

MINUTES

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016, 6:00 P.M.**

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

AGENDA

It was requested that the field trip presentation be moved to the beginning of the Education Committee.

16/012 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

16/013 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held December 9, 2015, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Quebec field trip

The Superintendent provided information regarding the Merritt Secondary School French as a Second Language field trip to Montreal and Quebec City on March 10-17, 2016.

16/014

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the Merritt Secondary School French as a Second Language field trip to Montreal and Quebec City, Quebec on March 10-17, 2016 as requested.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fair Play in Sports

The Superintendent provided a background around Fair Play in Sports from information completed from a survey by Principals and Vice Principals in the district. He noted of priority, a focus on inclusion and participation should take place throughout the elementary and middle school years. However, sports will become more competitive at the higher levels. He recommended not moving towards a district policy but rather communicating expectations to students, parents and stakeholders through school regulations.

Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

The Superintendent provided an overview of the process for developing a district/school plan.

2016/2017 School Calendar

The Superintendent reviewed the draft calendar and recommended it be sent out to stakeholders for review and feedback.

16/015

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the draft 2016/2017 school calendar to be sent out to stakeholders for review and feedback.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

District PAC

The Superintendent noted that the District is in the process of starting a District Parent Advisory Council. He noted that parent voice is an important piece of information regarding the work that occurs in schools. He noted ten presidents were invited with seven attending an information meeting.

New Teacher Mentorship Project

The Assistant Superintendent provided an overview of the New Teacher Mentoring Project that is being developed in the district.

Superintendent's Report

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

- Curriculum Planning session took place January 8th in preparation for February 5th. Further planning will take place for May 20th;
- Meetings are scheduled and taking place to discuss school goal and growth plan progress;
- Wellbeing – Several schools and parents are learning about Play is the Way which is a program focused on developing a culture of safety, self-improvement, self-regulation, belonging and social emotional competency;
- Winter activities – skating, sledding, skiing, ice fishing, etc...;
- Elders luncheon scheduled for January 21st at Merritt Bench Elementary;
- Carnival Week at Collettsville Elementary School January 18-22nd (Maple Man and Tacot Races);
- MSS Music Concert January 21st at 7:00 p.m.;
- A number of Parent Learning Sessions are being planned for the upcoming months;
- End of semester coming for the high schools which places a focus on exams, reporting and scheduling;
- MyEd support continues specifically for time tabling and scheduling.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2015/2016 Funding Update

The Secretary Treasurer provided an overview of the estimated operating grant funding in May 2015 compared to the interim operating grant funding in December 2015. He noted that the overall dollar figures are down \$26,773 from the estimated funding in March and explained the change:

Special Education Audit from 14/15	\$45,800.00
Funding protection	<u>98.5%</u>
Reduced	(\$45,113.00)
Labour Settlement increase	2,684.00
July 2015 increase	<u>15,656.00</u>
Total difference explained	<u>\$26,773.00</u>

Appointment of Auditors

The Secretary Treasurer recommended the appointment of McConnell Voelkl as auditors for the 2015/2016 school year. He further recommended that the District send the audit out for tender for the 2016/2017 school year.

16/016 It was moved and seconded:

THAT McConnell Voelkl be appointed as the District's auditors for the 2015/2016 school year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw 127015, Collettsville Boiler Replacement

16/017 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Bylaw No. 127015 – Collettsville Boiler Replacement specifying a maximum expenditure of \$225,000 be read a first and second time.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16/018 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Bylaw No. 127015 – Collettsville Boiler Replacement specifying a maximum expenditure of \$225,000 be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw 126965, Diamond Vale Boiler Replacement

16/019 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Bylaw No. 126965 – Diamond Vale Boiler Replacement specifying a maximum expenditure of \$250,000 be read a first and second time.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16/020 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Bylaw No. 126965 – Diamond Vale Boiler Replacement specifying a maximum expenditure of \$250,000 be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy No. 507.1 – Discrimination

The Superintendent advised that feedback was received on the draft policy and recommended second reading take place.

16/021

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 507.1 – Discrimination, be read a second time.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary School and Merritt Bench Elementary School and Trustee Rainer for Vermilion Forks Elementary.

Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Chhabra reported that the senior band students have a field trip scheduled for the last week of May. He noted that a recent meat sale fund raising event generated over \$10,000 in sales. He informed that “We are silent” is taking place at Merritt Secondary School describing the initiative as students being silent the whole day in support of a cause they are passionate about.

Student Trustee McCormack reported the grad theme this year will be Hollywood. He noted the grad trip will be at Rock Ridge Canyon at Princeton or a cruise and dinner in Vancouver. He reported that a Trades presentation will take place tomorrow evening.

Other Reports

Chairman Comeau provided a reminder of the meeting with the City of Merritt Mayor and Council tomorrow, January 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the City council chambers.

Vice Chairman Swan noted that a Youth Conference will be occurring in the District on May 4 and 6th.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following letters were received and action taken:

- ArtStarts in Schools advising of the grant application from the district was approved in the amount of \$7,260; and
- Ministry of Education advising of the funding provided for the purpose of FSA and Provincial Exam scoring.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

NVPTU Co-Chair Peter Vogt requested clarification regarding the time frame of the next reading for Policy 507.1 - Discrimination.

The Chairman noted that subject to feedback, the Policy would either go for final reading in February or be deferred if more time is needed.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Chairman

Secretary Treasurer