

**MINUTES**

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2016, 6:00 P.M.**

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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

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**AGENDA**

16/047 It was moved and seconded:  
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MINUTES**

16/048 It was moved and seconded:  
THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held February 10, 2016, be adopted as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **Merritt Fire Department**

The Superintendent noted the excellent response by the members of the Merritt Volunteer Fire Department and the great support the department provided the school district with the initial clean-up. He noted that he has debriefed with the Fire Chief and from a Fire Department's point of view, the overall incident was handled appropriately.

16/049 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the District write a letter thanking the Merritt Volunteer Fire Department for their excellent work and support.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Presentation: Youth Voice**

The Assistant Superintendent introduced grade 10 MSS student Tyler Thomson who provided an overview of the Youth Voice program occurring at Merritt Secondary School. Ms. Thomson provided the results of a survey presented to the students at the school.

### **Presentation: ICS**

The Secretary Treasurer introduced Interior Community Services Director Chelsea Morrey. Ms. Morrey provided an overview of the number of services offered at ICS.

Ms. Morrey formally requested the Board consider applying for a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) for Coquihalla Middle School. She recommended that an advisory committee be created as the gate keepers in order to determine what fee based services would be allowed in the building. The CEO, Kelly Keland for ICS, noted that a pediatrician out of Kamloops, Dr. Ogilvy, has expressed an interest to come to Merritt once a month. The goal of the advisory committee would be to approve or not approve the fee based business. Ms. Morrey noted the advisory committee could be made up of members from the School District, the City of Merritt and Interior Community Services.

16/050 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board move forward with applying for a Temporary Use Permit with the City of Merritt.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Kindergarten Registration Update**

The Superintendent noted that registration for Kindergarten is at 71 students after the two week registration period. He noted the average March registration is 76 with a low of 54 and a high of 96. He reported that typical registrations over the last

nine years have been 115 to 145 with a mode of 140. The Superintendent noted that Interior Health birth information has a prediction at 160.

### **Strategic Plan Update**

Vice Chairman Swan arrived at this time.

The Superintendent provided an update of the work being done on the strategic plan initiatives. He reviewed in detail the four goals of the strategic plan:

1. Well being
2. Learning
3. Organizational Excellence and
4. Community

### **Field Trips**

The list of Superintendent approved field trips were circulated for review.

### **Superintendent's Report**

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

- CPI training taking place
- Student hand drumming celebration at Merritt Civic Centre
- DPAC
- Framework for enhancing student learning
- New curriculum collaboration, all course cohorts completed
- Webpage updates
- Communication using Twitter, Facebook and other means
- Ready, Set, Learn
- Science Fair
- Basketball
- Culture Camp in Lower Nicola
- Pink Shirt Day
- Find Your Fit
- Elementary report cards

### **OPERATIONS**

#### **CMS Pathway**

The Board Chair noted that a concern was brought forward from a community member regarding the pathway at CMS by Armstrong Street.

He noted the City of Merritt provided an easement and then approximately five years ago, paved the easement. This has acted as a funnel to the school district property which created a path to form.

The Vice Chairman provided some history regarding the easement and noted that it was put in to gain access to the school property. He noted that up to one hundred people use this access point on a daily basis.

The Board Chair further noted that he has met with the Mayor and the funnel to school district property was acknowledged.

16/051 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board Chair and the Secretary Treasurer meet with the Mayor and CAO to discuss the moving of the concrete no post and review the City's plans for the path.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **POLICY**

#### **Policy No. 203.1 – Policy Making Development & Adoption Procedures**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that one amendment was received for feedback from stakeholders. The suggestion was to have first reading on its own which would then allow for stakeholder feedback. The Board could proceed with second and third reading at the next regular meeting.

16/052 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 203.1 – Policy Making Development & Adoption Procedures be read a second time and circulated to stakeholders for feedback.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Policy No. 1004.1 – Public Use of School Facilities – Schedule A**

The Secretary Treasurer advised that after sending out to stakeholders, no feedback was received and recommended second reading.

16/053 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy No. 1004.1 – Public Use of School Facilities Schedule A be read a second time and circulated to stakeholders for feedback.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Jepsen for Merritt Central Elementary Schools, Trustee Swan for 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.

### **Student Trustee Report**

Student Trustee Chhabra and Student Trustee McCormack reported on numerous events occurring at Merritt Secondary School.

### **Other Reports**

Trustee Rainer and Trustee Ward reported on the recent Thompson Okanagan Branch meeting held in Salmon Arm.

Vice Chairman Swan attended the Thompson Okanagan Branch meeting and noted Syrian refugees were the topic at the board chairs session.

Chairman Comeau advised that regarding the BCSTA Memorandum of Understanding Trustee are to pass their comments directly to Vice Chairman Swan.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter was received from the Town of Princeton responding to the District's request for sidewalks in the John Allison Elementary School area.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary Treasurer