved the carry forward of these dollars and has approved the following motion:

“THAT the AAC request the Board of Education to send a letter to the Minister of Education to carry forward the amount of \$328,382 to the 2014/2015 school year.”

14/126 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board approve the plan for the current year underexpenditure of targeted Aboriginal funds in the amount of \$328,382.

SUMMARY OF TENDERS

The summary of boiler tenders received for Merritt Secondary School Boiler Upgrade and the roofing tenders received for the roof replacement at Riverside Centre were circulated.

14/127 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the boiler upgrade tender received from Interior Plumbing and Heating Ltd. in the amount of \$326,586; and

THAT approval be given for the roof replacement tender received from Interior Roofing (2011) Ltd. in the amount of \$143,131.80.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PacificSport Interior BC Re: Request to be Category A Rental User

The Superintendent reviewed the letter from PacificSport Interior BC asking to be moved to a Category A rental user from a Category B rental user.

14/128 It was moved and seconded:

THAT PacificSport Interior BC be moved from a Category B rental user to a Category A rental user, for a one-year period with a policy review on 'Not For Profits' to be completed.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION ITEM:

The Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer shall provide a policy review on the rental category for Not for Profits.

Nicola Canford Elementary School Update

The Superintendent advised that substantial was obtained at Nicola-Canford and temporary occupancy is in place as well. He advised that permanent occupancy will be obtained as soon as pickets are down.

A grand opening may be able to take place in October.

One-Ton Trucks/Photocopiers

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the previously approved balance for the two one-ton trucks was at \$100,000. He informed that to provide the dump boxes and tool box would bring the cost to approximately \$107,000.

14/129 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given to increase the approved balance for the purchase of two one-ton trucks to \$107,000 from the previous \$100,000.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the photocopier at Nicola-Canford Elementary School was damaged in the move from Coquihalla Middle School and therefore, a replacement may be required.

14/130 It was moved and seconded:

THAT a new photocopier for Nicola-Canford Elementary School be approved up to \$15,000 subject to the damages occurred warranting a new photocopier.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**TRUSTEE REPORTS****PAC School Selections**

It was agreed that Trustees will attend the following PAC meetings:

Trustee Gage for Diamond Vale and Merritt Central Elementary Schools, Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary School and Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Ward for Vermilion Forks Elementary School, Trustee Kroeker for Collettville 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.

The Secretary Treasurer was asked to circulate this to the school Principals.

Other Reports

Trustee Gage advised that he will not be a running for School Trustee in the upcoming election.

The Chairman noted that the district has been well served by Trustee Gage who has served in a number of capacities from Principal to Superintendent to a Trustee for three terms.

Non-Sexist Environment

The Chairman read the communique confirming the Board will not tolerate any written or verbal expression of sexism.

ACTION ITEM:

The Secretary Treasurer was asked to circulate the communique to schools.

BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch Meeting Update

The Chairman advised that the upcoming Branch meeting has been moved from Vernon to Kamloops.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Ministry of Education regarding the district's Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer