

MINUTES

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 60 (Peace River North)

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, March 8, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Present: Helen Gilbert, Chair – Board of Education (Area 5)
Madeleine Lehmann, Vice-Chair (Area 1)
Ida Campbell, Trustee (Area 4)
Erin Evans, Trustee (Area 5)
Nicole Gilliss, Vice-Chair (Area 3) *(via Zoom)*
David Scott-Moncrieff, Trustee (Area 2)
Bill Snow, Trustee (Area 5)

Stephen Petrucci, Superintendent of Schools
Teri Stoneman, Interim Secretary-Treasurer *(via Zoom)*
Leah Reimer, Recording Secretary

(Guests/Media)
Michele Wiebe, PRNTA President *(via Zoom)*



Call to Order

Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Chair Gilbert acknowledged the traditional territorial lands of the Dane Zaa and Treaty 8 with the following post from the Margaret Ma Murray Community School Facebook page:

*Here is the land
Here is the sky
Here are my friends
and here am I*

We thank and acknowledge the Dene Zaa and Treaty 8 people on whose land we work and play and we promise to take care of it everyday.

Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Motion #31-21

Scott-Moncrieff/Snow
THAT the agenda be accepted as presented with the following additions:

Correspondence

PRRD Connectivity for Rural Students *(Attachment)*

New Business

- Homeschool Protocols *(Attachment)*

CARRIED.

Presentations/Delegations

Youth Advisory Council
Stephen Petrucci, Superintendent
<https://youtu.be/JYmJitG-y5c>

Motion #32-21

Evans/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board of Trustees write a brief letter of support for this initiative and request information on how we can help publicly and have youth participation. CARRIED.

Trustee Input

At this time, opportunity was given for Trustees to report on activities undertaken and/or information of interest:

Trustee Campbell

- Framework Presentations
- Policy Committee Meeting

Trustee Evans

- Framework Presentations
- Policy Committee Meeting
- Registered for a Children's Mental Health Symposium in April – will share information with other Trustees

Trustee Gilliss

- Framework Presentations
- Visited Duncan Cran school – great school with amazing meals program

Vice-Chair Lehmann

- Framework Presentations
- Policy Committee Meeting

Trustee Scott-Moncrieff

- Connected with most schools

Trustee Snow

- Connected with NPSS
- ARYES Science Fair - judge

Chair Gilbert

- Two PAC meetings
 - Bert Bowes PAC Meeting – Bert Bowes track funding of \$200,000 is all here. They have reached out to Facilities and hoping to have track finished by June
- ARYES Science Fair – judge – Grade 4 & 5 (*Attachment*)
 - Impressed with links the teachers had built between student projects and the science curriculum. Student projects had a connection to the simple machines unit. Students explored an aspect that interested them. In the projects judged there was a lot of model building, student enthusiasm and titles that were puns

- At framework presentations school t-shirts were mentioned...attached is a photo of a COVID friendly thank you to t-shirt sponsors for ARYES (Northern Vision, Jiffy Lube and Armour Lubricants)
- Policy Committee Meeting

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

Approval of the Minutes

Motion #33-21

Evans/Snow

THAT the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2021 be adopted.
CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The following business arose from the above noted Minutes:

BAA Course Report

- Discussion around enrolment numbers (ie. 1-3 students)
- Classes are often combined grades or when Distance Ed is offering, it can be only one student
- NPSS – 375 is because students are enrolled the same way and then split into smaller groups
- Have a process for discontinuing courses due to lack of enrolment or being out of date
- Middle column “Num” represents course codes

Approval of Excerpts

Motion #34-21

Evans/Snow

THAT the excerpts from the January 25, 2021 In Camera Meeting Minutes be approved and appended to these Regular Meeting Minutes.
CARRIED.

