

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)
PRINCETON SECONDARY SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023, 6:00 P.M.**

Success for ALL Learners Today and Tomorrow

PRESENT:	Chairperson	G. Swan
	Trustees	J. Jepsen J. Kent-Laidlaw E. Hoisington J. Chenoweth L. Ward D. Rainer
	Student Trustees	K. Druck K. Hartwell
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	J. Kemps
	Secretary Treasurer	D. Richardson
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Rusnjak
	Executive Assistant	J. McGifford

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES AND METIS
COMMUNITY**

AGENDA

23/051 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

23/052

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting April 12, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

Business Arising from the Minutes

None

EDUCATION

Vermilion Forks Elementary Presentation – World Refugee Day:

Vermilion Forks Elementary School Principal Barry Clarke introduced VFE leadership teacher Ms. Wendi Willis and two students from the VFE Leadership team. Together they presented on Vermilion Forks' ongoing commitment to United Nation's work. VFE is supporting World Refugee Day with a postcard program called "Students Rebuild". They are asking Trustees and Senior Staff to assist them in designing postcards highlighting our local communities and welcoming refugees. In return, UNICEF will donate \$10.00 to supporting refugees or every postcard submitted by the end of May.

Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Update:

Superintendent McNiven spoke to the memo in the Board Package that reviewed the District's Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Plan. This included an Overview of Cooperative Cohort Participation, Peer Review Support, and the Annual Report Process. He thanked teachers for their ongoing commitment to facilitating this work. Of note, the District has recently added two Student Engagement Facilitator positions to provide support to children and families removing the barriers that may impede student attendance and success.

Summer Learning Support:

The Superintendent provided an update on 2023 Summer Learning Support. He provided the Who, What, When, Where, and Why of this important initiative that keeps children and families on both sides of the District connected and also maintains literacy growth and enjoyment.

Indigenous Education Report:

Director of Instruction – Indigenous Education, Shelley Oppenheim-Lacerte, provided an update on Indigenous Education in the District. This included updates to the events and activities calendar, community connections, MMIWG2S update, and Truth and Reconciliation – WAYI WAY! *Indigenous Pedagogies and Act for Reconciliation and Anti-Racist Education*.

SD 58 ‘Rocks’:

Superintendent McNiven presented the proposal for a 2024 Trades/Skills program being brought forward by District Trades Coordinator, Kevin McGifford. This program would provide an opportunity for students from both sides of the District to explore career choices such as heavy equipment operators in a variety of industries.

French Immersion Program Update:

Assistant Superintendent Kempston spoke to the chart in the Board Package that outlined the concerns brought forward by French Immersion families in February and provided an update on the actions taken to date.

Superintendents Report:

The Superintendent provided his report reflecting on the many events that occurred across the District over the past month. He expressed thanks to our Learning Commons Teachers for supporting reading across the district.

OPERATIONS

2023/2024 Annual Facility Grant Plan:

Secretary Treasurer Richardson spoke to the memo in the Board Package announcing that the District will receive Annual Facilities Grant (AFG) funding of \$779, 079 for the 2023/2024 school year. He reviewed the District’s AFG Plan that lists the annual facility projects that are priorities for the coming school year. The District is required to submit its AFG plan to the Ministry by May 19, 2023.

23/053

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board approve the Annual Facility Grant Plan for submission to the Ministry.

MOTION CARRIED

AUDIT AND FINANCE

2023-2024 Preliminary Budget:

The Secretary Treasurer presented Trustees with the 2023/2024 Preliminary Annual Budget. Trustees were provided with the opportunity for discussion and feedback. Next steps will be a review by the Ministry and formal approval at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education in June.

2023/2024 Merritt Bench Elementary Minor Capital Project Funding:

Secretary Treasurer Richardson provided Trustees with an update on the Merritt Bench HVAC Upgrade. This capital plan was approved under Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2022/23-CPSD58-01. Of the capital plan, the Merritt Bench HVAC Upgrade was approved with a budget of \$550,000. Due to unforeseen circumstances and having to defer the project start date combined with the effects of inflation, this project is now quoted at \$850,000.

23/054

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board support the request for additional funding with any unapproved amounts being funded through the Local Capital Fund.

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Stipend:

The Secretary Treasurer spoke to the memo in the board package that outlined the new Trustee stipends for 2023 (based on the Canadian Consumer Price Index) in accordance with School District Policy 205.1. Trustees were provided the opportunity for discussion and collaboration. Any changes to the stipends will be retroactively applied to Dec 1, 2022.

23/055

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board approve Policy #205.1 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

POLICY

Draft Policy No. 1.40 - Policy Development and Currency:

The Superintendent spoke to the Policy Committee Terms of Reference and School District Policy 1.40 "Policy Development and Currency". Trustees were provided the opportunity to review and discuss the suggested amendments. The Superintendent will draft an update incorporating the proposed changes. Once ready, the amended policy will be available for public feedback for approximately three weeks before going to the Board for second reading.

23/056

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board approve Policy 1.40 for first reading as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Student Trustee Reports:

Student Trustees Kaelan Druck and Kabrie Hartwell reported on Princeton Secondary School activities. Student Trustee Hartwell also presented on the school's 2023 Bamfield Marine Trip.

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Chenoweth reported on SCIDES and Collettville Elementary.

Trustee Rainer reported on Vermilion Forks Elementary.

Trustee Hoisington reported that Nicola Canford Elementary was meeting tonight.

Trustee Ward reported on John Allison Elementary.

Trustee Kent-Laidlaw reported on Princeton Secondary School.

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

Trustee Swan reported on Merritt Bench Elementary and Merritt Secondary School.

Other Reports:

Board Chair Swan reported on the recent BCSTA Annual General Meeting and the re-election of Trustee Chenoweth to the Board of Directors.

Trustee Ward informed the Board of the upcoming PLC meeting.

BCSTA Annual General Meeting:

Superintendent McNiven spoke to the memo in the board package that discussed the highlights from the recent BCSTA Annual General Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Deputy Minister Christina Zacharuk Letter Regarding Indigenous Education Funding

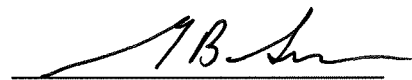
Secretary Richardson presented a letter from Deputy Minister Christina Zacharuk that was written in response to the District's request to underspend the targeted dollars for Indigenous Education in the 2021-2022 school year.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

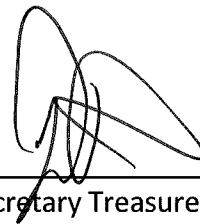
None.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.



Chairperson



Secretary Treasurer