

**MINUTES**

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

**PRINCETON BOARD OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015, 6:00 P.M.**

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PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	G. Ellingsen T. Kroeker D. Rainer G. Swan L. Ward
	Student Trustees	Z. Douglas R. Howarth
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Secretary Treasurer	K. Black
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Lutter

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**AGENDA**

15/024 It was moved and seconded:  
  
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MINUTES**

15/025 It was moved and seconded:  
  
THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held January 14, 2015, be adopted as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **Tulameen Community Club Request**

Chairman Comeau introduced Mark Jones, Treasurer of the Tulameen Community Club.

Mr. Jones advised his Club would like to develop the Tulameen school property with a ball diamond at one end and a family park at the other end. He noted the Club would use and expand the existing playground and build a new community centre at the centre of the property.

Mr. Jones questioned if the District has any future plans to re-open a school in Tulameen. The Chairman responded that given the current enrolment at the three schools, the chance would be highly unlikely.

Mr. Jones noted that a building demolition plan for the old school and permits would be brought forward by the Club with approval from the Regional District. He further noted the Club would be responsible for all costs for the demolition and is aware of the asbestos. He ensured they would have certified tradespeople perform the work and have WorkSafe coverage and measures in place.

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

Mr. Jones to provide a letter to the Board requesting support and indicating the Club's overall plan as well as the demolition plans.

### **Presentation – District Web Page**

District Technology Coordinator Janet Hohner provided an overview of the new district web page.

### **Special Education Audit**

The Superintendent introduced Principal for Student Support Services Jane Kempston. Ms. Kempston provided an overview of the special education audit that took place February 2 – 6, 2015. She noted that 131 files were audited, broken down into the following categories for a total supplementary funding of \$2,214,800:

- Category A - 1 student at \$36,000 = \$36,000
- Category E - 108 students at \$18,300 = \$1,976,400
- Category H - 22 students at \$9,200 = \$202,400

She reported that the district was 98% in compliance and may see reduced funding on three files totalling \$45,800.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

The Superintendent advised that the focus of the Strategic Plan continues to be on well-being and foundation skills. He noted that teachers will be working on

organization excellence. He would like to have a meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. to review the current direction.

### **2015/2016 School Calendar**

The Superintendent presented a draft school calendar for review.

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

The Superintendent to review data in preparation of scheduling spring breaks for the next few years, specifically around the issue of one week versus two week breaks.

### **Field Trips**

The list of Superintendent approved field trips was circulated for information.

15/026

It was moved and seconded:

THAT final approval be given for the following field trips as presented:

Princeton Secondary School Band field trip to Seattle, Washington on May 8-11, 2015; and

Merritt Secondary School Music Tour field trip to Edmonton, Alberta on May 30 – June 2, 2015.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent informed of the following activities occurring in the district:

- PSS course completion and transition rates at 97% for semester one;
- FSA at the grade 4 and 7 level nearing completion;
- First Nations Parent gathering has been postponed due to the passing of a community member;
- District Handball tournament;
- Field trips continue to take place across the district;
- Local First Nation unit plans being completed by teachers;
- Upper Nicola culture camp;
- Pro-d day Friday.

### **POLICY**

#### **School Board Meeting – Policy 204.1, Bylaw 1-96**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that Policy No. 204.1, Bylaw 1-96, School Board Meetings, has been amended to reflect the regularity of the meetings being held from every three weeks to once a month. He further noted that the *School Act* sections were updated in the process as well.

15/027 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 204.1, Bylaw 1-96, be read a first and second time.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

It was unanimous that a third reading be held.

15/028 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 204.1, Bylaw 1-96 be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **FINANCE**

#### **2014/2015 Amended Annual Budget**

The Secretary Treasurer circulated copies of the 2014/2015 Amended Annual Budget. He reviewed the major changes from the Annual budget versus the Amended Annual budget.

15/029 It was moved and seconded

THAT the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the 2014/2015 fiscal year specifying a budget bylaw amount of \$28,865,990 be read a first and second time.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

It was unanimous that a third reading be held.

15/030 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the 2014/2015 fiscal year specifying a budget bylaw amount of \$28,865,990 be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Trustee Indemnity Increase**

Trustee Swan noted the Trustee indemnity has not been increased for eight years.

15/031 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board increase the current trustee indemnity as follows:

Trustee Role	Current	Proposed
Chairperson of the Board	\$14,500	\$17,000

Vice-Chairperson of the Board	\$13,250	\$15,500
School Trustees	\$12,000	\$14,000

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2015/2016 PAC Budget Survey**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that he will be attending all PACs to obtain budget survey results.

**2015/2016 Budget Consultation Dates**

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the budget planning process for the upcoming 2015/2016 Annual Budget.

**OPERATIONS**

**Tender – Communication System**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that two quotes have been received for the VOIP phone systems for SCIDES, MSS, PSS and the school board office. Upon the recommendation from the Operations Manager, the district would like to proceed with the tender from Okanagan Telephone. It was also recommended that the district allow for \$50,000; not inclusive of taxes, for any unforeseen work that may occur.

15/032

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the purchase of the VOIP phone systems for SCIDES, MSS, PSS and the school board office from Okanagan Telephone at an estimated cost of \$50,000 not inclusive of taxes.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary School, Trustee Ward for Vermilion Forks Elementary School, Trustee Kroeker for Collettville Elementary School and SCIDES, Trustee Ellingsen for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for John Allison Elementary School and Trustee Comeau for Princeton Secondary School.

**Other Reports**

The Chairman advised that he and Trustee Rainer recently attended the grand opening of the Rotary Riverside kitchen.

The Chairman acknowledged Princeton Secondary School teacher Richard Jensen for his after school song writing and recording program. He noted that sixteen students are currently signed up and commented on what a great opportunity Mr. Jensen is providing his students.

### **Student Trustee Report**

Student Trustee Howarth and Student Trustee Douglas reported on the activities occurring at Princeton Secondary School.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **City of Merritt Re: Road Safety Colletville Area**

A letter was received from the City of Merritt responding to the district's concerns regarding road safety in the Colletville area.

It was agreed that the Board request the City to have a long term plan to put in sidewalks on the road to Colletville.

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

Secretary Treasurer to write a letter to the City requesting sidewalks be placed in the long-term plan for the capital budget.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary Treasurer