Announcements & Reminders

March 8	Policy Committee Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Board Room
March 10	Early Dismissal Day		
March 10	Labour Management Meeting	1:00 p.m.	Virtual
March 11	Early Dismissal Day		
March 15	Ministry Announcement – School District Preliminary Funding Levels		
March 15 to March 26	Spring Break		
March 25	Audit Committee Meeting	11:30 a.m.	Virtual
April 2-5	Good Friday/Easter		
April 6 (Tues)	COTW Meetings	12:30 p.m.	Board Room
April 8-10	NSBA Conference		
April 12	NPAA	5:30 p.m.	Virtual
April 15-18	BCSTA AGM		Virtual/Board Office
April 19	Board Meetings	5:00 p.m.	Board Room
April 23	NID Day (Indigenous Learning)		
April 27	SUP-PAC Meeting (Evans/Lehmann)	12:00 p.m.	Virtual
May 3	COTW Meetings	12:30 p.m.	Board Room
May 3	NPAA Meeting	5:30 p.m.	Virtual

May 4	Budget Public Meeting		(pm – TBD)
May 7	NID (Pro-D Day)		
May 3 17	Policy Committee Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Board Room
May 24	Victoria Day		
May 25	SUP-PAC Meeting (<i>Evans/Gilbert</i>)	12:00 p.m.	Virtual

Senior Staff Reports

Superintendent's Report

A written and electronic report was presented. Topics discussed and reported included:

Superintendent's Report (*Attachment*)

Motion #35-21

Evans/Lehmann

THAT the Board accept the Superintendent's Report.

CARRIED.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

A written report was presented. Topics discussed and reported included:

Joint Health & Safety Committee Meeting Minutes – February 24, 2021

Chair Gilbert

- Electrostatic spraying that our district provides is not required by health and safety guidelines put out by Ministry (see notes under Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols)
- There has been a recall on the battery in some of the electrostatic spray guns and Facilities is in the process of replacing
- The product in the spray guns is the same product custodians are using in regular cleaning; our district sites continue to be cleaned according to provincial guidelines.

Motion #36-21

Evans/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board accept the Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

CARRIED.

Other Reports

BCSTA

BCSTA Draft 2021/22 Budget – Invitation to Provide Feedback

Trustee Evans

- Feedback to be submitted by March 16, 2021
ACTION: Any comments or questions from trustees, submit to Trustee Evans by March 14, 2021
- Trustee Evans forwarded the Provincial Council minutes to trustees

Funding Reserve Survey Follow-Up

Chair Gilbert & Teri Stoneman, Interim Secretary-Treasurer

- Report is from feedback from trustees as well as the Interim Secretary-Treasurer
- Vocabulary being used in some of the questions doesn't necessarily follow accounting guidelines (ie. don't have a contingency policy, but policy around accumulated surplus)
- Interim Secretary-Treasurer consulted with Ministry. Surplus is for when revenues exceed expenses. From there, go with annual surplus and then accumulated surplus/deficit year after year. The "reserve" is a throwback from GAP reporting a long time ago and is old terminology

- We're talking about surplus accumulating over time and then board directives on what expectations would be for "rainy day" or other school based initiatives that run year after year. Our accumulated surplus policy is 5%
- Our district is just under 2%. Our goal would be to build it up to 5% (ie. a portion set aside for school projects and then a "rainy day" for emergencies such as HVAC)
- At this point, it looks like we don't have much of a cushion
- When new directives come from the province, we can review our policy
- Our policy currently works off of a one-year cycle, but Ministry may be moving to a 3-year cycle.
 - Interim Secretary-Treasurer – from a surplus perspective, those numbers won't change. Maintain contingency reserve for "rainy day" as well as school programs. May be easier to manage over three years. Just make sure provincially, they look after provincial issues (ie. labour settlements)

BCSTA AGM April 15 – 18, 2021

Chair Gilbert

- Discussion around the important of trustees being together in a place that has good internet connectivity to join Zoom and to participate in online voting process

BCPSEA

- Nothing to report

Correspondence

***NEW - PRRD Connectivity for Rural Students** *(Attachment)*

- PRRD has a fibre working group that has been established and is engaging with a broad range of stakeholders, including our district
- Our district has been invited to engage in a dialogue with PRRD to explore how we may possibly work together as well as provide a statement of our particular needs or priorities
- Suggestion was also made to provide information regarding rural schools and surrounding communities (ie. without identifying individuals, capture information on connectivity issues)

ACTION: Chair Gilbert to let Brad Sperling, PRRD Director know our Board has put a motion forward to BCSTA on this issue

ACTION: Superintendent to connect with staff to generate the information. Staff can provide information on school based capacity and affected district families and follow-up at the April 6, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

