



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)
MARCH 21, 2017
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.

PRESENT: Trustees: L. Kearns, F. Farrell, J. Williams, L. Collingwood, P. Michell, B.J. Beaubien

Regrets: D. Hanson

Staff:
C. van der Mark – Superintendent of Schools
M. McDiarmid – Assistant Superintendent of Schools
D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer
B. Kingsmill – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

2. TRADITIONAL WELCOME / OPENING REMARKS

- Chairperson Kearns acknowledged that we are gathered on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Gidmt'en.
- Chairperson Kearns welcomed all guests present. Trustee Hanson sends her regrets. Chairperson Kearns shared with the Board a letter he recently received from Suzanne Hoffman, Chief Educator for the Ministry of Education. In the letter Ms. Hoffman expressed her appreciation for Superintendent van der Mark's involvement in the Ministry of Education's Learning Advisory Board.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: *It was moved by Trustee Farrell and seconded by Trustee Beaubien.*

"That the agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of February 17, 2017 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of February 17, 2017. There being none, the minutes of February 17, 2017 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of February 17, 2017 were declared approved as presented.

5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the student achievement report to the Board. The PLC/NOII participants will be meeting soon for their third meeting of the year. On March 2/3 teachers from WPS and SSS participated in collaboration rounds. Next week, collaboration rounds will take place in Houston. SD54 students excelled once again at this year Skills Canada Competition in Terrace. Three SSS students will be moving on to the Provincial Skills Canada Competition in Abbotsford in April. Skills Canada and the Trades Program at SD54 is a tentative topic for the April Education Forum. SD54 has 22 District Authority Scholarships to award this year. Presentations will take place the week of May 8-12th. Schools and district staff have started working on potential staffing levels for the 2017-18 school year.

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the school based initiatives report to the Board. Feb 22 was anti-bullying day and schools across the district participated in initiatives focused on bringing awareness and an end to bullying. The SSS theater and music program will be performing *Romeo & Juliet* in early April. SSS Jr. Girls Basketball team had a 2-2 record at Provincials this year. The SSS Sr. boys Basketball team walked away with a 1-3 record at their respective provincial championships. The SSS Curling team hosted the BC High School Curling Championships and curled their way to a very respectable third place win. The SSS Snowboard team brought home the blue provincial banner this year! Trustee Kearns attended Silverthorne Elementary's musical "*How to Eat Like a Child and Other Lessons in Not Being a Grown Up*" and expressed how impressed he was with the students and the presentation as a whole. The rugby season will be starting up again soon!

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **MME** – 50 +/- Grade 4 - 6 Students from Muheim Memorial Elementary to travel to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 28, 2017 for a day of skiing and snowboarding. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SIL** - 50 +/- Grade 4-7 Students from Silverthorne Elementary School to travel to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 22, 2017 for a day of skiing and snowboarding. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **HSS** – 100 +/- Grade 8-12 Students from Houston Secondary School to travel to Hudson Bay Mountain on April 7, 2017 for a day of skiing and snowboarding. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **HSS** – BVLC 12 +/- Grade 10-12 Students from Houston Secondary School – BVLC Campus to travel to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 28, 2017 for a day of skiing and snowboarding. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

The following field trip requires approval *in principle* by the Board of Education:

- **SSS** – 12 students on the SSS Senior Girls Basket Ball Team to travel to Hawaii. Tentative travel dates are December 20, 2017- January 3, 2018 or December- January 2018-2019 dates still to be finalized. The team will play and practice against competitive American teams while also enjoying tourism opportunities. Final Board approval will be subject to the travel dates being finalized and the required travel documentation being supplied to the board office including the finalized list of students travelling.

MOTION: It was moved by Trustee Williams and seconded by Trustee Beaubien.

"The Board approves the proposed field trip to Hawaii IN PRINCIPAL as outlined."

CARRIED

6.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Operations Chairperson Farrell presented the Operations Committee's Report from the March 7, 2017 committee meeting.
 - The committee recommended the options of an increase in trustee stipend be received as a committee of the whole and decided at the March board meeting. There was no motion presented to oppose the stipend increase, therefore the increase will be applied to the Trustee stipends as outlined.
 - The committee recommended that Secretary Treasurer Margerm prepare a report on the options for potential future configuration of facilities in Houston and scenarios for proposed reconfigurations with the Houston schools.

MOTION: It was moved by Trustee Farrell and seconded by Trustee Collingwood.

"The Board agreed to instruct Secretary Treasurer Margerm to prepare a report on the options for potential future configuration of facilities in Houston and scenarios for proposed reconfigurations with the Houston schools."

CARRIED

- Next Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2017 Time TBA

6.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- On behalf of Policy Chairperson Beaubien, Trustee Collingwood presented the Policy Committee's Report from the March 7, 2017 committee meeting.
- The Committee recommended that the Board approve the draft revisions Policies 4.380 and 6.380 as presented.

MOTION: It was moved by Trustee Collingwood and seconded by Trustee Williams.

"The Board approves Policy 4.380 - Diversity and Non Discrimination and Policy 6.380 – District Code of Conduct as presented."

CARRIED

- The Committee recommended that Mr. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent prepare draft language and proposed changes for Policy 6.320- French Language Program and submit them to the Policy Committee in April.

MOTION: It was moved by Trustee Collingwood and seconded by Trustee Williams.

"The Board requests that Assistant Superintendent prepare draft language for proposed changes to Policy 6.320- French Language Programs for submission the Policy Committee in April."

CARRIED

- The Committee recommended that the necessary Section 177 language be prepared in draft policy form and submitted to the Policy Committee in April.

MOTION: It was moved by Trustee Collingwood and seconded by Trustee Beaubien.

"The Board requests that the necessary Section 177 language be prepared in draft policy form and be submitted to the Policy Committee in April."

CARRIED

- Next Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2017 Time TBA

6.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- Trustee Kearns spoke about the February Education Forum on Robotics. Presentations were made by three different schools. It was an interesting hands on topic and the kids loved it. Trustee Michell also attended the February Education Forum and said it was pretty exciting watching the kids get so excited about it. The kids really connect with it quickly. Robotics is inspiring the students to think outside the box in education. The next Education Forum is tentatively scheduled for April 24th and will focus on the Skills Canada Participants and the Trades Program at SD54.
- Trustee Kearns and Trustee Farrell submitted their trustee reports this month. Trustee Farrell reinforced BCSTA's "Public Education is the Key" Campaign leading up to the May 2017 Provincial Election.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1) 2017 – 2018 Amended Draft School Calendar

MOTION: *It was moved by Trustee Farrell and seconded by Trustee Williams.*

"The Board approves 2017- 2018 School Calendar as outlined."

2 Opposed
4 For

CARRIED

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1) **Government & BCTF Agreement** - Superintendent van der Mark provided a brief outline of LoU 17 and how it will impact SD54 for the 2017-2018 School Year.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- The February 28, 2017 expenditure summary was included in the Trustee Board packages.

10. READING FILE

MOTION: *It was moved by Trustee Beaubien and seconded by Trustee Michell.*

"That the information contained in the Trustee Reading File be received and filed."

CARRIED

11. CLOSING REMARKS

- The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2017 commencing at 7:00 pm at the Moricetown Multi-Plex in Moricetown.

12. ADJOURNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.


Approved by Les Kearns, Chairperson
of the Board of Education


Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer