

MINUTES

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 60 (Peace River North)

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, June 20, 2022
6:30 p.m.

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

Stephen Petrucci, Superintendent of Schools
Angela Telford, Secretary-Treasurer
Leah Reimer, Recording Secretary

(Guests/Media) Michele Wiebe, PRNTA President
Heather Truscott, Creative Hub
Margaret May, Creative Hub
Connie Surerus, Creative Hub

Regrets: Madeleine Lehmann, Vice-Chair (Area 1)
Nicole Gilliss, Trustee (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.

Meeting to be recorded and archived on our District website

Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Motion #76-22

Snow/Campbell
THAT the agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED.

Presentations/Delegations

Creative Hub Presentation

Heather Truscott, Connie Surerus and Margaret May

- There is a need in our city for more space for arts
- Started the process with a feasibility study. Is there a demand? Is it possible? Would it be used? What are the potential sources of revenue? Sustainability?
 - The study has confirmed the demand, the need and would provide revitalization to the city
- Have done a building review and assessment of local economy
- Three options for sites...leaning towards option 3 (across from the Cultural Centre)
- See a lot of potential partnerships moving forward

- See potential grow in many areas when you have the space
- Moving forward, have met with District of Taylor and PRRD. Also met with City staff and Council who are all excited about...works with downtown revitalization plan
- Interest groups are very interested in affordable space for artists, art's groups and living space above
- Different avenues for funding: Heritage Canada, City of FSJ (main partner as they own the land), getting businesses on side with matching donations
- Sustainability – commercial retail space, grocery store, café, businesses on ground floor
- With the Cultural Center across the road, the society could manage both facilities. Gallery currently in the Cultural Centre, they could move over to the creative hub and free up space there for a possible library expansion
- Art is for everyone...how could we help you with your art programs? Art's campus for part of the school year or short term art classes taught by master craftspeople in specific areas. Affordable housing for teachers coming in. Professional development for staff. Artist in Residency. Possibly help with retention of teachers and other professionals
- Have been in talks with Community Living, Metis Society, senior's groups, Northern Lights College who are all interested in housing and arts programs
- What we would like from you? Are you interested? Can you see this working into your long term plan 5 years from now? Ideas that you have that haven't been mentioned.
- Reviewed the floor plans that additional ideas can be added. These are drafts...dream big
- Chair Gilbert – there are a lot of grants out there in regards to energy savings and eco-friendly products. The City would have lot of information on with their history of work on projects like Passive House
- Trustee Campbell: always interested in recruitment and retention opportunities

ACTION: Staff will continue to communicate with the presenters and keep the conversation going with trustees in regards to synergies and/or partnerships

David Scott-Moncrieff joined the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Trustee Input

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

Trustee Campbell

- Policy Committee
- Peace Regional Historical Society in Taylor in regards to a future center there
- Retirement & Long Service awards night
- Bert Bowes Track Opening
- Taylor author book signing
- Graduation ceremonies
- PAC meeting

- Coffee with the Taylor Council. Candidate 101 on June 21 and August 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the council chambers for anyone wanting to run for council in Taylor. Last year, the presenters had good information for anyone wanting to run in any election

Trustee Evans

- Nothing to report

Trustee Gilliss

- Regrets

Vice-Chair Lehmann

- Regrets

Trustee Scott-Moncrieff

- Retirement & Long Service Awards
- Bert Bowes Track Meet
- Visited Wonowon School – field in need of repair
- Connected with Prespatou School
- Going to a pig roast at Buick School next week
- Pool presentation

Trustee Snow

- Public speaking contest at ARYES
- Retirement & Long Service Awards
- Bert Bowes Track Meet
- Fun activities at schools
- Delivered flower baskets for retirees
- Policy Committee meeting
- Grad ceremony & Grad Fest
- MMMCS Rotary Community Block Party
- Pool presentation

Chair Gilbert

- Finished RSL sessions
- NE Roundtable meeting on May 25
- Visit to Doig River First Nation
- Policy Committee Meeting
- District Rack Meet
- Baldonnel PAC Meeting
- Meeting with Mayor
- Retirement & Long Service dinner
- Northern Lights College – regrets due to illness
- MMMCS Rotary Community Block Party
- Select Standing Committee presentation
- Lunch with Executive Staff and DPAC
- Taylor book reading
- NPSS Grad and Grand March
- Attending Hudson's Hope Grad on Monday
- Upper Halfway Meeting with architects
- Budget deep dive

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

Approval of the Minutes

Motion #77-22

Snow/Evans
THAT the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2022 be adopted.
CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The following business arose from the above noted Minutes:

Approval of Excerpts

Motion #78-22

Campbell/Scott-Moncrieff
THAT the excerpts from the April 25, 2022 In Camera Meeting Minutes be approved and appended to these Regular Meeting Minutes.
CARRIED.

Announcements & Reminders

June 23	Last Day for Students		
June 24	Hudson's Hope Graduation	1:00 p.m.	Hudson's Hope
July 4	Board Advance		Board Room
July 6-8	CSBA 2022		Saskatoon
August 30			
- Sept 9	Election Nomination Period		
August 29	Board Meetings (<i>Tentative</i>)	5:00 p.m.	Board Room
September 6	Schools Open		
September 12	Board Meetings	5:00 p.m.	Board Room
September 23	NID Day (School Planning)		
September 30	Truth and Reconciliation Day		
October 3	Policy Committee Meeting	11:00 a.m.	Board Room
October 3	COTW Meetings	12:30 p.m.	Board Room
October 10	Thanksgiving Day		
October 15	Trustee Election		

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

- For information purposes
- Recruitment is picking up but have a few teaching positions lacking applicants (ie. rural schools, French immersion). HR department is reaching out to many areas to get the word out. Hiring will continue over the summer

Out of District Field Trips

- See motion below

Motion #79-22

Evans/Snow

THAT the Board accept the Superintendent's Report with the exception of the Out of District Field Trips item

CARRIED.

Motion #80-22

Evans/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board of Education approve the attached Out of District Field Trips for Hudson's Hope and Taylor Elementary schools

CARRIED.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

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

Finance update to May 31, 2022

- For information purposes
- Ended up with less Alberta students, the amount is lower than anticipated
- EA's variance – having difficulty filling some EA positions (ie. postings going out that aren't getting filled, more of an uptick for sick time)

Carbon Neutral Report

- Reporting has changed
- Chair Gilbert has reviewed the last 10 years and it's an interesting read

Human Resources Support Staff Summary Report

- For information purposes
- Casual bus driver's shortage? It's a concern...working with the Transportation supervisor on recruiting options. Some are retiring or on a medical leave. Difficulty in finding air brake and Class 2 certified drivers. HR is working on a "bus wrapping" campaign to promote bus driver hiring

Motion #81-22

Scott-Moncrieff/Campbell

THAT the Board accept the Secretary-Treasurer's Report

CARRIED.

Reports of Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting

Approval of the Minutes – June 6, 2022

Motion #82-22

Evans/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board accept the Regular Committee of the Whole minutes of June 6, 2022 and its recommendations

CARRIED.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The following business arose from the above noted Minutes:

None

Policy Committee

Policy Committee Meeting Notes – June 6, 2022

Motion 83-22

5003 Physical Examination – Bus Drivers

Lehmann/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board of Education adopt Policy 5003 Physical Examination – Bus Drivers

CARRIED.

Motion 84-22

4022 Employment Related Accommodation (Amended)

Scott-Moncrieff/

THAT the Board of Education put forward amended Policy 4022 Employment Related Accommodation for Notice of Motion

CARRIED.

Motion 85-22

8001.1 Budget Development, Monitoring & Reporting

Campbell/

THAT the Board of Education put forward Policy 8001.1 Budget Development, Monitoring & Reporting for Notice of Motion for deletion

CARRIED.

Motion 86-22

3003 Selection of Learning Resources

Campbell/

THAT the Board of Education put forward the revision of Policy 3003 Selection of Learning Resources for Notice of Motion

CARRIED.

Motion 87-22

2003 International Travel

Evans/

THAT the Board of Education put forward Policy 2003 International Travel for Notice of Motion

CARRIED.

Other Reports

BCSTA

- Nothing to report

BCPSEA

- Nothing to report

Board Pro-D Committee

- In process of preparing for the Board Advance
- Trustees are asked to complete the Board Survey if they haven't done so

Correspondence

None

Unfinished Business

The following unfinished business arose from the previous meeting minutes:

Financial Standing Committee

- Chair Gilbert and the Secretary-Treasurer presented to the committee last week
- Some of the committee seemed quite shocked at how things are different up here in the north (ie. fuel, water and propane surcharges, carbon tax and transportation cost increases in the last two months alone) and

wanted more specifics as well as a written follow up submission with dollar figures and examples

Five-Year Capital Plan 2023-2024

- Reviewed the Submission Summary
- Removed replacement of Ecole Central School because a lot of work has been done at the school and it's no longer needed at this time
- Removed the request for a new middle school but have now included additions to the current Bert Bowes and Dr. Kearney Middle Schools
- Wonowon has been removed as it's in the review stage and gathering more information. Looking at funding under Rural Remote funding
- Site Acquisition requests are located in a new land development across the bypass road from MMMCS
- Confirmed we still own a piece of land right next to MMMCS that was originally slated for a new middle school

Motion 88-22

Snow/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board of Education approve the attached 2023-2024 Capital Plan
CARRIED.

2022-2023 Annual Budget

First reading of the bylaw took place at the May 24, 2022 Regular Board Meeting.

- The Secretary-Treasurer provided updates from Ministry's review. Schedule 3A (pg 12) SWIS move to federal grant; EFAP, Misc moved to Other Revenue
- Page 11 2022/23 AFG is \$6,362 higher and corresponding increase to services and supplies so it is fully spent
- Page 6 – LEA Recovery Net Zero effect. Used in 2021-22 ministry document and it changed \$976,903 (Line 2). Under Other Revenues Funding from First Nations makes it a net zero effect
- Graduating Adults – moved to \$39,000. \$20,137 increase. Corresponding increase to transportation for Fuel.
- Statement 2 – increase to Total Expenses of \$26,499 due to increase amount in Transportation and the adjustment to the AFG expenses
- Increase in the bylaw of \$26,499

Motion 89-22

Campbell/Snow

THAT the Third Reading be done in short form

CARRIED.

Motion 90-22

Snow/Scott-Moncrieff

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Second Reading of Annual Budget Bylaw 2022-2023

CARRIED

Motion 91-22

Snow/Gilbert

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Third and Final Reading of Annual Budget Bylaw 2022-2023

CARRIED.

New Business

None

PRNTA Update – Michele Wiebe, President

- Policy 4022 – revisions? What is the process now for it? Secretary-Treasurer - will come back in September for approval. Will touch base with the affected teachers and set up a meeting for further questions
- Finance Standing Committee presentation – brought 3 topics forward.
 1. Funding for Public Education (ie. high incidence students)
 2. Recruitment and Retention
 3. Teacher and all essential workers worked throughout the pandemic and were never thanked by the Premier.
- Peace River South spoke about equity for education and opportunities across the board in BC

CUPE Local #4653 Update – Jennie Copeland, President

Not present

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) Report – President

Not present

Questions from Press/Public

At this time, opportunity was given for questions from the press
None present

Motion #92-22

Campbell/Scott-Moncrieff
THAT the Board resume the Regular Meeting and those Motions made In Camera be brought forward for implementation.
CARRIED.

Adjournment

Motion #93-22

Scott-Moncrieff/Campbell
THAT the meeting be adjourned. (8:04 p.m.)

HELEN GILBERT, CHAIR,
BOARD OF EDUCATION

ANGELA TELFORD,
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Funding Formula Review Submission School District #60 Peace River North June 2022

Area 1 Northern Factors

Recommendation

Equity is a pillar of our current government. We recommend that government look at the factors that affect equity of opportunity in the north, especially as it relates to transportation, operations, recruitment, and retention. Existing measures designed to address equity do not do so.

Rationale

Our district expends 5.6% of its budget on transportation; the provincial average is 1.9%. The vast size of the district and its northern location has cost and equity implications. Bus routes are long because of the nature of our area and existing infrastructure. Our facilities staff have to travel an hour and half to reach some rural schools. Rising fuel costs will have a substantial impact on our budget.

Natural gas prices are going up as well. In July of 2021, VFA assessed our buildings, 27 or 78% received a poor or critical rating. (41% poor and 37% critical). The FCI index for the rural schools places 56 % in the poor category and 44% in the critical category. Buildings in poor or critical shape require a high degree of maintenance and this means travel to those locations. The state of the buildings does not contribute to energy conservation so we spend more to heat buildings during our cold winters. Carbon tax costs are high.

Recruitment and retention in all departments is a significant challenge. Attracting and keeping staff in the north is more difficult. We hire more out of province teachers than districts in the south. We would like to see a budget from the Ministry specifically to assist with recruiting. We need to expand fully on line teaching programs that allow people to work and remain in the community while taking their training.

Retention incentives like those offered by northern health to attract health care workers need to be made available for education. Northern Alberta also offers retention measures such as forgivable loans for teachers that we can't match.

Recruitment and retention of educational assistants, bus drivers and maintenance staff is a concern. A review of CUPE local market rates with a Currently, we have 7 active postings with zero applicants or non viable applicants. We anticipate the need for an additional 13 teachers by the fall. If we don't attract 20 certified teachers to these positions we will be looking for people to teach on letters or permission. This could mean 20 people in classrooms that have some of the background and skills that we need. Twenty classrooms without qualified teachers. Is this equity? A Ministry funded labour market adjustment increase may assist with retention.