***NEW - Homeschool Protocols** *(Attachment)*

- Earlier in pandemic when many were looking at different learning options for students, definitions related to types of schooling available was shared.
- Ministry of Education is looking to provide further clarity related to home schooling procedures. They have produced a Homeschooling

Procedures and Guidelines manual that is open for feedback from districts and the public until April 2nd (see pages 53-56 attached that relates to expectations of boards)

- The purpose of the manual is to provide clear information to home educators, home schoolers, education sector, and others who work with homeschoolers.
- We will need to have a homeschooling policy
- Full guidelines are available on Ministry of Education Website under "homeschooling"

PRNTA Update – Michele Wiebe, President

No Report – joined via Zoom

CUPE Local #4653 Update – Maureen Hummel, President

No Report – not in attendance

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Report – Teresa Brown, President

No Report – not in attendance

Questions from Press/Public

At this time, opportunity was given for questions from the press
Livestream connectivity issues – no press/public

Adjournment

Motion #37-21

Scott Moncrieff/Snow
THAT the meeting be adjourned. (7:36 p.m.)

HELEN GILBERT, CHAIR,
BOARD OF EDUCATION

TERI STONEMAN,
INTERIM SECRETARY-TREASURER



Youth Advisory Council

Youth Changing Tomorrow Conference

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) was developed in 2010 as a potential solution toward antisocial behavior in our community, to get a better sense of what Fort St. John's youth would like to see in Fort St. John, and to act as a liaison between the youth of the community and City Council.



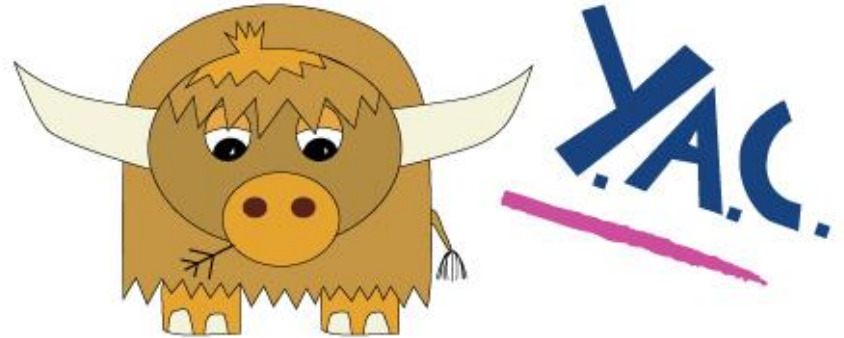


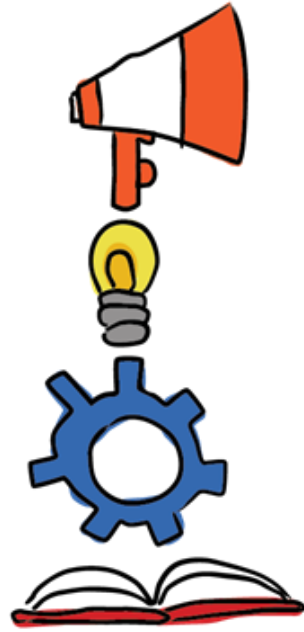
This year, YAC has joined up with BC Student Voice to deliver a virtual youth conference with the theme of Steps of Success on April 14, 2021.

We have also partnered with the Fort St. John Campus of the Northern Lights College and Peace River Hydro Partners.

We are now seeking sponsorships
throughout our community.

For more information, contact
communitydevelopment@fortstjohn.ca





Youth Changing Tomorrow

Questions?



Together We Learn

Superintendent's Report – March 2021

Mar 5, 2021

Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL)

The following framework presentations have been made to the Board of Education so far this year.

Clicking on the image will take you to the slideshow presentation and clicking on the link below the image will take you to the school's website and the full document.

