

MINUTES

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 60 (Peace River North)

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, October 19, 2020
6:30 p.m.

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

Stephen Petrucci, Superintendent of Schools
Brenda Hooker, Secretary-Treasurer (*via Zoom*)
Leah Reimer, Recording Secretary

(Guests/Media)

Michele Wiebe, PRNTA President

Regrets: Nicole Gilliss, Vice-Chair (Area 3)



Call to Order

Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Gilbert acknowledged the traditional territorial lands of the Dane Zaa and Treaty 8.

Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Motion #105-20

Scott-Moncrieff/Evans
THAT the agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED.

Presentations/Delegations

None

Trustee Input

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

Trustee Campbell

- Has been slow with COVID...haven't been visiting all my schools
- Went to Taylor School for a meeting and attended part of Career Day
- Attended ARYES Grand Opening

Trustee Evans

- Attended ARYES Grand Opening and Doug Boyd's retirement party

Vice-Chair Gilliss

- Absent

Trustee Lehmann

- Attended ARYES Grand Opening
- Attended SUP-PAC meeting

Trustee Scott-Moncrieff

- Contacted all administrators and things are going well...settling in

Trustee Snow

- Attended ARYES Grand Opening and Doug Boyd's Retirement
- Contacted NPSS administrator
- Contacted Bert Ambrose administrator

Chair Gilbert

- Attended ARYES Grand Opening...pleased with children's video clip
- Attended Doug Boyd's Retirement
- Worked with Broyden in setting up a PAC for ARYES...have a full slate including a DPAC rep. A nice group of blended ages
- Visited MMMCS – thank you to district staff for quick response regarding meeting the conditions for a grant for \$175,000 for playground equipment. They are running a "Fresh to You" fundraiser that will enable them to give back to families in need
- Attended Baldonnel and CM Finch's Terry Fox run

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

Approval of the Minutes

Motion #106-20

Evans/Campbell

THAT the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2020 be adopted.
CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The following business arose from the above noted Minutes:

DPAC Report

Teresa Brown had indicated they had elections coming up. Have they been completed? If so, could the results be distributed to the Board

ACTION: Chair Gilbert will contact Teresa to provide information on PAC president contact information to distribute to the Board

Approval of Excerpts

Motion #107-20

Snow/Lehmann

THAT the excerpts from the August 31, 2020 In camera Meeting Minutes be approved and appended to these Regular Meeting Minutes.
CARRIED.

Announcements & Reminders

October 23	Non-Instruction Day (Pro-D)		
October 23 -24	Provincial Council		Virtual
October 27	SUPAC-PAC Meeting (<i>Campbell/Snow</i>)	12:00 p.m.	Board Office/Virtual
November 2	COTW Meetings	12:30 p.m.	Board Office
November 11	Remembrance Day		
November 16	Board Meetings	5:00 p.m.	Board Office
November 24	SUPAC-PAC Meeting (<i>Campbell/Lehmann</i>)	12:00 p.m.	Board Office/Virtual
November 25/26	Early Dismissal		
November 27	Non-Instruction Day (Parent-Teacher Interviews)		
November 27-28	BCSTA Academy		Board Office/Virtual
November 30	COTW Meetings	12:30 p.m.	Board Office
December 14	Board Meetings	5:00 p.m.	Board Office
December 22 – January 4	Christmas Vacation		

Note: DPAC Executive will come up with a registration process for the SUP-PAC meetings and will let the Superintendent know the numbers ahead of the meeting.

Senior Staff Reports

Superintendent's Report

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

Human Resources Summary for Teachers & AO's

- For information purposes

Superintendent's Report (Attachment)

- Stephen presented his report and fielded questions from trustees
- Leaves of Absences - not seeing a huge difference in the amount of absences but duration of illness (days away) is longer
- TTOC List – only have had 2-3 days that we haven't had enough teachers. Still short on TTOC list. Postings are being filled, including Wonowon
- Well above 80% have returned. Many others have registered at the KEY Learning Centre and some are homeschooling
- Administrators have not had an indication that the "date of decision" was an issue for family and have not asked for an extension as other districts have been experiencing
- Robert Ogilvie and Upper Pine collapse of divisions occurred because of a number of factors. Upper Pine catchment there are more families that are home schooling. Robert Ogilvie – went through a catchment area change last year and it's a settling of the population. Will be looking back at the "how's and why's"
- Upper Halfway – down 15 children due to two families making a personal decision to move to a private online academy for the year, due to COVID
- Buick Creek – going well...21 registered and teachers going from the KEY four days a week (two teachers are assigned two days each) along with administration. Also have EA's and running Strong Start. This could be a model that could be used for different pockets around the district.

- Parenting Seminars enrollment numbers? Will provide information once it's available
- District Wide Professional Development Day – if trustees are wanting to participate in the Pro-D, what route should we follow to join?
 - Stephen – express interest and connect you with Learning services. Also, the Board is forming a Pro-D committee and can make connections that way. The one coming up, the sessions may be more geared to teachers

BAA Course – Orientation & Mobility BAA Course

- Question as to whether the course would be open to others who were interested in this area. That would be taken into consideration depending on registration numbers

Out-of-District Sports/Field Trips

- Discussion followed regarding these trips in light of COVID
- Vast majority do not involve interaction with other schools
- In the case of where they do (ie. tournaments, skiing in Alberta), district staff would ensure the safety guidelines are being followed
- Administrators, staff and students are hoping, where it's safe, to do these types of outdoor activities

Motion #108-20

Evans/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board accept the Superintendent's Report with the exception of the BAA Course and Out-of-District Field Trips.

CARRIED.

Motion #109-20

Lehmann/Evans

That the Board of Trustees approves the Orientation & Mobility 12 BAA Course as presented.

CARRIED.

Motion #110 -20

Evans/Scott-Moncrieff

That, **in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines**, the Board of Trustees approves the Clearview Elementary/Junior Secondary School, Ecole Central Elementary School, North Peace Secondary School and Prespatou School Out-of-District Sports/Field Trips as presented.

CARRIED.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

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

Financial Overview to September 30, 2020

- Operating Revenue - \$9,942,949
- Expenses - \$1,521.809
- Net operating revenue of \$1.5 million
- Showing a small net surplus, is not reflective of what things will be for the rest of the year.
- Should be able to present a balanced budget without considerable input from reserves
- Presented COVID report to the Ministry and there are not significant savings at this time
- Will have a preliminary look at Amended Budget in November once ministry releases revised enrolment reports

- Are we expected to have any surplus for financial statements?
Submitted fairly conservative costs in addition to revenue expectations and increased areas of expenses (TTOC, sick leave, etc.) prior to federal grant announcements. If we receive \$2.2 million dollars, we should be able to cover the expenses and not have a significant impact
- ARYES Budget? – still receiving invoices and working on deficiency list. Will have to contribute \$300,000 but here’s an additional \$800,000 that is potentially required out of reserves. We don’t have final numbers yet...will be required to use some of the funds, but not likely the full \$800,000

Human Resources Summary Report

- For information purposes
- Question in regards to the 28 “Changes to existing” reported in the summary report. Brenda – change in hours (ie. adding additional hours to existing staff). We added an additional custodian to some schools as well as district custodians. Also have added supervision staff.

Motion #111-20

Evans/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board accept the Secretary-Treasurer’s Report.
CARRIED.

Reports of Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting

Approval of the Minutes – October 5, 2020

Motion #112-20

Evans/Snow

THAT the Board accept the Regular Committee of the Whole minutes of October 5, 2020 and its recommendations

CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The following business arose from the above noted Minutes:

Annual Work Plan

- Stephen and Chair Gilbert met today
- Felt it was too much on one document so have created a second document for the Committee of the Whole

ACTION: Chair Gilbert will send out the Annual Work Plans to Trustees once finalized

Meeting with the City of Fort St. John

- Location: Suggestion to meet in the ARYES Heather Hannaford Arts Space
- Agenda Items: to be decided at a future meeting
- December 1 @ 3:00 p.m. (not 2:30 p.m.) or December 8 @ 3:00 p.m.

ACTION: District Staff to follow up the City to confirm the date, time and location as well as any agenda items or look at a “Meet and Greet”. Place an update on the November 2, 2020 Committee of the Whole Regular Agenda

Public Participation During Board Meetings

- As per the Board's request, we are live-streaming and now public that is watching will be able to make a comment and ask questions. The live-stream chat will be monitored by Stephen and questions will then be passed onto the Chair who will put the questions out there that are pertinent to the agenda topics
- Discussed putting out a media release to provide the access information to the public

Policy Committee

- Trustee Evans is meeting with Stephen on November 9, 2020 to make a plan for the year and set dates up (ie. most likely Monday's)

Other Reports

BCSTA

Provincial Council – October 23 & 24, 2020 – Motion Review (Attachment)

- 9.1 Climate Change Working Group
 - Should be broad regional representation otherwise vote opposing
- 9.2 Video Options for Winter Meetings
 - Referring to weather restrictions on flights, etc. even not while in a COVID environment
 - There is value in meeting face to face, but good to provide the option
 - In favour
- 9.3 Safe Routes to Schools as part of the Provincial Active Transportation Strategy
 - Need clarity on what this relates to...would like to support other districts that have different challenges than us
- 9.4 Funding for Trades
 - In favour
- 9.5 Provincial Funding to Improve Access to Educational Programming in Correctional Facilities
 - In favour
- 9.6 Additional Supports for Letter of Permission Teachers and Non-Certified Teachers Teaching On-Call
 - SD 60 submission – In favour
 - Will need to provide applicable statistics
- 9.7 Timelier Response from Teacher Regulation Branch
 - SD 60 submission – In favour
 - Will need to provide applicable statistics (ie. talking notes)
- 9.8 Aligning School Construction with Enrollment Projection
 - Could potentially be a detriment to northern districts
 - No district enrollment projections are going to be accurate due to COVID

- Ministry takes 5 year enrollments into consideration but don't necessarily consider it in bringing a project forward
 - May want to ask for more detail, but may not be in the interest of northern districts
 - In the past the Terrace and Kootenays district built schools on 5 year projections and the enrollments didn't come....motion may be coming from that
 - More on opposing than "in favour"
- 10.1 An Enhanced Co-Governance Approach for the Recovery Stage of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- In favour
- 10.2 Action On Anti-Black Racism
- In favour
- 10.3 Public Sector Executive Wage Freeze
- In favour

Board Chair Update (Attachment)

- Virtual ½ day meeting with Ministry and district board chairs
- Shared agenda with, and will share resources with, trustees
- BCSTA is putting publications electronically on the BCSTA HUB instead of hard copy in order to make changes easier
- Shared presentation slides from meeting:
 - Focus on Student Learning Loss
 - Budget Pressures – discussion on what the Board's role is
 - Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) – we have been doing this all along...this is an area that will really be a focus in other districts. Ultimately, this new report is the Board's report to the Ministry, although district staff provides the information
 - FESL Requirements – if we look at data we've been collecting, we can meet some requirements. Other is for specific groups and will have to look into that
 - District Strategic Plan – stressing the importance. We have a good foundation in this area
- All Candidates Forum – wasn't a partisan attack. Alignment on importance of education presented by all parties

BCPSEA

- Chair Gilbert has forwarded trustees the staffing changes and other information

Board Pro-D Committee

Correspondence

Northern BC Volleyball Club

- Requesting 3rd party use of our facilities
- Hard for local sports organizations operating under a different set of rules than the BC Sports association to understand our guidelines
- Stephen – will bring to the November 16, 2020 Board Meeting with more information and a staff recommendation for 3rd party use of our gyms
- There are no provincial bans, however no other districts are offering 3rd party usage at this time
- Staff would like to gather information from school administrators in regards to custodial capacity, follow-up, clean-up, etc.
- Brenda – another is budget implications (custodial times, safety, cleaning supplies, etc.)
- Stephen – have been communicating to these groups that the Board has been committed to looking at this again. Need to get a strong sense from the field whether to do this
- Chair Gilbert - confusing to public when recreation facilities are shut down for us to step in and open things up. Where recreation facilities are opening up, the guidelines are quite stringent

ACTION: Bring this item with a staff recommendation to the November 16, 2020 Regular Board Meeting for Board direction

