

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)
MERRITT SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2023, 6:00P.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	O. Bateson R. Anderson
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	J. Kempston
	Secretary Treasurer	D. Richardson
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Rusnjak
	Executive Assistant	J. McGifford

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

AGENDA

23/047 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

23/048

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting May 10, 2023, be adopted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED**Business Arising from the Minutes**

None

EDUCATION COMMITTEE**Student Trustee Recognition:**

Superintendent McNiven recognized the leadership and contributions of graduating Student Trustees Kaelan Druck and River Anderson.

Equity Scan Presentation:

Assistant Superintendent, Jane Kempston, provided a presentation on the results of the District's recently completed Equity Scan. The Equity Scan Committee met on June 12, 2023, to begin their analysis of the District Equity Profile. The results will be used by the committee to develop a Theory of Change and an Equity Action Plan for 2023-2024.

Field Trips:

The Superintendent introduced Merritt Secondary School Principal, Adriane Moulard and Teacher, Ms. Brigden. They brought forward a field trip proposal to Costa Rica during Spring Break 2025.

23/049

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board support the request for the Merritt Secondary School field trip to Costa Rica during Spring Break 2024-2025.

MOTION CARRIED

French Immersion Growth Grant:

Assistant Superintendent Kempston informed the Board that the District was awarded a 2023-2024 grant in the amount of \$307,000 to support the French Immersion (FI) program growth. She outlined the initiatives that will be supported with the assistance of this additional funding including the establishment of the French Immersion Advisory Committee.

Accessibility Act Update:

The Superintendent provided Trustees with information on the Nicola-Similkameen Accessibility Act Committee. He described the make-up of the committee as well as their scope of work towards the development of the District's Accessibility Plan (a requirement of the Accessibility Legislation of B.C.) with a September 1, 2023, deadline.

Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent circulated and spoke to his report, reflecting on the many events that occurred across the District over the past month.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**2023-2024 Amended Capital Plan Bylaw:**

Secretary Treasurer Richardson provided Trustees with the Ministry response letter to the amended Annual Five-Year Capital Plan submission for 2023-2024.

Amended Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD58-02 was brought forward for approval by the Board. The approval of this bylaw will allow for the signing and submission of the revised Annual Programs Funding Agreement to the MOECC Capital Management Branch.

23/050

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Amended Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD58-02 be approved for first reading.

MOTION CARRIED

23/051

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Amended Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD58-02 be approved for second reading.

MOTION CARRIED

23/052 It was moved and seconded:
 THAT Amended Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD58-02 be moved to third reading.

MOTION CARRIED

23/053 It was moved and seconded:
 THAT Amended Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD58-02 be approved for third and final reading.

MOTION CARRIED**2024/2025 Major/Minor 5-Year Capital Plan Submission:**

The Secretary Treasurer provided the Board with a description of the proposed projects that together form the 2024-2025 Major and Minor Capital plan Submission. With the Board's approval the 2024/2025 Capital Plan for Major/Minor projects will be submitted to the Ministry, meeting the June 30, 2023 submission deadline. The opportunity for question and answer followed.

23/054 It was moved and seconded:
 THAT the 2024/2025 Capital Plan Submission be approved for submission to the Ministry.

MOTION CARRIED**Operations Update:**

The Secretary Treasurer introduced Operations Manager, Darrell Finnigan, who provided an update on school district operations and maintenance over the 2022-2023 school year. A magnitude of thanks was given to Mr. Finnigan and his team for the extensive amount of work that has been completed this year.

Flag Raising Protocol:

The Superintendent provided information on two informal flag raising requests that have been brought forward. These requests were for a United Nations and Pride

flag. As there is no current policy in place regarding flag raising, Board Chair Swan recommended the Superintendent make an informed decision until a Flag Raising policy is developed.

23/055 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Superintendent make decisions on flag raising protocols until policy work is complete, approved, and in force.

MOTION CARRIED

AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

2023-2024 Annual Budget Bylaw:

Secretary Treasurer Richardson provided the Board with an update on the 2023/2024 Annual Budget.

23/056 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2023/24 Annual Budget Bylaw be approved for first reading.

MOTION CARRIED

23/057 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2023/24 Annual Budget Bylaw be approved for second reading.

MOTION CARRIED

23/058 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2023/24 Annual Budget Bylaw be moved to third reading.

MOTION CARRIED

23/059 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2023/24 Annual Budget Bylaw be approved for third and final reading.

MOTION CARRIED

POLICY

Policy Committee Report:

The Superintendent spoke to the memo in the board package outlining the new

Policy Committee members, the Policy Committee Terms of Reference, an overview of the Policy Audit process, a review of draft Policy 1.40 (Policy Development and Currency), as well as future Policy Committee meeting dates.

Policy 1.40 – Policy Development and Currency:

Superintendent McNiven presented the revised draft version of Policy 1.40 – Policy Development and Currency. This policy has been reviewed by the Policy Committee with their input included in the second draft which is now being brought forward for second and third (final) readings.

23/060

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy 1.40 – Policy Development and Currency be approved for second reading as amended.

MOTION CARRIED

23/061

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy 1.40 – Policy Development and Currency be moved to third and final reading.

MOTION CARRIED

23/062

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Policy 1.40 – Policy Development and Currency be approved for third and final reading.

MOTION CARRIED

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Student Trustee Reports:

Student Trustees Owen Bateson and River Anderson shared their power point presentation and reported on Merritt Secondary School activities as well as some of the elementary school events in the north end of the District.

Aboriginal Advisory Committee Report:

The Superintendent and Trustee Chenoweth provided Trustees with an update on the Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting held June 6th. Targeted funds, Summer Learning Support, Curriculum, administration costs, mental health supports, the want for increased input and agency in the AAC budget process, and graduation rates (both on and off reserve) were noted.

Trustee Reports:

Trustee Chenoweth reported on Collettsville Elementary.

Trustee Rainer reported on Vermilion Forks Elementary.

Trustee Hoisington reported on Nicola Canford Elementary.

Trustee Ward reported on John Allison Elementary.

Trustee Kent-Laidlaw was not able to attend Princeton Secondary School's meeting.

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

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

Recruitment strategies for next year PAC's and DPAC are a focus for all groups.

2023-2024 Board Meeting Dates:

The Superintendent spoke to the memo in the Board package requesting monthly Board meetings be moved to the third Wednesday of each month to facilitate financial reporting. This will be brought forward for further discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE

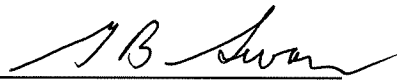
None.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

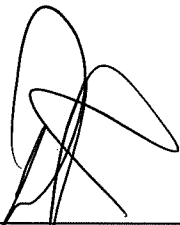
None.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.



Chairperson



Secretary Treasurer