

**MINUTES**

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2019, 6:09 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	J. Chenoweth G. Swan B. Jepsen L. Ward E. Hoisington D. Rainer
	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**

19/074 It was moved and seconded:  
  
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MINUTES**

19/075 It was moved and seconded:  
  
THAT the amended minutes of the Regular meeting held April 10, 2019, be adopted as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **Presentation: Careers and Skills**

The Assistant Superintendent introduced the Principal of Diamond Vale Elementary School, Kevin McGifford. Principal McGifford presented on Trades and Technology. A strong relationship has been built with the Industry Training Authority (ITA) to support post secondary trades training in British Columbia. Collaborations have been made with the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, Okanagan College, Thompson Rivers University and the College of New Caledonia to encourage students to continue their academics in the field of trades and technology. The District has received a total of \$173,000 in grants from the Youth Trades Capital Equipment Program.

### **Strategic Plan**

The Superintendent distributed a memo with a “Strong Districts & Their Leadership” booklet. He discussed the British Columbia Superintendent Association consultation and recommendations brought forward to enhance the strategic plan with a new three to five-year plan in place. The enhancements include establishing a Steering Committee, aligning the Education Enhancement Agreement, Local Education Agreement and Inclusion Plan. Engaging the community, analysing of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats with the ability to provide feedback will allow the District to create a master operational action plan. The goal is to have the new Strategic Plan completed by November 2019.

### **Field Trips**

No new field trips to report.

### **Premier’s Award for Excellence Nominations**

The Superintendent circulated a memo and announced the five educators nominated for the Premier’s Award for Excellence. The five teachers selected are Robert French, Aaron Cleaveley, Yvonne Joe, Kelly Tjorhom, and Dave Anderson.

### **Board Authority / Authorized Courses**

The Assistant Superintendent circulated a memo and updated the Board on the need for the District to update and redesign Board/Authority Authorized Courses to meet the new Grade 11/12 standards by July 2019.

19/076

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the following Board/Authority Authorized Courses:

- Peer Tutoring 11
- Peer Tutoring 12

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Local Education Agreement Negotiations**

The Superintendent distributed a memo and spoke to the recent Local Education Agreement negotiations that took place on May 3, 2019. A review of the British Columbia Tripartite Education Agreement, Local Education Agreement negotiations funding, protocol, goals and objectives took place with three out of five of the local first nations bands.

### **Graduation Ceremony Representatives**

The Superintendent circulated a memo and provided Trustees with the local graduation ceremony dates and requested Trustee representation at each ceremony.

Aboriginal Grad (June 6, 2019) will be represented by Chair Comeau.

Kengard Learning Centre (June 13, 2019) will be represented by Trustee Everett Hoisington.

Princeton Secondary School (June 22, 2019) will be represented by Student Trustee Miley Coyne.

Merritt Secondary School (June 20, 2019) will be represented by Student Trustee Carter Davey.

## **Superintendent's Report**

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

- 15 students attended the Women in Trades event
- Thank you for Principal McGifford for his work on Trades and Technology
- SELT team hosting a two-day mental health literacy training event
- Grasslands Education Roundtable held by Erika Martindale and Shelley Cressey-Hassel
- National Tour presenting at Princeton Secondary School regarding vaping
- Changing Results for Young Children – Early Learning Provincial organizations (Early Childhood Educators, Strong Start Leaders, Kindergarten Teachers)
- High School DVR Reviews
- Great sporting events happening in the District
- Post secondary tours for students
- Youth Fine Arts Festival

## **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

### **Bus Report**

The Secretary Treasurer distributed a memo and the Operations Manager spoke to the status of the five school busses that were purchased on April 11, 2019 from Western Canada Bus. The total cost for the new buses, with tax, is \$703,041. The Provincial Funding received for the new buses is \$701,348. Additionally, the anticipated return from the used bus sales will be approximately \$25,000 which will be spent on tools, equipment and parts needed that will help maintain the new buses. He also discussed the options chosen for the new busses and seatbelt safety.

### **Automated External Defibrillators**

The Secretary Treasurer distributed a memo and the Operations Manager updated the Board on the two automated external defibrillators (AED's) purchased. The AED's were installed the week of April 29, 2019 and have been installed outside the secondary school gymnasium entrances at both secondary schools. Free training will also be provided with the purchase of the AED's on May 9, 2019 at Princeton Secondary School (12:00 pm) and at Merritt Secondary School (3:00 pm).

### **Meeting with Conservation Officer**

The Superintendent distributed a memo and the Chair discussed the meeting that took place on May 2, 2019 with the Board Chair, Conservation Officer Tyler Kerr and the Superintendent regarding wildlife concerns in Princeton. The Conservation Officers are open to speak with Parent Advisory Councils and schools to educate students, parents and staff on wildlife safety. The Board supports a public education session. The Board would like to send a letter to the Town of Princeton about the aggressive town deer that bring dangerous wildlife such as cougars into the city limits.

**AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**2019/2020 Annual Budget Bylaw**

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the budget and highlighted the planned 2019/2020 deficit at of \$588,042, noting that the district will use previous years' operating surplus to fund the deficit for the 2019/20 year.

19/077 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2019/2020 Annual Budget Bylaw specifying a maximum expenditure of \$30,738,383 be read a first and second time.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

It was unanimous that a third reading be held.

19/078 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2019/2020 Annual Budget Bylaw specifying a maximum expenditure of \$30,738,383 be read a third time, finally passed and adopted.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**South Central Interior Distance Education School**

The Assistant Superintendent distributed a memo and discussed the scheduled audit taking place at South Central Interior Distance Education School (SCIDES) from May 6 – 10, 2019. The audit is a standard practice that typically occurs on a 5-6 year cycle. The audit team will provide a preliminary report on May 10, 2019. He thanked the entire SCIDES team for their hard work and preparation on this audit.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### **Trustee Reports**

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Ward reported on Princeton Secondary School.

Trustee Swan reported on Merritt Secondary School.

Trustee Hoisington reported on Nicola-Canford Elementary School.

Trustee Rainer reported on Vermilion Forks Elementary School.

Trustee Chenoweth reported on Collettville Elementary School and South Central Interior Distance Education School.

Trustee Jepsen reported on Diamond Vale Elementary School and Merritt Central Elementary School and Merritt Bench Elementary School.

Trustee Comeau reported on John Allison Elementary School.

The Board thanked Student Trustee Davey for his commitment and professionalism sitting on the Board as a Student Trustee for the past two years, and wished him well on his graduation and post-secondary endeavours.

### **Student Trustee Reports**

Student Trustee Willey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. Track and Field meet in Kamloops was a success with all 15 students qualifying. Ultimate Frisbee tournament to the lower mainland for Grades 10-12 is coming up. Girls Rugby Grades 8-12 are doing well. Girls Soccer team is very successful this year. Mountain Biking team is doing great. The Club Basketball team Grade 8-10 is having a great time.

Student Trustee Davey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. The Youth Art Festival is impressive and should be visited by all. Training for Junior Wildfire Program is underway. Mock career interviews are being held along with career preparations. Physics 12 took an interesting field trip. Parent Keri Cooke is assisting with grad fundraising and is an immense help to the class.

**British Columbia Trustee Association Annual General Meeting**

Trustee Chenoweth and Trustee Hoisington both spoke regarding the British Columbia Trustee Association Annual General Meeting (BCSTA) that took place on April 25-27, 2019 in Richmond. The guest speakers were educational and motivating. The collaborative visions of each district was well put together. The conference gave Trustees pride to be apart of such a great association. Trustee Swan did not run as the BCSTA President and will now be serving on the BCSTA Board as the outgoing President.

**Other Reports**

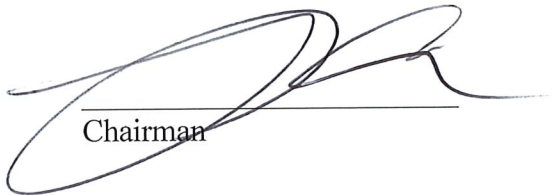
None

**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**


None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary Treasurer