Bert Bowes Middle School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

École Central Elementary School of the Arts – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Clearview Elem-Jr Secondary School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

C.M. Finch Elementary School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Dr. Kearney Middle School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Hudson's Hope School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Indigenous Education Website

Key Learning Centre & Buick Creek Elementary – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Margaret 'Ma' Murray Community School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Prespatou Elem-Jr Secondary – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Robert Ogilvie Elementary – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

** the above slide show includes information for both Upper Halfway & Wonowon schools.*

Upper Halfway School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Wonowon School – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning

Upper Pine Elem-Jr Secondary – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning





PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

March 8, 2021

Helen Gilbert
Board Chair
School District #60

Via Email: hngilbert@prn.bc.ca

Dear Helen,

RE: **Connectivity for Rural Students**

On behalf on the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) Board, I would like to thank you for your letter requesting that the PRRD support School District #60 by advocating for better connectivity for rural and remote students.

The PRRD has formed a Fiber Working Group (FWG) to assist with the development of a PRRD Connectivity Strategy. The need for increased broadband connectivity for rural communities has been identified as a priority in the Boards' Strategic Plan.

The FWG is comprised of representatives from the electoral areas, member municipalities, and administrative staff. The primary objective of the FWG is to explore and evaluate options to improve connectivity for residents and businesses in the region. Specifically, the FWG will:

- Identify connectivity challenges in the region;
- Review Broadband Fundamentals and Distribution Technologies;
- Share findings and resources;
- Review and evaluate various connectivity proposals;
- Examine Service Delivery and Funding Models;
- Share experiences and best practices;
- Seek input and participation from appropriate PRRD stakeholders; and,
- Develop a high level PRRD Connectivity Infrastructure Strategy.

The FWG will work towards its objectives by engaging with a broad range of stakeholders. Some stakeholders will be directly involved in creating broadband infrastructure and delivering services, whereas other stakeholders may be in adjacent areas where partnerships or cooperative efforts may fulfill the FWG's objectives. Target stakeholder groups include:

- Federal and Provincial ministries, departments and agencies that define, enable and/or fund infrastructure (especially broadband infrastructure);

diverse. vast. abundant.

PLEASE REPLY TO:

☒ Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8 Tel: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 Fax: (250) 784-3201 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
☐ 9505 100 St, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4 Tel: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 Email: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca

- Local governments adjacent to PRRD;
- Indigenous communities within and adjacent to PRRD;
- Private sector entities that build, operate and retail broadband services;
- Private sector entities that could partner to enable new broadband infrastructure; and,
- Non-profit organizations involved in the delivery or use of broadband services.

In the next couple of months, a draft connectivity strategy will be submitted from the FWG to the Regional Board for consideration and adoption. School District #60 has been identified by the FWG as key stakeholder who has a vested interest in ensuring that quality high-speed broadband services are available throughout the PRRD. We invite you to engage in a dialogue with us to explore how we may possibly work together, and provide us with a statement of your particular needs or priorities.

We look forward to your response.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'B. Sperling', written in a cursive style.

Brad Sperling
Chair



BOARDS OF EDUCATION

TOPIC	Legislative Provisions: Requirements & Entitlements	Better Practice Guidelines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Registering Schools should be aware that that the legislative requirements for Registering Public and Independent schools are different.• Boards of Education / Independent School Authorities should identify a staff member / key contact within the Board of Education /Independent School Authority with responsibility for coordinating Homeschooling related procedures and services. Consider making this the same person with responsibility for alternate education and diverse educational pathways• Consider monitoring the use of the grant provided by the Ministry of Education for each Registered Homeschooler.• Be aware that the intent of the Ministry grant is to support Registering Schools in providing education services (in alignment with legislative requirements) to Registered Homeschoolers. The Ministry does not intend for the grant (or a portion thereof) to be provided directly to parents/guardians.
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that Registered Homeschoolers are included in pandemic response planning.• Establish procedures for disseminating health and wellness related updates to Registered Homeschoolers and Home Educators.

