



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.59

11600 – 7TH Street, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4R8

Open Session Minutes

DATE & TIME: March 15, 2023 – 1:00 PM

PLACE: School District Board Office, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Trustees:
C. Anderson (Chair)
C. Hillton (Vice-Chair)
R. Gulick - absent
S. Mounsey
A. Schurmann via zoom
C. Wards
T. Jones - absent

C. Fennell, Superintendent
M. Readman, Assistant Superintendent - absent
M. Panoulis, Secretary-Treasurer
R. Schwartz, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 pm.

“We acknowledge that we share this territory with the people of Treaty 8.”

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions:

Deletions:

(2023-03-004)
MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Mounsey
THAT, the regular meeting agenda be approved as printed.
CARRIED

1.0 ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

R1.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2023

The Chair asked for any corrections to the minutes.

(2023-03-005)

The Chair declared the minutes of the open meeting February 15, 2023 approved as printed.

R1.2 Excerpts of Closed Board Meeting – February 15, 2023

(2023-03-006)

The Chair declared the excerpts of the closed board meeting February 15, 2023 approved as printed.

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.0 ESSENTIAL ITEMS

4.0 PRESENTATIONS

5.0 REPORTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

R5.1 School/Student News

The Superintendent reported school/student news:

- Schools across the district celebrated Pink Shirt Day on February 22, 2023. Pink Shirt Day is a day students come together to take a stand against bullying and be an advocate for kindness and inclusion.
- DCSS – SP Campus Penguin Periodical focuses on art and writing from students.
- Students in the grade 12 English class at Chetwynd Secondary School are mentoring grades 3-5 students at Windrem Elementary. The older students are helping the younger students with their story writing and a creation of illustrated books. The high school students learn leadership skills and social responsibility.
- Devereaux Elementary students are learning dance taught by Dana Hiebert, a grade 12 student from DCSS-South Peace Campus as part of her capstone project. School wide assemblies are also really fun at Devereaux Elementary as the students participate in assembly challenges. The challenges build school spirit and culture.
- Students across the district participated in the Regional Skills Canada Competitions. The day was jam packed with events that included Junior and Senior Skill Competitions, Try-A-Trade and a Women in Trades conference. The gold medal students will be heading to Abbotsford in April to compete in provincial competitions.
- Moberly Lake Elementary School celebrated National Trapping Day. The students had fun snowshoeing, ice fishing and other trapping related activities including a scavenger hunt in the woods to find hidden stuffed animals. The students were able to trade in their pelts for Moberly bucks.
- TRSS students in the BC First Peoples class have been learning about Metis and Cree language and culture through beading. The TRSS basketball team had a great year!
- Crescent Park Elementary invited Aboriginal Family Services to the school to have a group of dancers perform in their full regalia. The dancers then shared their regalia with the students so they could dress up and perform as well.

The Chair asked for any corrections to the minutes.

(2023-03-005)

The Chair declared the minutes of the open meeting February 15, 2023 approved as printed.

R1.2 Excerpts of Closed Board Meeting – February 15, 2023

(2023-02-006)

The Chair declared the excerpts of the closed board meeting February 15, 2023 approved as printed.

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.0 ESSENTIAL ITEMS

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- TRSS students in the BC First Peoples class have been learning about Metis and Cree language and culture through beading. The TRSS basketball team had a great year!
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- Little Prairie Elementary school students are enjoying participating in elective courses (drumming, claymation, cartoons and filming, chess, art, pickleball, weaving, and cooking).
- Ecole Frank Ross students have been working on their science fair projects and Canadian Parents for French held their annual Tombola event. Tombola is a cultural celebration to fundraise for scholarships, speaking contests, and other French cultural activities.
- May 1st is the Indigenous focused professional development day in the district. Monique Gray smith and Kevin Lamoureux will be presenting.
- Karen Edwards has been appointed Vice-Principal of Tumbler Ridge Elementary School.

R5.2 Graduation Ceremonies

The high school graduation ceremonies are set as follows:

Tumbler Ridge Secondary School – June 16, 2023 (Graduation dinner to follow the ceremony)

Dawson Creek Secondary School – South Peace Campus – June 16, 2023 @ Ovintiv Centre. Red Carpet & Prom will be on June 17, 2023.

Chetwynd Secondary School – June 24, 2023.

R5.3 Recruitment – Discover59.com

The district has created a recruitment website with brochures and media materials to promote School District No. 59 (PRS). The website has information on current teaching postings, the application process, resources and supports for staff in the district, as well as community connections for prospective teachers to learn more about the communities the district serves.

BCPSEA is spearheading a new Northern Teacher Recruitment and Retention Pilot, the goals of which are to provide recruitment and human resources expertise for select northern school districts and to coordinate targeted incentive programs to attract candidates to northern school districts. The 14 northern districts are part of the pilot, but the Northern Recruitment/Talent Acquisition Specialist will initially be working with four specific northern districts that are facing the most challenges.

R5.4 2023-24 School Calendar

The final draft of the 2023-24 School Calendar was presented. Based on the feedback received two non-instructional days were changed from the draft calendar that was circulated. The final calendar was recommended to the board for adoption.

(2023-03-007)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Hillton

THAT, the Board approve the 2023-24 School Calendar as presented.

CARRIED

R5.5 Early Learning Programs Update

The district had an opening ceremony for the Just B4 program. The program is in a pilot phase and is operating in conjunction with existing StrongStart BC (SSBC) program by using the same space in Tremblay Elementary School. This partnership maximizes the use of SSBC staff, space and resources. There are seven StrongStart programs operating in the district.

School District No. 59 (PRS) is excited to partner with YMCA BC to open a before and after school care program in Tumbler Ridge. The centre opened on March 1st and offers 20 school-age child care spaces. The program is housed at Tumbler Ridge Elementary School and allows students to have a seamless transition to and from before and after school care.

6.0 REPORTS FROM THE SECRETARY TREASURER

R6.1 Finance Reports

The finance reports as of February 28, 2023 were presented.

R6.2 2023-24 Capital Plan Bylaw

The Secretary Treasurer announced Ministry approval of the following 2022-23 minor capital projects:

	Project:	Funding:
DCSS SP Campus	SEP – Interior Construction Upgrades	\$150,000
Canalta Elementary	SEP - Electrical Upgrades	\$125,000
DCSS-SP Campus	SEP – HVAC Upgrades	\$620,000
Windrem Elementary	CNCP - HVAC Upgrades	\$250,000
Canalta Elementary	PEP – Accessible Playground Equipment	\$195,000
Bus Fleet	2 - C(70-75) with 0 Wheelchair Space 1 - C(64-69) with 0 Wheelchair Space	\$549,844
Total:		\$1,889,844

Capital Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-01 was presented to the Board for approval.

(2022-03-008)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Mounsey

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-01 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated March 15, 2023 be read a first time.

CARRIED

(2022-03-009)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Hillton

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-01 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated March 15, 2023 be read a second time.

CARRIED

(2022-03-010)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Wards

THAT, the Board allows the third reading of Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CP59-01 to occur in this meeting.

CARRIED

(2023-03-011)

MOVED/SECONDED – Monsey/Hillton

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CP59-01 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated March 15, 2023 be read a third time, passed and adopted.

CARRIED

7.0 TRUSTEE ITEMS

R7.1 BCSTA Update

The BCSTA Provincial Council meeting was held in Vancouver on February 24-26, 2023. The BCSTA AGM is scheduled to be held from April 27-30, 2023.

8.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

R8.1 Indigenous Councils

The Indigenous Councils in Dawson Creek and Chetwynd discussed grad planning and the training for teachers for the Indigenous focused courses that are part of the new graduation requirement. The councils received an overview of activities that have been happening at the schools that promote a sense of belonging for Indigenous students. Highlighted was the Bring a Valentine to School event held at Moberly Lake Elementary School. The event was very well attended and allowed the students a chance to share their school experience and showcase their achievements. The successful partnership between the district, West Moberly First Nations and Saulteau First Nations supports a late bus that provides transportation services for high school students from Moberly Lake. The late bus service allows students to stay after school to participate in extra-curricular events. The anti-racism action plan developed by the Ministry of Education and Child Care was presented and an update was provided to councils about the events planned on the Indigenous focused professional development day scheduled on May 1, 2023.

R8.2 – Policy Committee

The Policy committee made the following recommendations:

(2023-03-012)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Hillton

THAT, the Board approve the following recommendations from the policy committee:

- adopt Policy 4115 Function of School Libraries as presented;
- repeal Policy 3110 Responsibilities of School Personnel, effective immediately;
- increase the gift card value noted in Regulation 3090 Long Service/Retirement Recognition to \$150, effective immediately.

CARRIED

9.0 DIARY

10.0 NOTICE OF MOTION

11.0 QUESTION PERIOD

A question and answer period was provided.

12.0 FUTURE BUSINESS

R12.1 – Regular Board Meeting – April 19, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

(2023-03-013)

MOVED – Hillton

THAT, the Regular Meeting be terminated. (2:24 PM)

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



(C. Anderson) Board Chair



(M. Panoulis) Secretary Treasurer