

SCHOOL DISTRICT #60 (PEACE RIVER NORTH)
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
“REGULAR” MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021
1:30 P.M.

Present: Helen Gilbert, Chair, Board of Education
Madeleine Lehmann, Vice-Chair
Ida Campbell, Trustee
Erin Evans, Trustee
David Scott-Moncrieff, Trustee
Bill Snow, Trustee

Stephen Petrucci, Superintendent
Teri Stoneman, Interim Secretary Treasurer
Leah Reimer, Recording Secretary

Guests: Michele Wiebe, PRNTA President (*via Zoom*)

Regrets: Nicole Gilliss, Trustee

Education

Education Update

Framework Presentation

Alwin Holland Elementary School

Jerelyn Orcutt, Principal & Hayley Hurren, Vice-Principal

Energizing Our Future: The Social & Economic Development Framework for FSJ: A Report published for the City of Fort St. John

Stephen Petrucci, Superintendent

- Don't feel the City is trying to "pigeon hole" us into specific obligations...content is directed towards city programming
- Can work with City in regards to our District mandate
- Ties into our Strategic Plan and the Board's future meeting with them
- Recruitment & Retention – continue to work with community partners and look for opportunities with unions and local trade fairs, however we are strategic in how we do recruitment and retention and it has been successful

- There is content that we can use in our advocacy around this topic

Framework Presentation

Margaret Ma Murray Community School

Kathy Scheck, Principal

Hunter MacKay, Vice-Principal

Jaimiela Turner, Teacher

Brianne Logeman, Teacher

Casey Fehr, Teacher

Governance

Provincial Council Motions Review

Trustee Evans

9.1 Funding for Distributed Learning

- Board is in favor of this motion

9.2 COVID-19 Vaccine Priority for Workers in the Public Education Sector

- Our district is relying on Ministry of Health to make decisions in regards to COVID and they are saying that based on science the Public Education Sector is not a priority
- We've been directed by Public Health but going forward if the pandemic evolves this could become more of a priority
- Criteria in effect (ie. some staff will be receiving it based on health issues and age)
- Availability of the vaccine is also a factor...everyone is supposed to be done by September. If that were to change, would like to have this decision be re-evaluated. The decision was made before variants, etc.
- Coming to the table February 20, 2021, but amendments could be made, if needed
- Provincial Council will probably debate, discuss and amendments may be made
- Board overall supports this motion with an amendment that if there are changes with variants or other emergent issues, that priority for workers in the public education sector be re-evaluated.
- Question to be asked: Are teachers an essential service? If they are, they should be with the essential workers in regards to vaccine priority

9.3 Providing Accessible and Timely Information Regarding COVID-19 and School Safety

- Letters come out later, however contact tracing happens right away with Northern Health. The public may not be aware of this and it causes concern
- Each health care zone now has a rapid response team in direct response to concerns being raised in this motion

- Ministry has been in touch with Superintendent and we have been named as the Rapid Response Team contact for Northern Health. Funding of \$175,000 will be provided. Will bring more information back to the Board once the Superintendent meets with Ministry

ACTION: Superintendent to bring more information regarding the Rapid Response Team at the February 22, 2021 Regular Meeting

- Board's direction...see how the motion goes and vote accordingly

*NEW – Internet Connectivity

- Motion deadline for the BCSTA AGM on April 17, 2021 is February 16, 2021
- Three motions in the past have come up regarding this issue (2018, 2012 and 2010)
- Do we need another motion or wait and see what the response is and if the BCSTA Board of Directors bring it forward
- Board is in favour of putting forward a motion for the BCSTA AGM this year

ACTION: Trustee Evans to put together a motion in regards to Internet Connectivity and distribute to Trustees for their input

*NEW – Assessment and Interventions Funding

- Last motion was sent in 2018 and it was passed
- Letters were sent but things have not improved, most likely due to COVID
- There is regional variation in response times...the north has remoteness, distance and less access to private assessments
- Board is in favour of putting forward a motion for the BCSTA AGM

ACTION: Trustee Evans to put together a motion in regards to Assessment and Interventions Funding and distribute to Trustees for their input

BCPSEA AGM Report

Trustee Campbell

- Budget and two resolutions were passed
- Eve Flynn #69 Vancouver Island/Coastal and Shirley Wilson #34 Fraser Valley voted onto the board
- Voting was done differently...it's useful to have a second device to vote on

Human Resources

Operations

Operations Report

Teri Stoneman, Secretary-Treasurer

- Broken pipe outside of Margaret Ma Murray last night and water got into office area. Minimal damage, water is back on, and school is in session. The Secretary-Treasurer and operations department are following up
- BASC registrations – all programs doing well in regards to interest/registration with exception of Robert Ogilvie, which could be because other sources are available other than our program (ie. Rise and Shine and Totem Preschool that can do full care, broader range and not only when school is in session). Continue to monitor and look at a later start for Robert Ogilvie
- Duncan Cran is scheduled to open March 1, 2021 and has good registration. Program is starting within school at this point and will eventually move into the two portables
- All applications have playground requests and have received funds as part of the allocation. Staff is coordinating provincial tenders through BC Bid along with an element of commitment from our district
- Buses and cold temperature – our district has a process in regards to cancelling bus routes. Manufacturer recommendation is not to run buses when temperatures are colder than -35. Good communication on the website in regards to the cancellation of buses and cold weather factors
- Electro-static guns – will we continue to need these once COVID over? We have the capacity to use them at every location and to maintain without any further cost requirements

COVID-19 Update

- In light of new changes, as a system we are absorbing criteria in the new safety guidelines
- Met with administrators. Elementary is unaffected with students or staff (ie. many staff were already wearing masks)
- Middle/secondary – when students are sitting at a table in their classrooms, they can still remove their mask. Looking at ramifications with music and gym classes
- Environmental controls remain (ie. cleaning, distancing and mask wearing)
- Guidelines now state government meetings to be held virtually wherever possible. If not, ensure we have enough physical distancing space
 - Around the province, the vast majority have gone to complete virtual board meetings. Some of the northern districts have a hybrid, however they are not allowing public to attend. Internally, we are looking at all pro-d and district meetings and where they can, have them go virtual

- Discussion followed as to the format of the Board of Trustees meetings. Some trustees don't have reliable internet access or privacy in their homes
- Staff will go on "as is" (ie. meeting in-person) until we hear otherwise from the Board
- Trustees have the option to join via Zoom if it is better for them