

**MINUTES**

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

**PRINCETON SECONDARY SCHOOL BOARDROOM  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 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	B. Jepsen J. Chenoweth L. Ward G. Swan D. Rainer E. Hoisington
	Student Trustees	S. Druck R. Forde
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	J. Aziz
	Secretary Treasurer	B. Ross
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	D. Richardson
	Operations Manager	D. Finnigan
	Executive Assistant	S. Blonde

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**AGENDA**

19/151 It was moved and seconded:  
  
THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MINUTES**

19/152 It was moved and seconded:  
  
THAT the revised minutes of the Regular meeting held November 13, 2019, be adopted as circulated.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Principal Larsen introduced returning Grade 11 Student Trustee Sylvie Druck and Grade 10 new Student Trustee Rylee Forde.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **Presentation – Vermilion Forks Elementary**

Assistant Superintendent Aziz introduced Principal Clarke of Vermilion Forks Elementary School who introduced two Grade 7 students, Abbey Coyne and Wyyette Antonick. Ms. Coyne and Ms. Antonick spoke to the Board about the Me2We movement. There is an application to join/volunteer Me2We. The group of 26 local students were able to join the WE Day events in Vancouver with thousands of other students to watch inspiring speakers and performers. The event left an impact on the students wanting them to make their community a better place. The students have since taken part in the ‘Adopt a Grandparent’ program and held fundraising events such as dances, food drives and selling Indigenous Necklaces for Women Empowerment and the We Walk for Water event.

### **Presentation – School District No. 58 Indigenous Education Conference**

Assistant Superintendent Aziz introduced District Principal on Aboriginal Education Shelley Oppenheim-Lacerte, First Nations Support Worker Cheryl Rule and Rachel Williams. They spoke about the FNEESC Annual Indigenous Education Conference that took place on November 28-30, 2019 in Vancouver. School District No. 58 presented at the conference with a Culture Camp session. The presentation showed the purpose and process of hosting Culture Camps highlighting the history, relationship building, healing, learning and the overall experience. The session was very successful and so well received that there is hopes to continue teaching other districts both nationally and internationally about the importance of including Truth and Reconciliation into the curriculum and competencies.

### **Field Trips**

19/153

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the following field trip be approved:

Princeton Secondary School students to London, Paris, Rome and Florence, Europe on May 14, 2020 – May 23, 2020.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Student Trustee Sylvia Druck arrived to the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

### **District Assessment Plan Update**

The Superintendent provided the Board with a District Assessment Plan update. The Strategic Plan, the Long-Range Facilities Plan along with the District Assessment Plan have been taking shape and beginning to show their value. There has been a positive and professional connection with teachers around student assessments.

### **Meeting with City of Merritt**

The Superintendent provided a memo and discussed a meeting that took place between senior board staff and the City of Merritt. The topics of the meeting were introductions of new staff, strategic planning and participation, joint use agreements progress, current and potential development, shared services and relationship. A meeting will need to be scheduled in the new year with the Board and the City Council.

### **Meeting with Local Chiefs**

The Superintendent distributed a memo and spoke about the annual meeting with the Board of Education and the Local Chiefs scheduled for January 21, 2020 at the House of Honour. The Superintendent asked Trustees to bring forward their priorities and topics to be discussed at the meeting. The agenda items proposed were:

- Increases in grade average with a better chance at post-secondary success
- Providing Ministry with the On-Reserve missing data for Funding Model
- Summary of the work by School District No. 58 (FNESC, grad rates, etc)
- What does the District success look like from the local Chiefs' perspectives?
- Introduction to new Chiefs
- How to advance language and culture

### **Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent circulated a Superintendent's Report and informed on the following activities happening in the district:

- Honouring Elders at Nicola-Canford Elementary
- Supporting Fine Arts
- Annual Indigenous Education Conference
- Students at Vermilion Forks Elementary, Nicola-Canford Elementary and John Allison Elementary connecting with Elders and Seniors
- Place based learning at Princeton Secondary
- Thank you to all Custodians
- Literacy 2021
- Play is the Way
- Bus Safety

## **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

### **Bus Cameras**

The Operations Manager circulated a memo and provided the Board with a description and example photos of the new bus cameras. The District has been working with local RCMP, submitting photo and video evidence of vehicles that have failed to stop for the busses. The District has also been working with local media to reinforce the safety of students and the importance of stopping for busses. To date, five vehicles have been reported for failure to stop or for passing a school bus.

