

MINUTES

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

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015, 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	G. Ellingsen B. Jepsen T. Kroeker D. Rainer G. Swan L. Ward
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	C. Perkins
	Secretary Treasurer	K. Black
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Lutter

AGENDA

15/156 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

15/157 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held November 4, 2015, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

The Superintendent announced that returning Student Trustee Zoe Douglas and new Student Trustee Michael White will be joining the Board.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation – Hockey Academy

The Superintendent introduced Merritt Secondary Principal Bruce Bidney.

Mr. Bidney provided an overview of the parent night for the Hockey Academy that took place at Merritt Secondary School. He noted that approximately 40 parents attended with many questions and answers being fielded by the representative from the Pacific Rim Academy.

15/158 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the District move forward with the Hockey Academy at Merritt Secondary School.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation – Student Support Services

Principal for Student Support Services Jane Kempston provided an overview of the student support services offered in the district.

Local Education Agreement (LEA) Update

The Superintendent noted that a request to sign the LEA with Lower Nicola Indian Band has been made for December 15, 2015. He advised that a letter to commence discussions to renew the LEAs will be sent to Coldwater, Nooaitch and Shackan Bands.

School/District Goals Planning Process

The Superintendent provided an overview of the School/District planning process and meetings to date.

Revised School Calendar – Non-Instructional Days (NID)

The Superintendent noted that February 5, 2016 and May 20, 2016 will be added to the school calendar as new NID days for the 2015/2016 year.

15/159 It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given to add February 5th and May 20th, 2016 as non-instructional days to the 2015 – 2016 school calendar.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Field Trips

Princeton Secondary School teacher Crystal Larsen provided an overview of the proposed Level 4 field trip to Bamfield Marine Educational/Research facility with an emphasis on Marine science.

15/160

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval in principle be given for the Princeton Secondary School field trip to Bamfield Marine Educational/Research facility on May 12-16, 2016.

Trustee Swan suggested providing awareness to parents when planning for field trips that world events may cause the cancellation of trips. He noted that in some cases, this would mean a forfeiture of funds.

ACTION ITEM:

The Superintendent to provide a message to Principals to ensure parents are aware of potential cancellations.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent provided an update of the following activities in the district:

- Inquiry projects;
- Student voice – video production;
- DPAC meeting scheduled for January 9th ;
- Facilitator training for the new curriculum schedule for January 8th;
- Princeton Secondary and Vermilion Forks band concert took place on December 7th ;
- Princeton Secondary turkey luncheon scheduled for December 18th .

FINANCE COMMITTEE**Five-Year Capital Plan**

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the four items on the Capital Plan and noted the Operations Committee has reviewed as well.

15/161

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given to the Five-Year Capital Plan in the amount of \$6,665,500 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Economic Stability Dividend

The Secretary Treasurer noted that the Provincial Government has advised that the BC economy grew by 3.2% in 2014, which exceeded the forecast of 2.3%. This translates into a wage increase of 0.45% for BCTF and CUPE employees in School District No. 58 effective May 1, 2016.

MSP Rate Increase

The Secretary Treasurer advised that MSP rates are increasing effective January 1, 2016. He noted that from an annualized perspective, this would equate to a \$16,740 increase using the current employee groups.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**Update: Nicola Valley Agri Park Society**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the Nicola Valley Agri Park made a presentation at the November board meeting and a business plan was requested from the Board. He noted that to date, the business plan has not been received.

John Allison Sidewalks

Chairman Comeau noted that a number of years ago, a request was made to the Town of Princeton for sidewalks to be put in place in the John Allison Elementary School area. He noted the lack of sidewalks at John Allison has presented a concern for student and public safety. It was recommended that the Board write a letter to the Town of Princeton to budget for sidewalks in their next round of budget deliberations.

15/162

It was moved and seconded:

THAT a letter be sent to Town of Princeton to be added to their public meeting, requesting sidewalks be implemented at John Allison Elementary School.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ACTION ITEM:

The Secretary Treasurer write a letter to the Town of Princeton requesting sidewalks be implemented at John Allison.

POLICY COMMITTEE**Final Reading: Draft Policy No. 508 – Physical Restraint and Seclusion**

The Superintendent advised that no feedback was received to the draft policy and recommended third and final reading take place.

15/163

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 508 – Physical Restraint and Seclusion be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TRUSTEE REPORTS

PAC Reports

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Jepsen for Diamond Vale and Merritt Central Elementary Schools, Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary School and Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Ward for Princeton Secondary School, Trustee Kroeker for Collettsville Elementary School and SCIDES, Trustee Ellingsen for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for Vermilion Forks Elementary, and Trustee Comeau for John Allison Elementary School and Community Learning Centre.

Other Reports

Trustee Swan noted that BCSTA has struck a committee regarding Syrian refugees.

Trustee Ward reported that the theme for the Trustee Academy recently attended by the Board was innovation and creativity.

2016 Board Meeting Dates

The Secretary Treasurer circulated the proposed list of Board meeting dates for 2016.

There was consensus that the dates be accepted.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer