



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)
FEBRUARY 17, 2015
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS, BC

PRESENT: Trustees: L. Kearns, F. Farrell, L. Collingwood, BJ Beaubien, J. Williams, D. Hanson

Regrets: P. Michell

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 6:00pm

MOVED/SECONDED: F. Farrell / D. Hanson

"That the Board meeting move In-Camera."

CARRIED

The Board returned to Regular session at 7:02pm.

2. OPENING REMARKS

- Chairperson Kearns welcomed our guests. Trustee Michell sends her regrets. Chairperson Kearns expressed that he felt it was good to be back and thanked Trustee Farrell for chairing the last month board meeting and taking over some of his duties in his absence.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Additional agenda items: Trustee Report – Jennifer Williams
8.2) School Closure Bylaw – Bulkley Valley Learning Centre School

MOVED/SECONDED L. Collingwood / J. Williams

"That the amended agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of January 20, 2015; the Synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes January 20, 2015. There being none, the minutes of: January 20, 2015 and the Synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes of January 20, 2015 and were declared approved as presented.

5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Student Achievement

- On behalf of Superintendent van der Mark, Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid presented the student achievement report to the board: The District took a team of students to Terrace to compete in the annual Skills Canada Competition. The students did exceptionally well bringing home 1st in Culinary Arts, 1st in Automotive, 2nd in Welding , 3rd in Carpentry, 3rd in Automotive. The "Inspire Trades" workshop was held during the week of Feb 10-13 for all Grade 6's and 7's. Ms. Monica Strimbold hosted a trades and business luncheon for local business and industry representatives at SSS recently. It was a great way to build the connections in industry. It was catered by our foods students. The annual Big Band concert took place on February 14th, another sensational evening and display of student excellence.

District Based Initiatives

- On behalf of Superintendent van der Mark, Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid presented the district based initiatives to the board: Ms. Faye Brownlie will return to the district on March 9-13 for her last visit to work with our educators for one final time. February's education forum is on the SSS Fine Arts Academy and will be held on Feb 25. The elementary hockey academy is up and running. Schools are commenting on the increased engagement from those students involved. The second EMAP program wrapped up last week. 3 students from Houston were bused into Smithers this year so they were able to participate alongside SSS students. The Intro to Trades program wrapped up last week as well. We hope Houston students will also be able to engage in this opportunity in the future. The Millwright course completed at HSS and now the Electrical program will take over the newly renovated HSS shop. Professional Cook 1 has also started up at HSS .

School Based Initiatives

- On behalf of Superintendent van der Mark, Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid presented the school based initiatives to the board: The teacher early incentive letters have now been sent out. Author Mr. Richard Wagamese spoke at the ROI Theatre on Feb 12th. Twain Sullivan and Silverthorne Elementary schools will be hosting the annual elementary basketball event on Feb 27. The grade 4 & 7 students are completing the FSA. This information is used to identify areas in which students may need specific intervention as they move forward. Provincial Satisfaction surveys will be completed by grade 4,7,10,12 parents between now and April. On Feb 25th Walnut Park will host their next Breakfast and Books sessions. Mr. van der Mark participated in this year's Carnival celebrations at Muheim during the week of February 10-13th.
- On January 29th – Mr. van der Mark attended the BC Ed forum in Vancouver , it was a unique session with a wide variety of partners discussing education in BC.
- On February 25th the Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia will be in the Bulkley Valley. She will attend WPS's Breakfast and Books and will be visiting SSS where she will be greeted by the SSS Concert Band playing "O Canada". The SSS Drama class will perform " The Crooked Tree" for her and the visit will end with a short question and answer session with the students. She will escorted out by the SSS Concert band playing " God Save the Queen". It will be a very unique opportunity for our schools and students.
- SSS Grade 8 Girls Basketball team won their Northwest District Zone Championship in Smithers this past weekend. They will now be heading off to the BC's in Pitt Meadows.
- The SSS Senior boy's basketball team played Vanderhoof in Houston at HSS. Because one of the team members is from Houston, the team decided to wear the HSS Wolverines uniforms in his honor so he could have one "Home" game. The SSS played their way to victory to top the night off perfectly! The gym was filled with guests cheering on Harp and the team.
- Trustee Williams informed the Board that HSS had two senior wrestlers travel to Edmonton to participate in a wrestling tournament where there was 420 participants! Trent Siemens came in 3rd in 78kg his weight class and Rebecca Ells came in 1st in her 80kg weight category. An excellent showing by both students!

Field Trip Proposals

- **WPS** – 40+/- Grade 7 students to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 11th, 17th and 24th, 2015 for skiing and snowboarding lessons. All board requirements have been met for this trip.
- **SIL** – 55 +/- Grade 4-7 students to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 13th, 2015 for skiing and snowboarding lessons. All board requirements have been met for this trip.
- **HSS** – 8 +/- Grade 8-12 students to travel to Moricetown on January 29, 2015 to visit the Moricetown Outdoor Adventure Park. All board requirements have been met for this trip.
- **MME** – 71 +/- Grade 5-7 students to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on February 26th, March 18th, and March 23rd, 2015 for skiing and snowboarding lessons. All board requirements have been met for this trip.

6.a) COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ EDUCATION FORUM COMMITTEE

- Trustee Farrell presented the Community Relations Committee report from the February 3, 2015 meeting: The committee discussed the possibility of a regular newspaper article in the local paper. The committee listed the pros and cons of having the newspaper article and brain stormed a possible column structure. The next Education forum will be held Feb 25th on the SSS Arts Academy.

6.b) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Chairperson Collingwood presented the Operations Committee's Report from the February 3, 2015 meeting: The committee discussed the following items:
 - **Amended Budget Bylaw** – See New Business 8.1
 - **Projected Enrollment** – Secretary Treasurer Margerm provided the committee with the projected enrollment of 2079 FTE which is down 70 FTE from last spring projections.
 - **2015 – 2016 Draft School Calendar** – The district has received two responses from their stakeholders with regards to the 2015 – 2016 Draft School Calendar. Both parties were in support of version #1 – the standard school calendar.

6.c) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- Policy Committee Chairperson Farrell, presented the Policy Committee Report from the February 6, 2015 meeting:
 - **Policy 11.140 Transportation of Musical Instruments on Buses** - The committee discussed the two letters that were sent to the board about the limited transportation of musical instruments available on School District buses. The committee was informed about the current issues and restriction around transporting larger instruments: violations of the Motor Vehicle Act, safety, size and capacity of storage. The committee recommended administrations continue to work with parents and community organizations in order to accommodate as many instruments as legally allowed and feasible from a safety standard.

6.d) TRUSTEE REPORT

- Trustee's Farrell submitted his report for his trip to the BCSPSEA AGM on January 30, 2015. Trustee Farrell provided a brief outline of the meeting. There was a motion on the floor to reinstate the BCSPSEA board until a new formula for trustee and school board inclusion is in place. This was approved by voting members. Trustee Hanson asked for more information about the information gathering information question. Trustee Farrell said that the information that was collected was standard and that nothing beyond what is legal and accepted practice was occurring. Trustee Hanson asked if it was BCSPSEA gathering information from school boards. Yes it was, replied Trustee Farrell. What information that can be gathered by certain groups needed to be clarified by the Boards.
- Trustee Williams provided her report from her trip to the BCSTA Trustee Academy in December 2014.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- No unfinished business was submitted this month.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- **8.1) 2014 – 2015 Amended Annual Budget** - It is a requirement for every school district to supply an amended annual budget to the government. Mr. Margerm developed a simplified spreadsheet to summarize the amended annual budget. Revenue down \$52k. Expenditures increased by \$168k. We are budgeting using \$300,000 from our surplus this year. Deficit is now projected \$110,526 – this is the capital side. The government is concerned about balancing the operating budget. On the Operating budget side – operating revenues are down while the operating expenses are up , the difference will be drawn from the surplus to balance the budget.
- Trustee Hanson asked about the different capital streams. Mr. Margerm explained the different type of capital streams and the different surpluses.
- Projections of teacher FTE are down slightly. Admin remained the same , SEA's down three, Exempt down one.
- Trustee Beaubien asked what Exempted Staff was. Mr. Margerm explained what that exempt staff are employees that do not belong to a union. Principals , Board Staff, etc.
- Wages consists of 88% of the budget.
- Strike recovery \$679,227 was paid back to the Ministry due to the Strike in September.
- Extra revenues included \$ 358,000 from the government to support fund wage increases to CUPE and BCTF. And the District received \$100,000 in a trades grant.

MOTION / SECONDED

L. Collingwood / J. Williams

“The committee recommends that the board approve the 2014 – 2015 Amended Annual Budget as presented.”

Chairperson Kearns asked for unanimous consent to do all three reading tonight for the 2014 – 2015 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw . Unanimous consent was given.

CARRIED

AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW

A Bylaw of THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (BULKLEY VALLEY) (called the “Board”) to adopt the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2014/2015 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the “*Act*”).

1. Board has complied with the provisions of the Act respecting the Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.
2. This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 54(Bulkley Valley) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal 2014/2015.
3. The attached Statement 2 showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2014/2015 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$25,212,183 for the 2014/2015 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the *Act*.
4. Statement 2, 4 and Schedules 1 to 4 are adopted as the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2014/2015.

READ A FIRST TIME THE 17 day of February, 2015.

READ A SECOND TIME THE 17 day of February, 2015.

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 17 day of February, 2015.



____ NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED ____
Chairperson of the Board

____ NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED ____
Secretary-Treasurer

I HEREBY CERTIFY this to be a true and original School District No. 54 (Bulkley Valley) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2014/2015, adopted by the Board the 17 day of February, 2015.

____ NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED ____
Secretary-Treasurer

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- **8.2) School Closure – Bulkley Valley Learning Centre** – Secretary Treasurer Margerm found out that there may be funding issues if we close the school. The District would like to relocate BVLC but close the facility. Mr. Margerm would like to send it back to operations.

Chairperson Kearns asked for unanimous consent to do all three readings tonight for Bylaw #5 – School Closure – Bulkley Valley Learning Centre School. Operations Committee Chair Lara Collingwood said that they do not give consent. This will be sent back to the operations committee.

10. READING FILE

MOVED/SECONDED: L. Collingwood / J. Williams

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

CARRIED

11. CLOSING REMARKS


- n/a

12. NEXT BOARD MEETING

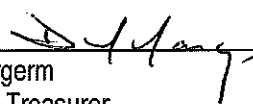
- The next regularly schedule School Board meeting will be held on March 17, 2015 commencing at 7:00 pm at the School Board Office in Smithers.

13. ADJORNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm .



Les Kearns
Chairman of the Board of Education



Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer