

**MINUTES**

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019, 6:00 P.M.**

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

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

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**AGENDA**

19/040 It was moved and seconded:  
THAT the revised agenda be approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MINUTES**

19/041 It was moved and seconded:  
THAT the amended minutes of the Regular meeting held February 13, 2019, be adopted as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **Presentation: Diamond Vale Elementary School**

The Assistant Superintendent introduced the Principal of Diamond Vale Elementary School, Kevin McGifford. Principal McGifford introduced Grade 5 Teacher, Kelly Tjorhom. Ms. Tjorhom presented her classroom structure to the Board. She described her classroom design as flexible seating allowing students more choice. Showing her students respect, improving attendance, inclusion, offering self regulation and a universal design for learning have provided her Grade 5 class a fun learning environment. Ms. Tjorhom believes her classroom layout provides more space for collaboration to individualize, to utilize different spaces, flexibility for her students and to allow kids to be kids.

### **Field Trips**

The following level three field trips have been approved:

Collettville Elementary School's Grade 1-7 ski field trips to Sun Peaks, in Kamloops, BC on February 27 & 28, 2019; and  
Princeton Secondary School's Ski and Snowboarding trip to Apex Mountain on March 7, 2019.

### **Joyful Literacy – School District No. 58 Research Project**

The Superintendent circulated a memo from District Principal of Student Support Services, Jane Kempston updating the Board on Literacy 2021. Dr. Janet Mort has asked Grade 1 Teacher Daniella Ricci and Grade 2 Teacher Tanis Kanigan to work with her on a research project exploring the impact of poetry exploration on the development of fluent and engaged readers. The results of the pilot project will become part of a book collaboratively written by Dr. Mort and Dr. Rasinski.

### **Changing Results for Young Children Project**

The Superintendent circulated a memo from District Principal of Student Support Services, Jane Kempston updating the Board on the Changing Results for Young Children Initiative. The District was approached by the Ministry of Education, along with 44 other BC school districts to identify, explore and apply a strengthened understanding of quality practices associated with increasing the social and emotional well-being outcomes for young children. A team of community-based Early Childhood Educators, StrongStart Educators and Kindergarten Teachers will meet six times throughout the year to share what they are learning, extend opportunities for collaboration and to implement quality practices, all at the expense of the Ministry.

### **French Immersion Enrollment**

The Assistant Superintendent updated the Board on the French immersion enrollment. Enrollment was offered earlier this year and 25 of the 31 spaces are already filled.

### **Meeting with Local Chiefs**

The Superintendent circulated a memo and updated the Board on the meeting that took place with local Chiefs. The meeting showed great representation from the community. Two requests were made at the meeting to re-open the current Local Education Agreements for the purpose of negotiating on Local Education for all five bands and the develop a Nlaka'pamux Immersion program for students in the District. The Trustees all spoke to the enthusiasm and keenness from the Chiefs and the five local bands.

### **Superintendent's Report**

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

- Merritt Secondary and Princeton Secondary Schools are active with basketball season.
- Professional Learning activities happening.
- Literacy 20/21 Research Project.
- "Unlock Your Future" presentations at Merritt Secondary and Princeton Secondary Schools for Grades 10-12.
- Pink Shirt Day was well supported.
- RCMP Drug Awareness presentations held.
- Science Fairs underway.
- Ninja Warrior Competition.
- Hosting BC Assembly of First Nations was powerful.
- Elementary report cards went out.
- Secondary School diploma verifications.
- Student support services review.
- Spring Break March 18-29, 2019.

### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

#### **Board Room Upgrades**

The Secretary Treasurer distributed a memo and confirmed the dates for the Merritt and Princeton board room updates completed by Ricoh. Merritt's board room will be upgraded April 8-12, 2019 and Princeton Secondary School's board room will be upgraded April 15-19, 2019.

**Annual 2019/2020 Five-Year Capital Plan**

The Secretary Treasurer distributed a memo and provided details for the School Enhancement Program and the Capital Bylaw. Highlights include electrical and LED lighting upgrades, and five replacement school buses for the District.

19/042 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Capital Bylaw No. 2019/20-CPSE-58-01 be read for a first and second time.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

It was unanimous that a third reading be held.

19/043 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Capital Bylaw No. 2019/20-CPSE-58-01 be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Annual 2020/2021 Five-Year Capital Plan**

The Secretary Treasurer distributed a memo and provided details for the upcoming 2020/2021 Annual Five-Year Capital Plan submission process.

