

MINUTES

**OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)
PRINCETON SECONDARY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023, 6:00P.M.**

Success for ALL Learners Today and Tomorrow

PRESENT:	Chairperson	G. Swan
	Trustees	J. Jepsen (ABSENT) J. Kent-Laidlaw E. Hoisington J. Chenoweth L. Ward D. Rainer
	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

23/069 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

23/070

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Open Meeting June 14, 2023, be adopted as amended.

MOTION CARRIED**Business Arising from the Minutes**

None

AUDIT AND FINANCE**2022/2023 Year-End Review:**

The Secretary Treasurer provided Trustees with a copy of the Financial Statements Discussion and Analysis (FSDA) report. This report is due to the Ministry of Education and Child Care September 30, 2023. In preparation for the presentation of the audited financial statements, a year-end update on the operating fund was also provided.

23/071

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board move to un-restrict \$182,475 of local capital and transfer to operating to offset extraordinary costs incurred throughout the 2022/23 school year.

MOTION CARRIED**2022/23 Audited Financial Statements (Virtual Presentation, BDO Canada):**

The Board's external auditor, BDO Canada LLP joined the meeting virtually and presented Trustees with the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 20, 2023.

23/072

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board approve and sign the 2022/23 audited financial statements.

MOTION CARRIED

Carry Forward Targeted Funds:

Trustees were provided with an overview of revenue and expenses for Indigenous Education, targeted dollars, finishing the school year with a surplus of \$27,151 at June 30, 2023. Trustees were requested to make a motion to submit a letter to the Ministry of Education and Child Care, requesting permission to underspend Indigenous Education dollars by \$27,150 for the 2022/23 school year, and carry forward the targeted funds into 2023/24

23/073

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board submit a letter to the Ministry requesting that the school district underspend Indigenous Education dollars by \$27,150 for the 2022/23 school year and carry forward the targeted funds into the 2023/24 school year.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION:**Student Trustees:**

The Assistant Superintendent spoke to the importance of Student Trustees as a voice to the Board. She brought forward the opportunity for discussion on how to best move forward with student trustees to ensure that the information they provide is useful to the Trustees and honors both our Strategic Plan and Equity Scan.

Summer Learning Presentation:

The District Vice-Principal of Early Learning and Child Care presented on the very successful Summer Learning Program, Kick Back and Connect, that took place during July and August on both ends of the district.

Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Support:

The Superintendent presented the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Report that will be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Childcare on October 2, 2023.

23/074 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board approve the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Support report for submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care

MOTION CARRIED

Equity in Action – Theory of Change:

Assistant Superintendent Kempston provided an update on the development of a “Theory of Change” based on the data collected in last year’s Equity Scan. A motion was also put forward to the Board to begin the process of updating the Nicola-Similkameen logo.

23/075 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board begin the process of updating the Nicola-Similkameen logo seeking input from our indigenous communities.

MOTION CARRIED

Feeding Futures Fund:

The Assistant Superintendent spoke to the Feeding Futures grant of \$350,000 from the Ministry of Education and Child Care to address food insecurity for students requiring support. Trustees were asked to provide guidance on how they would like to see these dollars dispersed. Trustees requested that the dollars be provided to schools using a model that included a per pupil amount and SSI/student living on reserve data. Trustees also felt that two disbursements over the year would be the best approach.

Accessibility Act Update:

The Board was provided with an update on the Accessibility Plan process which included a draft action plan that will be brought forward to the Accessibility Plan Committee.

Art for War and Peace Project:

The Superintendent introduced the Art for War and Peace project that is being brought forward for each of the schools in Princeton. This includes an overview of the book “Art for War and Peace – How a Great Art Project Helped Canada Discover Itself” by Samson Matthews, which will be placed in each of the school libraries in Princeton.

Superintendent’s Report:

The Superintendent circulated and spoke to his report, reflecting on the district events that have taken place over the summer months and the beginning of this new school year.

OPERATIONS**Flood Insurance Claim Update:**

The Secretary Treasurer provided an update from the school district’s Project Manager, Doug Boyd, that provided an overview of the work completed this past school year as well as the outstanding work in the final stages of the insurance claims.

2023/24 Capital – Food Infrastructure Program (New Funding):

The Secretary Treasurer provided Trustees with an update to the Food Infrastructure Program (FIP): a new initiative that forms part of the Ministry’s response towards assisting Boards of Education with creating, improving, or expanding infrastructure to feed students across all communities in British Columbia. To help expedite their assistance to Boards of Education, the Ministry opened applications to FIP for both the 2023/24 and 2024/25 five-year capital plans—both with a submission deadline of June 30, 2023. In June 2023 Trustees approved the submission of the 2024/24 five-year capital plan. However, the Secretary Treasurer requested that trustees make a motion, approving the submission of the 23/24 Food Infrastructure Program.

23/076

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board approve the capital submission for the 2023/24 Food Infrastructure Program that was introduced by Ministry of Education and Child Care after the 2023/24 Capital Plan was approved.

MOTION CARRIED

Merritt Central School Bus Stop:

The Secretary Treasurer provided Trustees with an update on the configuration changes being introduced by the City of Merritt on Voght Street adjacent to Merritt Central Elementary School. Both the City of Merritt and School District No. 58 are working in collaboration to ensure a feasible school bus stop at Merritt Central Elementary School.

POLICY**Procedural Bylaw:**

The Secretary Treasurer presented Trustees with a copy of Procedural Bylaw 2-23 being brought forward for first reading. This revised bylaw would replace existing Bylaw 1-96 (No.204.1: School Board Meetings).

23/077

It was moved and seconded:

THAT Bylaw No. 2-23, Procedural Bylaw, be moved for first reading.

MOTION CARRIED**TRUSTEE REPORTS****Student Trustee Reports:****Trustee Reports:**

Trustee Chenoweth was not present to report on Collettsville Elementary.

Trustee Rainer reported that Vermilion Forks Elementary had not met yet.

Trustee Hoisington reported that Nicola Canford Elementary meets on Monday.

Trustee Ward reported on John Allison Elementary.

Trustee Kent-Laidlaw reported that Princeton Secondary School's meeting has not happened yet.

Trustee Jepsen was not present to report on Diamond Vale Elementary and Merritt Central Elementary.

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

Recruitment strategies for DPAC remain 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 kept to the second Wednesday of each month. The exception to this being February when the meeting will be held Wednesday, February 21st.

2023-2024 Committee Meeting Dates:

To be determined at a future time.

Other Reports:**AAC Budget Meeting:**

The Superintendent provided a report on the recent AAC meeting highlighting the budget collaboration and the Highland Valley Copper Mine Student field trip for Indigenous students from both Princeton and Merritt.

BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch Meeting:

Trustee Ward provided an update on recent communication BCSTA recommendations pertaining to the upcoming Thompson Okanagan Branch meeting on October 13-14, 2023.

CORRESPONDENCE

Trustee Ward brought forward a bussing request from a Princeton parent. The Secretary Treasurer will follow-up.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

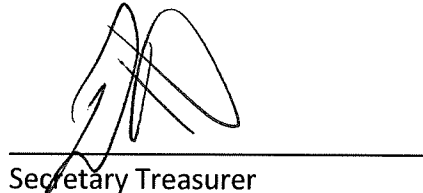
None.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.



Chairperson



Secretary Treasurer