TOPIC	Legislative Provisions: Requirements & Entitlements	Better Practice Guidelines
<p>REGISTRATION PROCESS</p> <p>The Registration process includes both the act of a parent/guardian notifying a school of their intention to homeschool a Student and the registering schools process for registering a Student as a homeschooler, including reporting Registrations to the Ministry of Education.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boards of Education are required to ensure that the principal, vice-principal or director of instruction responsible for schools in their jurisdiction register the child of a parent/guardian requesting such Registration-<u>School Act, section 13 (2)</u>. Boards of Education are required to have published a schedule of fees to be charged and deposits required for Homeschooling educational resources, in accordance with applicable legislation - <u>School Act, section 82 (4-6)</u>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop district Homeschooling policies that align with legislative provisions around Homeschooling. To ensure consistency of practice, district Homeschooling policies / procedures should address: The Registration process, Educational Services and procedures around follow-up on reports of (i) homeschoolers not being registered and (ii) homeschoolers who may not be receiving an Educational Program. The policy should describe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> what Homeschooling is and use the correct terminology; the Registration process and purpose; the Home Educator's autonomy and authority with regard to the Educational Program (a clear statement that the school does not have the authority to supervise the Educational Program). what information/data is collected (what information is required and what information is optional). Ensure policies and procedures align with principles of procedural fairness, transparency and privacy legislation. District policies and procedures regarding reporting child protection concerns should also apply to Registered Homeschoolers. Ensure that staff are trained and understand procedures to follow when receiving a report that a homeschooler may not be registered or may not be receiving an Educational Program. Ensure district policies and procedures are up-to-date, accurate and available to school-based staff and Homeschooling families.

BOARDS OF EDUCATION

TOPIC	Legislative Provisions: Requirements & Entitlements	Better Practice Guidelines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In public facing information, identify a contact person for Homeschooling. It could be useful if this contact also had responsibility or information on alternate education programs and diverse educational pathways. • Ensure school-based administrators are versed in Homeschooling policies and procedures and provide training to relevant staff in Homeschooling related processes. • Districts should have published payment / deposit / refund policies and schedules for Homeschooling related services or resources.
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that Registering Schools understand that they do not have the authority to review, approve and oversee the Homeschooling Educational Program. • Develop Board / Authority Homeschooling policies that align with legislative provisions around Homeschooling. Policies and procedures should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Include clear statements regarding the responsibility of parents/guardians to provide the Educational Program. o Outline the Registration process (before and after September 30). o Describe Educational Services offered by the Registering School. o Include procedures describing follow-up on reports of (i) homeschoolers not being registered and (ii) homeschoolers who may not be receiving an Educational Program. o Align with principles of procedural fairness, transparency and privacy legislation.

The School Act defines an "Educational Program" as a set of learning activities that is designed to enable learners (enrolled Students and homeschooled children) to become literate, to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to contribute to a healthy, democratic and pluralistic society and a prosperous and sustainable economy. Within the context of Homeschooling, the parent has the Authority to determine how the Homeschooling Educational Program meets this definition.

TOPIC	Legislative Provisions: Requirements & Entitlements	Better Practice Guidelines
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure policies and procedures around reporting child protection concerns are applicable to Registered Homeschoolers. • Ensure Board/Authority policies and procedures are up-to-date, accurate and available to school-based staff and Homeschooling families. • In public facing information, identify a contact person for Homeschooling. It could be useful if this contact also had responsibility or information on alternate education programs and diverse educational pathways. • Ensure that staff are trained and understand procedures when receiving a report that a homeschooler may not be receiving an Educational Program.
<p>EDUCATIONAL SERVICES</p> <p>Registering Schools have a requirement to offer educational services to parents / guardians of Registered Homeschoolers. These include the loan of Educational Resource Materials and Evaluation and Assessment Services.</p> <p>Note: Parents / guardians of Registered Homeschoolers have the authority to select their own Educational Services. This means they can accept or reject the offer of Educational Services from a Registering School.</p>	<p>Board of Education Homeschooling policies must align with the School Regulation's specific requirements in relation to Educational Services - School Regulation, section 3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boards of Education may set their own terms and conditions regarding Registered Homeschoolers auditing Educational Programs offered by the Board. Fees are permitted under the legislation. • Boards of Education are required to have published schedule of fees for Homeschooling educational resources, in accordance with applicable legislation - School Act, section 82(4). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure schools are aware of their obligation to offer Educational Services, as per legislation and should have a process for ensuring that there are adequate resources for enrolled Students and Registered Homeschoolers. • To ensure consistency of practice and of information shared with Homeschooling families (current and potential) should be written in a welcoming and accessible manner and should describe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o the Educational Services offered by the schools within the District / Authority o how to access the services; o information regarding auditing courses; • Boards of Education / Independent School Authorities should make information about Educational Services freely available (e.g. website). • Ensure school policies are aligned with Board / Authority policies.