

MINUTES

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

**MERRITT SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020, 6:00 P.M.**

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

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	B. Jepsen G. Swan E. Hoisington J. Chenoweth
	Student Trustees	N. Willey K. Moyes
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	J. Aziz
	Secretary Treasurer	B. Ross
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	D. Richardson
	Executive Assistant	S. Blonde

AGENDA

20/043 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the revised agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

20/044 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the revised minutes of the Regular meeting held February 12, 2020, and February 28, 2020, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation – Merritt Secondary School

Assistant Superintendent Aziz introduced Principal Slanzi. Principal Slanzi introduced four Merritt Secondary School students, Carson Ancomb, Isabella Aljam, Alexandra van Rossum, and Jay Peralta. Being the first to take this class, the students described their experiences in the new Sports Management Course to the Board. The course promotes involvement, development, leadership and preparation for the business side of sports. The students have been participating in intramural tournaments, learning from coaches, score keeping, refereeing and acting as role models for younger children. Overall, the course has been well received and a positive addition at Merritt Secondary.

Presentation – Strategic Planning

Superintendent McNiven provided the Board with a presentation on the Strategic Planning process happening in the District. He presented an Interim Report used by the PATH Planning Tool created by Dr. Aaron Johannes of ImagineACircle. After meeting with students, parents, staff, businesses, community partners, and after much data collection, Dr. Johannes's overall impression with the District is that students know what works for them. The process has been constructive and encouraging to find what each of these groups needs from the District.

Europe Field Trip Cancellation

The Assistant Superintendent distributed a memo explaining that the Board has cancelled the Princeton Secondary School field trip to London, Paris, Rome and Florence, Europe scheduled for March 14, 2020 – March 23, 2020. After much consideration, it was determined that there is a risk of harm to students and staff due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak. The Board will be made aware of all financial decisions, including reimbursements, relating to the funds raised for this field trip.

2020/2021 District Calendar

The Superintendent circulated a memo along with the draft 2020/2021 District Calendar for the Board's approval.

20/045

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the final 2020/2021 District calendar be approved and submitted to the Ministry of Education.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COVID-19 Update

The Assistant Superintendent circulated a memo and the Superintendent discussed the communication the District is providing to the community. The District continues to provide the most current Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health messaging and has also added all communicate to a new banner on the District's website. A Pandemic Planning Committee has met to revise dated Pandemic Plan. An increase of cleaning is taking place at schools and hand sanitizers have been ordered for all schools.

Transition Support Position / Nicola Valley Institute of Technology Partnership

The Superintendent distributed a memo advising the Board that the new Careers and Transition Support position has been developed with the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology (NVIT) for the purpose of supporting students in the planning, preparation and completion of post-secondary transitions. He provided a description of the roles, staffing and implementation, noting that this position will additionally support transition to other post-secondary institutions.

Annual Local Chief and Trustee Meeting

The Superintendent circulated a memo and discussed the agenda for the March 13, 2020 meeting between local Chiefs and Trustees. Signing of the Five-Year Local Education Agreement (LEA) is scheduled to take place at the meeting.

Superintendent's Report

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

- Skills BC Competition
- Graduation
- Local Education Agreement
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Elementary Basketball
- Learning Commons Teachers
- Kindness
- Science Fair
- Strategic Planning
- COVID-19

AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Annual 2020/2021 Five-Year Capital Plan

The Secretary Treasurer distributed and discussed the Capital Bylaw No. 2020/2021-CPSE58-01.

20/046 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Capital Bylaw No. 2020/2021-CPSE58-01 be read for a first and second time.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It was unanimous that a third reading be held.

20/047 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Capital Bylaw No. 2020/2021-CPSE58-01 be read for a third time, finally passed and adopted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020/2021 Budget Process

The Secretary Treasurer circulated a memo confirming the 2019/2020 Budget Planning Process dates.

April 1, 2020 - Public Budget Presentation in Princeton
 April 2, 2020 - Public Budget Presentation in Merritt
 April 21, 2020 - Audit & Finance Committee Review
 April 21, 2020 - Board Discussion
 May 13, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting Approval of Bylaw

The dates have been posted to the District website and local newspapers.

2019/2020 Targetted Funding

The Secretary Treasurer distributed a memo advising the Board that the Ministry of Education has approved the Targetted Funding of \$40,356 to be brought forward to the 2019/2020 School Year with the condition to spend the funds on Indigenous Education programs.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Before and After School Care Policy

The Assistant Superintendent circulated a memo regarding the Ministry of Education's announcement that school districts may now provide before and after school care. He recommended that the Board begin the process of creating a policy that would govern how these programs are implemented in the District. With the Board's support, the Assistant Superintendent will return to the Board with a draft policy at the next 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 SCIDES.

Trustee Hoisington reported on Nicola-Canford Elementary.

Trustee Swan reported on Merritt Bench Elementary and Merritt Secondary.

Trustee Comeau reported on John Allison Elementary.

Student Trustee Reports

Student Trustee Willey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. He began with a report on basketball season reviews. The soccer season is starting up along with rugby and badminton. Other sports teams reported on were ultimate frisbee, ju-jitsu, muai thai, and track and field.

Student Trustee Moyes reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. She reported on leadership class, spirit week, battle of the grades, and the big buddies program. There is also a new debate club and a new junior fire crew that gave a presentation at Merritt Secondary School. Other events underway are the spring carnival and Grade 12 capstone projects.

Provincial Council

Vice-Chair Swan provided the Board with a report on the Provincial Council meeting.

Other Reports

Vice-Chair Swan provided the Board with a report on the BCSTA Thompson-Okanagan Branch meeting in Chase, BC.

Board Chair Comeau provided the Board with a report on the Board Chairs meeting.

Trustee Chenoweth provided the Board with a report on the Aboriginal Branch meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

None

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary Treasurer