



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.59

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

Open Board Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: October 25, 2023 – 1:00 PM

PLACE: Windrem Elementary School, Chetwynd, BC

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

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

Called to Order – 1:04 PM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions: R7.3 Letter of Support

Deletions:

(2023-10-007)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Gulick

THAT, the Regular Meeting agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

1.0 ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

R1.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2023

The Chair asked for any corrections to the minutes.

(2023-10-008)

The Chair declared the minutes of the open meeting September 20, 2023 approved as presented.

R1.2 Excerpts of Closed Board Meeting – September 20, 2023

(2023-10-009)

The Chair declared the excerpts of the closed board meeting September 20, 2023 approved as presented.

R1.3 Special Open Board Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2023

The Chair asked for any corrections to the minutes.

(2023-10-010)

The Chair declared the minutes of the open meeting October 4, 2023 approved as presented.

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.0 ESSENTIAL ITEMS

4.0 PRESENTATIONS

R4.1 Windrem Elementary (K,1,2) – Mrs. Salman

Mrs. Salman's grade K,1,2 class were excited to present a rhyme performance to the board.

5.0 REPORTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

R5.1 School/Student News

The Superintendent reported school/student news:

- Schools recognized National Day for Truth and Reconciliation by participating in Orange Shirt day. Schools held many activities related to Truth and Reconciliation throughout the week which included, decorating flags and murals, community marches, crafts, rock painting, and school assemblies.
- The district cross country running club has over 100 participants.
- Crescent Park Elementary has completed the murals for the outside of the school.
- Canalta Elementary students are participating in sight blitzes, the grade 6/7 class visited Pioneer Village, the school is focusing on team building activities, the school held Dear Day, which is Drop Everything and Read! The potato fundraiser was a huge success!
- Tremblay has a golden garbage can that gets awarded to the cleanest class of the week. The class is chosen by the school custodian.
- Tumbler Ridge Secondary School invited a local knowledge keeper to come in and teach beading to students, the students in the woodshop class are busy building projects already.

- Schools across the district participated in Terry Fox runs.
- Moberly Lake Elementary School held a thanksgiving dinner for students and family. Students have also participated in bus evacuation training and are having fun learning drumming and singing.
- Ecole Frank Ross has held many athletic and community building activities; the whole school participated in a Kindness assembly.
- Devereaux Elementary students had fun rock painting and gave their buddy bench an update with an Indigenous focus.
- Don Titus Elementary students have participated in community walks in the forest, STEM challenges, day trips to Gwillim Lake and they were excited to build their first snowman of the year!
- U-18 Hockey Canada Teams will be in the district from November 5-11, 2023. Some schools will be hosting team visits and have the opportunity to go to a game.

R5.2 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

The 2022-23 Enhancing Student Learning (ESL) report was presented to the Board. This is a formal document that is used to set, create and maintain a strategic plan, annually report on student outcomes and put systems in place with a focus on enhancing student learning and success. It combines accountability with evidence-informed decision making and system-wide continuous improvement to support equity of outcomes for all students in the provincial K-12 public system, including Indigenous students, children and youth in care, and students with disabilities or diverse abilities.

Recruitment and retention and attendance continue to be challenges for the district. The data tells a story. The district has implemented a K-3 primary numeracy project to target numeracy at an early age. The district has started using Indeed for employment recruitment.

R5.3 Accessibility Plan

The Accessible British Columbia Act aims to support the identification, prevention, and removal of barriers that people with disabilities face in their day-to-day lives.

Jointly developed with districts in Northern British Columbia, the plan outlines the commitments, support, prevention and removal of barriers specific to accessibility. The full plan is available on the school district website (www.sd59.bc.ca).

The plan also comes with a feedback mechanism that individuals can access to provide feedback about accessibility in our organization.

R5.4 AAA Volleyball Provincials

Dawson Creek Secondary School is excited to host the Senior Girls AAA Volleyball Championships to be held November 30, 2023 to December 2, 2023. The event isn't commonly held outside of the lower mainland so being selected to host the provincial championships is a rare opportunity. The event will be held at the Dawson Creek Memorial Arena where all the teams can be together at one venue. School District No. 59 (PRS) students have been invited to watch games on November 30th. Thank-you to the host committee and community organizations that are helping support the event.

R5.5 Secretary Treasurer Position

The Superintendent announced that the current Secretary Treasurer, Melissa Panoulas, will be leaving the district at the end of the month. The Superintendent recognized Mrs. Panoulas for her work with the board and the district. The Superintendent thanked her for her nine years

of service and her focus to keep students first in decision making. The Board Chair also thanked Mrs. Panoulis for her time with the district and wished her well in her new endeavor.

Kim Morris has been appointed as the new Secretary Treasurer and will begin her position with the district November 6, 2023. Ms. Morris comes to the district with previous Secretary Treasurer experience as she has worked for other school districts in the province.

6.0 REPORTS FROM THE SECRETARY TREASURER

R6.1 2023-24 Final Enrollment

The Secretary-Treasurer presented the final enrolment count as of September 30, 2023. There was a slight decrease from the preliminary as reported in the September board meeting. The final enrolment count is 3730.9 FTE.

R6.2 Executive Compensation Disclosure

The 2022-23 Executive Compensation Disclosure report was presented. The report is an annual reporting requirement which includes the compensation philosophy of the district, including labour market comparators, cash and non-cash compensation, compensation administration and accountability. The disclosure includes the top five executive level decision makers with compensation over \$125,000. The report is reviewed by both BCPSEA and PSEC.

(2023-10-011)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Wards

THAT, the Board receive the 2022-23 Executive Compensation Disclosure report as presented.

CARRIED

R5.3 Capital Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-03

Capital Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-03 was presented to the Board for approval. This bylaw is an update to the bylaw read in March as the Ministry has approved funding for Feeding Initiatives Program (FIP) and a major capital project for a five-classroom prefabricated modular addition on Crescent Park Elementary School.

(2023-10-012)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Wards

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-03 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated September 27, 2023 be read a first time.

CARRIED

(2023-10-013)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Mounsey

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-03 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated September 27, 2023 be read a second time.

CARRIED

(2023-10-014)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Hillton

THAT, the Board allows the third reading of Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-03 to occur in this meeting.

CARRIED

(2023-10-015)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Hillton

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD59-03 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated September 27, 2023 be read a third time, passed and adopted.

CARRIED

7.0 TRUSTEE ITEMS

R7.1 BCSTA Update – R. Gulick

Trustee Gulick presented the latest news and events from the BCSTA. Trustees attended the Northern Interior Branch meeting in Prince George on October 13-14, 2023. The meeting was a joint meeting with Central Interior Branch; the group focused on advocacy. Trustee Gulick attended Provincial Council on October 20-21, 2023. Trustee Gulick highlighted the motions passed at the meeting.

The Board Chair attended a Chair's Advocacy Day in Victoria. Board Chair's had the opportunity to meet with their MLA's and had a discussion about priorities of the boards (Improving student outcomes, recruitment and retention, Capital and deferred maintenance).

BCSTA Trustee Academy will be held in Vancouver November 23-26, 2023.

R7.2 Student Voice Presentation – C. Hillton

Trustee Hillton requested the board revisit the recommendations presented by the Student Voice group in their presentation to the board in June 2023.

(2023-10-016)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Hillton

THAT the board direct staff to work with the student voice group on their recommendations as presented at the board meeting held on June 28, 2023;
WHEREAS, the purpose is to gather the cost of those recommendations and prioritize with Operations which ones can be completed;
FURTHERMORE, the recommendations will be included in the data for the next strategic plan.

CARRIED

R7.3 Letter of Recommendation – C. Anderson

Trustee Anderson brought forward a request for a Letter of Support for a UNBC Hybrid Teacher Education Program that would have a northern cohort. The program would allow students to stay and work in their home community while obtaining a Bachelor of Education.

(2023-10-017)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Schurmann

THAT, the board write a letter of support to UNBC to encourage a Northern Cohort Bachelor of Education program.

CARRIED

8.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

R8.1 Indigenous Councils

The Indigenous Education Councils set new goals for this year which will focus on relationships. The position for a full time Indigenous Education Assistant has been filled. Both councils were presented information about the feeding futures grant and the accessibility plan that was jointly developed between the northern school districts. The Truth and Reconciliation assembly at Chetwynd Secondary School was very powerful. Councils reviewed the goals of the Enhancement Agreement and the Indigenous Education budget and how 1701 enrollment correlates to Indigenous Education. Dawson Creek Council added community members to their Indigenous Education council.

R8.2 Policy Committee

Changes were made to the following regulations to reflect current practice:

- Regulation 4209 Energy Management and Sustainability
- Regulation 4570 Emergency Preparedness

The regulations were presented to the board for information only.

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 – November 29, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

(2023-10-018)

MOVED – Gulick

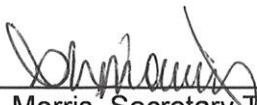
THAT, the Regular Meeting be terminated. (3:17 PM)

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



C. Anderson, Board Chair



K. Morris, Secretary Treasurer