Area 2

K-12 and Childcare

Recommendation

Provision of quality childcare and K-12 education is something the board supports. Childcare has been added as a district responsibility but there is little clarity regarding expectations, a framework for program delivery or capacity building. Action is needed beyond a Ministry title change.

Rationale

Quality childcare should provide rich early learning experiences for children prior to their entry into the K-12 system. Before and after school daycare in schools means fewer transitions for students and makes life easier for families. Much work needs to be done to assist districts in understanding the childcare expectations. Childcare is not something that can be done off the side of someone's already full desk. The complexity of a school principal's job increases with the addition of a daycare in their building.

Government communication around day care is leading families to believe that we are further ahead in the development of programs than we are. There have been many phone calls around \$10.00 per day childcare. Childcare involves more than just before and after school care. Dedicated space is required for infant toddler care and the three to five year old age group. Will additions be made to existing school facilities?

Childcare is being added at a time when schools are facing cost pressures. We cannot take dollars away from the K-12 system to do childcare.

Area 3 General

The impacts of a flat per pupil allocation and inflation need to be considered. Placing unexpected or unanticipated costs on districts is difficult at anytime but more so now. The province needs to fund in accordance with its expectations of school districts.

Rationale

School District 60 is fiscally responsible. We have followed Ministry expectations regarding our K-12 Financial Planning and Reporting Policy and Accumulated Operating Surplus. Operating Surplus funds are earmarked for strategic goals and there is a small buffer for unanticipated costs. This buffer cannot make up for the deferred maintenance on our buildings. Adding five days paid sick leave and expecting us to find the money for this from a shrinking budget due to inflation is unfair.

The new Indigenous Graduation requirement is an important factor in reconciliation. Funds are necessary for development of courses and purchases of resources. Will these be coming?

It costs more to get supplies and materials to a northern district. Increasing delivery costs mean we are able to do less with the dollars we have. There will be an impact on the opportunities that we are able to give students.

We also do not have the same product availability. There is an increase in the supply chain issues and these factors contribute to a higher cost of doing basic business.

Contracts are up for renewal and our unionized employees are negotiating well deserved wage increases. In the past the Ministry has not funded wage increases for our exempt staff. Our exempt staff deserve similar increases to our unionized staff. As a district we should not have to cover those increases from operational dollars that are already impacted by inflation.

Submission Summary

Submission Summary: Major 2023/2024 | 2022-06-30

Submission Type: Capital Plan

School District: Peace River North (SD60)

Open Date: 2022-04-01

Close Date: 2022-06-30

Submission Status: Draft

Submission Category	Sum Total Project Cost
Site Acquisition	\$10,780,000
Addition	\$38,842,010
Replacement/Renovation	\$37,899,199
Total	\$87,521,209

ADDITION					
SD Category Rank	Project Number	Facility/Site	Project Type	Project Description	Total Project Cost
1	159114	Bert Bowes Middle School	Addition	We have some very tight years for classrooms within the school. We are experiencing slight growth in our community, and anticipate needing an additional 6 classrooms well as ancillary space and a gymnasium within the school	\$18,939,748
2	159120	Dr Kearney Middle School	Addition	We have some very tight years for classrooms within the school. We are experiencing slight growth in our community, and anticipate needing an additional 6 classrooms and a gym as well as ancillary space within the school	\$19,902,262
Submission Category Total:					\$38,842,010
REPLACEMENT/RENOVATION					
SD Category Rank	Project Number	Facility/Site	Project Type	Project Description	Total Project Cost
1	150246	Charlie Lake Elementary	Full Replacement (Replace/Reno)	Replace existing school with an 80K/425 Capacity Elementary School, currently 9 portables being replaced, FCI Index 29 Very Poor, significant facilities issues including water ingress and mold, room in current site to construct	\$37,899,199
Submission Category Total:					\$37,899,199
SITE ACQUISITION					
SD Category Rank	Project Number	Facility/Site	Project Type	Project Description	Total Project Cost
1	154956	New Northwest Area - Elementary	Site Acquisition	Require land for a new elementary school in the NW area. A developer beginning a 4000 unit development has contacted us regarding a land purchase. We have reviewed this land and other land available and determined this is a good location/land	\$4,885,000
2	154957	New Northwest Area - Secondary	Site Acquisition	Require land for a new high school in the NW area. A developer beginning a 4000 unit development has contacted us regarding a land purchase. We have reviewed this land and other land available and determined this is a good location/land.	\$5,895,000
Submission Category Total:					\$10,780,000