



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)**  
**JUNE 20, 2017**  
**SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.**

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

**Staff:** C. van der Mark – Superintendent of Schools  
M. McDiarmid – Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer  
T. Bancroft – Incoming Director Facilities & Maintenance  
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 – Bear Wolf Clan.
- Chairperson Kearns welcomed all guests present. Chairperson Kearns acknowledged Ms. Ilona Weiss – Outgoing BVTU President and Ms. Deb Schwarz – Outgoing CUPE President and that this would be their last meeting representing their members.
- On June 14<sup>th</sup> the District held our year-end celebration where there were hugs, tears and congratulations to all those staff retiring. Chairperson Kearns also attended the HSS graduation ceremonies and commented that all the students looked quite dapper in their caps and gowns. One of the highlights was three graduating students "Passing the Light of Education" to three Kindergarten students. Congratulations to all the HSS graduating students.
- Three former SD54 students have each won a \$1,000 Youth Work in Trades Award provided by the Ministry of Education and the Industry Training Authority. To be eligible these students must have been registered with the ITA as a youth apprentice, graduated with a Grade 12 Dogwood, completed a number of specified courses and maintained a C+ average or better and report a total of at least 900 hours with the ITA. Congratulations to Scott Dawson, Philip Gust and Allan Haar. Chairperson Kearns also wanted to congratulate former Houston student Avery Bell for being crowned the "King of Cabinet Making of Canada."

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

*"That the agenda be accepted as presented."*

CARRIED

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- The Chairperson asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of May 16, 2017 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of May 16, 2017. There being none, the minutes of May 16, 2017 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of May 16, 2017 were declared approved as presented.

## 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent van der Mark notified the Board about the upcoming administration changes that will be taking place for the 2017/2018 school year and introduced Mr. Tim Bancroft as incoming Director of Facilities and Maintenance. Mr. van der Mark also wanted to express his gratitude to Mr. Ed Hildebrandt for everything he has done for the students and staff of SD54. Mr. Hildebrandt knew how to stretch a dollar to make our buildings look good, and better for the students.
- Superintendent van der Mark presented the student achievement report to the Board. Mr. van der Mark had the opportunity to travel to Whitehorse with the Ministry Outreach Team to work with the Yukon Ministry of Education.
- Superintendent van der Mark presented the district based initiatives report to the Board. The SD54 year-end celebration was held on June 14, 2017 where long service employees and this year's retirees were honoured. The District elementary track meet took place on June 2. St. Joseph's School took home the small school trophy and Muheim Elementary took home the large school trophy. The PLC/NOII teacher leaders met on June 5<sup>th</sup> for their last meeting of the year. Vancouver Island University thanked SD54 teacher sponsors, Chris Lukasek and Craig McAulay for supporting their practicum teachers at HSS. SD54 will be changing their bell schedules for next year. Secondary Schools will start at 8:45am and elementary schools will start at 9:00am. Graduation ceremonies have started to take place. HSS had theirs on June 16<sup>th</sup> and SSS will have theirs on June 24<sup>th</sup>. SSS Girls' soccer team won the Northwest Zones this year! SSS dominated the NW Track and Field Zones and sent 12 athletes to the provincials where some outstanding results occurred, for instance, SSS Grade 8 student Logan Unruh won a gold in javelin! HSS Girls Rugby placed fifth at the Tier 1 provincial championships. Their highest placing so far. SSS held their annual athletics banquet on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The bi-annual Elder Murals were unveiled at SSS on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Mabel Forsythe and Rose-Mary Fox were selected to have their portraits done by SSS students Megan Randall and Emerenne Saefkow. Ms. Pesce's grade 4/5 class won an award from the Retired Teachers' Association for their year-long buddy program with the seniors from the Meadows. Also at MME, Grade 7 FI student Melissa Pesch won first place at the 34<sup>th</sup> annual Concours d'art oratorie. Ava McDougall, Grade 6 FI student also was a provincial finalist.

### Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
  - **WPS** – 130 +/- Grade K - 2 students from Walnut Park Elementary School to travel to Tyhee Lake on June 23, to take part in the primary year – end picnic. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **WPS** – 60 +/- Grade 7 students from Walnut Park Elementary School to travel to Rock Nest Ranch in Houston on June 22-23, to take part in the grade 7 year-end celebrations. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **SSS** – 18 +/- Grade 9 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to New Aiyansh on June 26-27, 2017 to take part in a celebration of learning and exposure to the Nisga'a Culture. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **WPS** – 21 +/- Grade 3 students from Walnut Park Elementary School to travel to Round Lake on June 22, 2017 to take part in the grade 3 year-end celebrations. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **TES** - 103 +/- Grade K-7 students from Telkwa Elementary School to travel to Tyhee Lake on June 27, 2017 to take part in the school year-end celebrations. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

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

- **SSS** – 30 +/- drama students in Grades 10 -12 to travel to New York for a Broadway Tour on May 15-22, 2018. Departure date is subject to pending flight schedule from/to Smithers. Board approval will be subject to 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 Hanson.**

*"The Board approves the proposed field trip to New York **IN PRINCIPAL** as outlined."*

CARRIED

- **HSS** – 18 +/- students in Grades 10-12 to travel to Venice, Paris and Barcelona on March 23 – April 2, 2018. Board approval will be subject to 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 Hanson.**

*"The Board approves the proposed field trip to Venice, Paris and Barcelona **IN PRINCIPAL** as outlined."*

CARRIED

#### **6.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

- There was no June Operations Committee meeting.
- Next Meeting Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

#### **6.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Policy Chairperson Beaubien presented the Policy Committee's Report from the June 6, 2017 committee meeting.
- The committee recommends that Policy 6.320 – French Language Program be sent out for consultation again.

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

*"That the Board approves that the draft Policy 6.320 – French Language Program be sent out for public consultation again."*

CARRIED

- Next Meeting Tuesday, September 12, 2017

#### **6.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- Trustee Kearns submitted a trustee report summarizing his trip to Terrace to attend the BCPSEA Spring Regional Meeting.

#### **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- There was no unfinished business this month.

#### **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- 8.1) 2017-2018 Capital Bylaw - The operations committee recommended that the 2017-2018 Capital Plan Bylaw No. 17/18-CP-SD54-01 be approved in three readings.
- Chairperson Kearns asked for unanimous consent to do all three reading tonight for 2017 – 2018 Capital Plan Bylaw No.17/18-CP-SD54-01. Unanimous consent was given.

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

***"The Board approves the 2017- 2018 Capital Plan Bylaw No. 17/18-CP-SD54-012."***

CARRIED

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- 8.2) Achievement Plan 2017 - 2020 – Superintendent van der Mark presented the Board with an achievement update.
  - 8.3) September 2017 Board of Education Meeting

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

***"The Board approves to amend the 2017 – 2018 School Calendar to reflect the change of the September Board meeting date to September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017."***

CARRIED

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#### **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

- The May 31, 2017 expenditure summary was included in the Trustee Board packages.

#### **10. READING FILE**

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

***"The Board directs senior staff to reply to the Town of Smithers letter dated May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and address the four points outlined in their motion."***

1 abstained  
6 Approved  
CARRIED

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

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

CARRIED

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#### **11. CLOSING REMARKS**

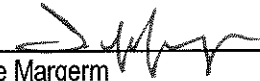
- Chairperson Kearns addressed the outgoing Union presidents and thanked them for the job they did representing their members and their interactions with the Board. He wished everyone a safe and fun summer.
- The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 commencing at 7:00 pm at the School Board Office in Smithers.

**12. ADJOURNED**

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm.



Approved by Les Kearns, Chairperson  
of the Board of Education



Dave Margerm  
Secretary Treasurer