### **City of Merritt Christmas Light-Up Parade**

The Operations Manager circulated a memo and photos of the 'Magic School Bus' that participated in the City of Merritt Christmas Light-Up Parade on November 29, 2019. With the help of Maintenance Clerk Melissa Robinson, Human Resources Manager, Lindsey Henderson, Mechanic Charlie Spratt, and the Operations Manager Darrell Finnigan and his spouse Tammi, the bus was a popular topic. Principal Goetz provided many boxes of free books she received through the First Book Canada grant. The books were handed out along the parade route, lighting up the faces of children. Overall, the parade is a great way for District staff to participate in a positive community event.

## **AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **BC Tripartite Education Agreement Transportation Funds**

The Superintendent circulated a memo along with the Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plan Approval letter highlighting the funding received for First Nation Special Supports, Capital and Extracurricular Transportation. The joint plan for 2020/2021 will be made available to the District in late February 2020.

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

### **Trustee Code of Conduct**

The Superintendent distributed a memo and Trustee Ward and Trustee Hoisington spoke to the updated draft Trustee Code of Conduct policy.

19/154

It was moved and seconded:

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

- 205.3 Trustee Code of Ethics and Conduct

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Menstrual Products in Schools**

The Superintendent distributed a memo and an updated draft Menstrual Products in Schools policy.

19/155

It was moved and seconded:

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

- 504.4 Menstrual Products in Schools

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **Vaping Response Procedures**

The Assistant Superintendent distributed a memo and advised the Board that he and Council for BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA), Audrey Ackah, are going to work together to draft a Recommended Procedures around Vaping document. Under the BCSTA umbrella, the document will be brought forward at February 12, 2020 Board of Education meeting.

### **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

#### **Trustee Reports**

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

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

Trustee Chenoweth reported on Collettsville Elementary and Kengard Learning Centre.

Trustee Ward reported on Princeton Secondary.

Trustee Swan reported on Merritt Bench Elementary and Merritt Secondary.

Trustee Comeau reported on John Allison Elementary.

Trustee Hoisington reported on Nicola-Canford Elementary.

Trustee Rainer had Trustee Comeau report on Vermilion Forks Elementary.

#### **Student Trustee Reports**

Student Trustee Druck reported on recent events at Princeton Secondary School. She discussed recent presenters, community events, fundraisers, PSS Student Council, and vaping concerns.

Student Trustee Forde report on recent events at Princeton Secondary School. She discussed the new sensory room, painting of the gym, fire drills and earthquake drills, swim team, volleyball team, basketball team, food bank collections, breast cancer awareness, girls supporting girls and the PSS Student Council Halloween gym riot.

**Other Reports**

Trustee Ward spoke to the BCSTA Academy emphasizing the amazing speakers on leadership and social media. The 3.5-day conference also included the Professional Learning Council meetings.

**CORRESPONDENCE****Letter from MLA Larson**

The Secretary Treasurer provided a memo and the Board Chair informed the Board of correspondence that was sent to the MLA for Boundary-Similkameen, Linda Larson, regarding a need for full-time permanent Conservation Officers in Princeton.

Also attached were the responses from MLA Larson and from Deputy Chief Chris Doyle from the Ministry of Environment.

**BC School Trustees Association Facilitation Services**

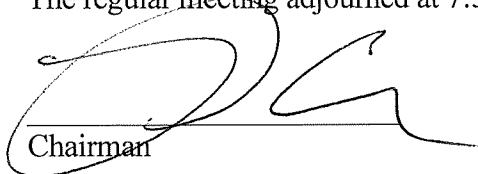
The Secretary Treasurer provided a memo and correspondence from Jodi Olstead, Director of Finance at BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) regarding 2019/2020 financial support for Board of Education facilitations. This offer is for each Board to attend a pre-approved external facilitation session at the expense of BCSTA.

**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary Treasurer