Unfinished Business

The following unfinished business arose from the previous meeting minutes:
None

New Business

Remembrance Day Ceremony

- In light of COVID, the FSJ Legion, District of Taylor and District of Hudson's Hope are needing to make adjustments to their Remembrance Day Ceremonies
 - FSJ Legion – small, invitation only ceremony with laying of wreath (trustee will be invited) – Trustee Snow would like to be present
 - District of Taylor – small, invitation only ceremony with firefighters and junior firefighters laying the wreathes (no trustee invited but Trustee Campbell will request a junior firefighter lay our district's wreath)
 - District of Hudson's Hope – small gathering outside and a Trustee can lay a wreath – Trustee Gilliss
- There will also still be Remembrance Day ceremonies in schools. It was noted that Remembrance Day ceremonies assemblies are the only ones listed as required in the School Act

PRNTA Update – Michele Wiebe, President

- Charmaine Chretien put out an email of offerings for District Wide Development Day – Pro-D Day that Trustees may be interested in attending
- Had zone meetings last week, which included a presentation from an Indigenous lawyer from Vancouver on trauma informed practice that was amazing. If we could swing it to have a district wide presentation on zoom for all staff. She talks about virtual vicarious trauma...we can all be affected by it. Students having gone through COVID, as well as

- teachers, a lot of kids are coming back to school with trauma and how do we deal with that. She also has podcasts you can listen to
- Trustee Evans – have people in our community that do trauma presentations as well that I can provide contact information
 - Appreciated Stephen’s presentation tonight...so many good things happening in schools. Spoke with a Grade 6 teacher...they were thankful that it’s business as usual...we’re in our cohort, learning. The way it has been handled has made it a good experience.
 - However, teachers are tired as well as administrators, staff, etc. Encouraged trustees to visit schools and provide encouragement
 - Mary Tremain, Vice President is having surgery and will be away on a medical leave. Donna Bulmer will be the acting Vice-President (on Monday’s) during Mary’s recovery time

CUPE Local #4653 Update – Maureen Hummel, President

No report - absent

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

No report - absent

Questions from Press/Public

At this time, opportunity was given for questions from the press

No livestream chat questions from the public

Motion #113-20

Scott-Moncrieff/Snow

THAT the Board resume the Regular Meeting and those Motions made In camera be brought forward for implementation.

CARRIED.

Adjournment

Motion #114-20

Evans/Snow

THAT the meeting be adjourned. (8:35 p.m.)

HELEN GILBERT, CHAIR,
BOARD OF EDUCATION

BRENDA HOOKER,
SECRETARY-TREASURER

STUDENT LEARNING LOSS

What might your board do to help address student learning loss?

- policies
- budget and staffing
- key priorities
- strategic planning
- advocacy

BUDGET PRESSURES

- **increased costs due to COVID-19**
- **limited additional funding - Prov and Feds**
- **depleted reserves**
- **demand for services and options**
- **\$13b provincial deficit**

BUDGET PRESSURES

- Increased costs due to COVID-19
- Limited additional funding from Prov and Feds
- Depleted reserves
- Demand for services and options
- \$13b provincial deficit
- Cost containment?
- Reduction of options?
- Prioritization?
- Learn from others?
- Advocacy?

BUDGET PRESSURES

What information would be helpful to your board in planning next year's budget?

District

Province

Federal

1. What was your June 2020 year-end surplus or deficit?
2. What grants has your district received this year?
3. Are you now projected to end this year with a surplus or a deficit?
4. How will you balance your budget next year?

FRAMEWORK FOR ENHANCING STUDENT LEARNING (FESL)

It's now required policy for all
school districts (Sept 1, 2020)

Focus on the 'board's
approach to continuous
improvement of student
achievement

First report due to MoE by no
later than Sept. 30, 2021

FESL REQUIREMENTS

1. Board approved Strategic Plan to improve student achievement
2. Corresponding allotment of resources
3. Report to the Ministry each year by Sept 30 on progress
4. Specified performance indicators

The report must also 'establish categories for each of the following student populations and report on these categories separately:

- a) Indigenous students (i) living on reserve and (ii) living off reserve
- b) Children and youth in care
- c) Students with disabilities and diverse abilities.'

CAN THESE ITEMS ALIGN?

DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN

Establishing local priorities within a balanced budget

Improving student learning outcomes during and after COVID

Analysis, planning and reporting as required by the new FESL policy



October 24, 2020 Provincial Council Meeting Motions

9.1 Climate Change Working Group

SUBMITTED BY: Metropolitan Branch and SD62 (Sooke)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA establish a Climate Change Working Group comprised of staff and trustees to:

- inform the BCSTA Board of Directors about the ability of school districts, under the provincial government's current capital funding programs (including the Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCPP)), to meet the CleanBC goal for public buildings to reduce emissions by 50% by 2030;
- consider examples of schools that demonstrate low/no emissions;
- provide recommendations on how the 50% emissions reduction target could be achieved; and,
- assist BCSTA in collaborating with the relevant provincial ministries to create and implement a plan to achieve the 50% emissions reduction target.

9.2 Video Options for Winter Meetings

SUBMITTED BY: Kootenay Boundary Branch

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA consider enabling meeting participants to attend meetings by video conference if meetings, such as Provincial Council, must be held from November to February.

9.3 Safe Routes to Schools as part of the Provincial Active Transportation Strategy

SUBMITTED BY: SD39 (Vancouver)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA work with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on opportunities to include and improve Safe Routes to Schools recommendations as a part of the new provincial Active Transportation Strategy.

9.4 Funding for Trades

SUBMITTED BY: SD42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA advocate for the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Advanced Education to provide funding for all students under the age of 19 years who have graduated from secondary school to enable them to continue the trades program in which they were enrolled prior to graduation.

9.5 Provincial Funding to Improve Access to Educational Programming in Correctional Facilities

SUBMITTED BY: SD42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA request that the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General allocate special-purpose funding to school districts to provide year-round educational services in provincial correctional facilities based on the level of service required in each community.

9.6 Additional Supports for Letter of Permission Teachers and Non-Certified Teachers Teaching On-Call

SUBMITTED BY: SD60 (Peace River North)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA advocate to the Ministry of Education for additional funding for districts to support teachers with Letters of Permission and non-certified teachers teaching on call by providing resources such as classroom management assistance, education assistants, and professional development.

9.7 Timelier Response from Teacher Regulation Branch

SUBMITTED BY: SD60 (Peace River North)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA advocate to the Ministry of Education to ensure that credential reviews by the Teacher Regulation Branch (TRB) are completed on a timelier basis.

9.8 Aligning School Construction with Enrollment Projection

SUBMITTED BY: SD57 (Prince George)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA urge the Minister of Education and the Minister of Finance to request that capital funding for new schools and expansions be consistently provided on the basis of a five year projection for enrollment rather than on the current enrollment.

10.1 An Enhanced Co-Governance Approach for the Recovery Stage of the COVID-19 Global Pandemic

SUBMITTED BY: The Board of Education of School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA urge the Ministry of Education, in collaboration with BCSTA, to implement an enhanced co-governance approach which:

- will strengthen communication and collaboration between the Ministry of Education, and boards of education; and,
- will provide additional opportunities with manageable timelines for boards of education to contribute input during the recovery phase of the COVID-19 emergency management cycle.

10.2 Action on Anti-Black Racism

SUBMITTED BY: The Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) and the Board of Education of School District No. 41 (Burnaby)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA advocates that the Ministry of Education:

- Investigate the root structural causes of anti-Black racism in the education system.
- Develop and implement mandatory anti-racism education for staff and students alike.
- Create a database to keep track of all incidents of racism in BC Schools against students and staff.
- Take immediate action to incorporate Canadian Black history into the BC K-12 curriculum for the next school year. The revised curriculum would include contributions of Black Canadians and a recognition of the adverse effects of policies and racism on Black Canadians. The curriculum development process would involve fulsome and meaningful consultation with Black-led organizations.

10.3 Public Sector Executive Wage Freeze

SUBMITTED BY: The Board of Education of School District No. 45 (West Vancouver)

BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA advocate to the BC Public School Employers' Association, Public Sector Employers' Council and the Ministry of Finance to exempt the K-12 sector from the Public Sector Executive Compensation Freeze Policy.