**Automated External Defibrillators**

The Superintendent provided a memo and updated Trustees on the placement of automated external defibrillators (AED's) within the District. The Superintendent hopes the Operations Manager and Physical Education Teachers will be trained in operating the AED's and that a device will be housed at each secondary school. The decision of placement at only secondary schools is based on statistics of secondary school students in physical education classes needing the device versus students in primary and elementary schools. The initial cost of each unit is approximately \$1800 with a 7-year warranty and maintenance costs thereafter.

19/044 It was moved and seconded:

THAT one automated external defibrillator be purchased for Merritt Secondary School and one automated external defibrillator be purchased for Princeton Secondary School.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

It is to be brought forward to reassess if the Coquihalla Middle School building will require an automated external defibrillator in the future.

## **BC Tripartite Education Agreement Transportation Plan**

The Superintendent provided a memo and updated the Board on the collaborative planning for new Joint First Nations Students Transportation Plan submission requirements. Families who qualify for transportation assistance will be identified and provided the necessary support to claim the assistance. The Operations Manager has been in communication with the Ministry of Transportation to review and increase signage where needed, to possibly extend the route on Highway 8 and to perhaps update older bus shelters. Training will be provided to bus drivers in order to support students with medical alerts such as anaphylaxis.

## **AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Budget Planning Process**

The Secretary Treasurer provided a memo and proposed 2019/2020 Budget Planning Process presentation dates to Trustees. The presentations are for members of the public, Parent Advisory Councils, District Parent Advisory Councils, teacher and support staff unions and Principals. The key dates are as follows:

April 3, 2019 – Public Budget Presentation in Princeton  
 April 4, 2019 – Public Budget Presentation in Merritt  
 April 23, 2019 – Audit & Finance Committee review  
 April 24, 2019 – Board of Education discussion  
 May 8, 2019 – Regular Board of Education meeting approval of bylaw

### **BMO Bank of Montreal Resolution**

The Secretary Treasurer provided the board with a memo and provided explanation to the need for a resolution authorizing members of the Board to open and operate accounts with BMO Bank of Montreal.

19/045

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the following are authorized to open and operate accounts with BMO Bank of Montreal:

- Chairperson
- Vice-Chairperson
- Secretary Treasurer
- Assistant Secretary Treasurer
- Trustee

The sign arrangements are any two of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary Treasurer, Assistant Secretary Treasurer and Trustee to sign together.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **Update – 606.1 Animals in the School/Classroom**

19/046

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the following draft policy be read for a third time, finally passed and adopted:

- 606.1 Animals in the School/Classroom

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Meeting with the Town of Princeton**

The Board Chair spoke to a meeting to take place with the Town of Princeton on March 14, 2019. The Board Chair discussed predicted the main topics of the meeting to be future developments and the potential impact on student enrolment, renewing School District No. 58 buildings currently being leased to the Town of Princeton and to meet the new Mayor and Council.

### **Industry Training Authority (ITA) Funding**

The Secretary Treasurer circulated a memo and spoke to a letter from the Industry Training Authority. The District has received funding for the Youth Trade Capital Equipment Program in the amount of \$21,531.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### **Trustee Reports**

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Jepsen reported on Diamond Vale Elementary School.

### **Student Trustee Reports**

Student Trustee Davey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. Grad planning is completed – Fundraising totalling almost \$30,000. Dry Grad is booked for Kumsheen River Rafting. The 2019 yearbooks are nearly complete and will be available for purchase for \$42. A bursary presentation was held informing Grade 12 students of the \$42,000 local funds available to apply for in scholarships and bursaries.

Student Trustee Willey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. Grade 8 basketball teams enjoyed great competitions the season. The Eagles Perch competition at NVIT was widely attended. An Ultimate Frisbee league is coming to Merritt. Girls Rugby training has started. Girls soccer tryouts are underway. Muy Thai has a lot of interest now. A possible mountain biking team is in process.

### **Other Reports**

Superintendent McNiven reminded the Board of the upcoming District Parent Advisory Council Meeting on April 2, 2019.

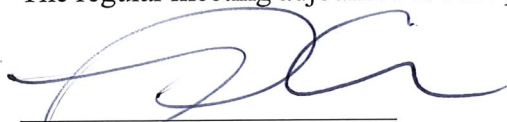
Vice-Chair Swan spoke of the BCSTA Branch meeting highlights of the Funding Model Review, an Indigenous History presentation and the beginning of Collective Bargaining.

### **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

  
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 Chairman

  
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 Secretary Treasurer