

MINUTES

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2018, 6:00 P.M.**

Success for ALL Learner Today and Tomorrow on the Traditional Territories of the Ne?kepmux and Syilx

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	E. Hoisington B. Jepsen J. Chenoweth D. Rainer L. Ward G. Swan
	Student Trustees	C. Davey N. Willey
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	J. Aziz
	Secretary Treasurer	B. Ross
	Executive Assistant	S. Blonde

AGENDA

18/131 It was moved and seconded:
THAT the revised agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Secretary Treasurer conducted the Oath of Office and the Oath of Allegiance for all Trustees.

Election of Chairperson

The Secretary Treasurer called for nominations for the position of Chairperson.

Trustee Comeau was nominated.

18/132 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Gordon Comeau be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Board.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Secretary Treasurer declared Trustee Comeau elected by acclamation as Board Chairman.

Trustee Comeau assumed the position as Chair.

Election of Vice-Chairperson

The Board Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

Trustee Swan was nominated.

18/133 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Gordon Swan be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board Chair declared Trustee Swan elected by acclamation as Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

BCSTA Provincial Council Representative

The Board Chair called for nominations for the position of BCSTA Provincial Council Representative.

Dave Rainer was nominated.

18/134 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Dave Rainer be appointed as the BCSTA Provincial Council representative for the district

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BC Public Service Employees' Association Representative

The Board Chair called for nominations for the position of BCPSEA Representative.

Brian Jepsen was nominated.

18/135 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Brian Jepsen be appointed as the BCPSEA Representative. Board Chair Comeau will serve as the alternate Representative.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Appointment of Committees

The Board Chair noted that he will make appointments to committees once Trustees have had a chance to send him their requests.

Appointment of Signing Officers

The Board Chair called for nominations for the position of Signing Officers.

Everett Hoisington, Gordon Swan and Gordon Comeau were nominated.

18/136 It was moved and seconded:

THAT Everett Hoisington, Gordon Swan and Gordon Comeau be appointed as the signing officers for the district

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

18/137 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the amended minutes of the Regular meeting held October 17, 2018, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation: Merritt Secondary School Update

Principal Leroy Slanzi presented on Merritt Secondary School upgrades. Upgrades to the Serenity Room include new structure, inclusion, and Aboriginal education. The upgrades have brought culture, curriculum implementation of Aboriginal education, social and emotional well being and a community feeling. It is a safe place for students to self manage while learning. Testimonials were shown to prove the effectiveness of the new Serenity Room.

Language Nest Update

The Superintendent circulated a memo and updated the board on the state of the joint initiative between the Local Bands, Scw'exmx Child and Family Services Society and the District. The Language Nest has been renamed Zm'énm ("Building the Nest") and it will run out of Nicola-Canford Elementary School Strong Start Room until improvements are made at Lower Nicola Indian Band centre, three days per week.

Merritt Bench Elementary Daily Schedule

The Assistant Superintendent distributed a memo and discussed Merritt Bench Elementary School's request for a bell schedule change. The item will be consulted at parent and PAC levels before going forward.

Nicola Valley Principals and Vice-Principals Association Professional Learning

The Superintendent circulated a memo and discussed the BC Principals and Vice-Principals Association conference in Kelowna on November 29-30, 2018 that will be attended by the Assistant Superintendent, Principals and Vice-Principals from the District. The conference will focus on team building, leadership, and online growth plans.

Trustee Orientation

The Superintendent discussed the need for new Trustees to meet with board staff to be updated on items, such as the budget. The upcoming BC School Trustees Association Academy will help to onboard the new Trustees. Any further orientation ideas are to be brought forward to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Community Meeting Dates

The Board agreed to schedule community meeting dates with the Town of Princeton, the City of Merritt and the local First Nations Chiefs with the new Board for February 2019. Items to discuss will include facility Joint Use Agreements.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent reported on the following activities happening in the district:

- Earthquake drills for the Great Shakeout took place.
- Lockdown drills are underway.
- Pro-D Learning Day consisted of Literacy 20/21 events.
- Data Collecting Program.
- Day of Work in Communities.
- Halloween did not raise any concerns.
- Provincial activities include a Superintendents' Meeting.
- BCPSEA Symposium.
- Trades Program.
- Disability Enhancement Grant.
- John Allison Elementary and Vermilion Forks Elementary received funding from Weyerhaeuser.
- Remembrance Day Ceremonies were held throughout District.
- Diploma Verification reviews.
- Report cards provided this coming week.

The passing of Jim Toodlican: Jim made a huge impact on the District throughout his career as a language teacher. He will be greatly missed by the District and community.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Personal Information Bank

The Secretary Treasurer distributed the final Personal Information Bank document to upload to District website in response to the Freedom of Information request. This document will be reviewed and revised on an annual basis.

Merritt Secondary School Portable

The Superintendent discussed the new portable at Merritt Secondary School. It will be ready for use after the updates are made to bring the portable up to code.

AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Nicola Lake School

The Superintendent distributed a memo summarizing what each school and Administrator put forward as their priority for purchase of capital assets. The examples include equipment, furniture, enhancements to existing assets, vehicles and computer hardware and software. It was discussed that a committee be formed, or meetings be held with the Operations Manager before any decisions are made.

Economic Stability Dividend

The Secretary Treasurer discussed the BC Public School Employers' Association's correspondence on Economic Stability Dividend. The 2014 Economic Stability Mandate commits to a wage increase of 0.75% ESD and 1.0% general wage increase for both Teachers and Support Staff by May 1, 2019.

POLICY COMMITTEE

702.1 - Student Transportation Policy

The Superintendent distributed a memo and discussed the Student Transportation Policy. The policy was reviewed by the Policy Committee in detail. A decision has been made to keep the current policy as it is and to update has been sent the parent in Princeton that requested the policy be revised.

Draft 504.8 Healthy Nutrition in Schools

18/138

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the following draft policy be read for a first time:

- 504.8 Healthy Nutrition in Schools

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cannabis Policy Update

The Superintendent spoke to the need for a policy on the now legalized cannabis law. The Assistant Superintendent has researched other district policies that have been adopted. He assured the Board that a Cannabis Policy for the District is being drafted and will then be provided to the Board for review.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Consent to Receive Commercial Electronical Messages

The British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) regularly communicates with member boards of education regarding public education matters. BCSTA also communicates with members regarding BCSTA's activities including the work of the Board of Directors, branch associations, and committees. From time to time, BCSTA's electronic communications may include commercial electronic messages. Examples of our communications include The Education Leader, the BCSTA Weekly, Advocacy Updates, legislative updates and event invitations.

To ensure that all commercial electronic messages that are to Trustees are compliant with Canada's Anti-Spam Law, BCSTA would like to have consent to provide the communications described above.

The Trustees all signed the consent form. Executive Assistant Sarah Blonde will forward the signed consent form to BCSTA.

Trustee Reports

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Swan reported on Merritt Secondary School.
Trustee Chenoweth will report at next board meeting.
Trustee Jepsen reported on Diamond Vale Elementary School.
Trustee Hoisington will report at next board meeting.
Trustee Rainer reported on Vermilion Forks Elementary School.
Trustee Ward reported on Princeton Secondary School.
Trustee Comeau reported on John Allison Elementary School.

Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Davey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. Remembrance Day ceremony was held. Link Crew has been helping peers and new teachers adapt. Grade 10-12 Numeracy Assessments taking place. Yearbooks are underway. Grad meetings have started. We Care Crew for Halloween collected food for the food bank.

Student Trustee Willey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. Grade 8 volleyball is having a great season. The senior volleyball team came first and are going to the Okanagan for a tournament. Soccer had a great season as well. Track and Field placed competitively with one injury. Basketball season has started. Field lacrosse community team has also started up. Self defense class is popular.

Other Reports

The Chair updated the Board on the BCPSEA Symposium. Much of the symposium was confidential bargaining discussions.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD


None

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary Treasurer