



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)  
NOVEMBER 19, 2013  
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS BC

**PRESENT:**      **Trustees:**      L. Kearns, F. Farrell, P. Michell, S. Yaremco, L. Collingwood, J. McIntosh, K. Martinsen

**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 6:07 pm

**MOVED/SECONDED:**      F. Farrell / L. Collingwood

*"That the Board meeting move In-Camera."*

CARRIED

- The Board returned to Regular session at 7:04pm.

**2. OPENING REMARKS**

- Chairperson Kearns welcomed our guests: Karin Bachman-BVTU; Ryan Jensen - Editor Interior News; Barbel Schroeter – CUPE Local President, Katherine Dow from CFTK-TV. Trustee Michell sent her regrets. Trustee Kearns recognized Cianna Pawluk for being published in the WARAMPS Newsletter, which is distributed nationally. Ms. Pawluk wrote an article about Grade 8 student Adam Kingsmill for the Interior News when she was the "Editor for the Day". Mr. Kearns attended the HSS Remembrance Day ceremony and commended the students how respectful they all were. Mr. Ted Beck was the organizer of the service and Chairperson Kearns would like to thank Mr. Beck for the wonderful job. Trustee Farrell, Trustee McIntosh and Trustee Kearns attended signing of the Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement in Moricetown on November 14<sup>th</sup>. There were nine (9) different partner groups that signed the five (5) year Memorandum of Understanding. Chairperson Kearns wanted to thank Birdy Markert, Principal of Aboriginal Education, for organizing this very well attended event.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

- Chairperson Kearns requested that there be an amendment to the agenda to include 8.4 CUPE Savings Plan.

**MOVED/SECONDED**      F. Farrell / K. Martinsen

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

CARRIED

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of October 22, 2013; the Synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes October 22, 2013. There being none, the minutes of: October 22, 2013 and the Synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes October 22, 2013 were declared approved as presented.

## 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

### Student Achievement

- Superintendent Chris van der Mark presented the student achievement report to the Board: Mr. van der Mark stressed that even with the difficult news in two of our communities, SD#54 schools will continue be a vibrant places of learning and to support our students; Secondary reports cards have been sent home, The Ministry has announced that a draft redesigned curricula are now available to view at [www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca](http://www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca) . There is more to come on curriculum, assessment, communicating student learning and graduation requirements; The Enhancement Agreement was signed on Nov 13, thanks to Birdy Markert and her team for pulling it all together; Mr. van der Mark displayed anti-bully posters created by the SSS leadership group which is led by teacher librarian Teresa Monkman. The students have also developed a school acronym "Spirit". These posters are on display at SSS.

### District Based Initiatives

- Superintendent Chris van der Mark presented the district based initiatives to the board: The November Education Forum, "Trades, Choice and Partnership" will take place on November 25<sup>th</sup> at NWCC starting at 5:00pm. It will be a great chance to see all the different opportunities for our students; The first PLC /NOI meeting was held where 30 + teachers gathered to discuss Hattie's, "*Visible Learning for Teachers*"; Faye Brownlie is back Nov 21-22 to work with our teachers and CUPE members; Year 2 of the PVP Membership program commenced in November and Fall School Learning Conversations around improvement plans have been taking place with our schools.

### School Based Initiatives

- Superintendent Chris van der Mark presented the school based initiatives to the Board: Carol fest will be taking place on December 4<sup>th</sup> SSS; WPS held their second Breakfast and Books session; Three WPS students won the national forestry poster contest; Twain Sullivan hosted the kindergarten " Learning Festival" on Nov 14<sup>th</sup>; SSS Physics class held their annual Trebuchet contest; The SSS arts academy will be putting on the musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and Ms. Leesa Easterday, District Principal Learner Support Services is proud to announce that the POPARD organization was so impressed by Mr. Irvine and his class, that they recommend that he should be videoed to show best practices.

### Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trip have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
  - **SSS** – 40 +/- Grade 9-12 Fine Arts students to travel to Prince George to attend Theatre Northwest "The Buddy Holly Story" production on Nov 28-29, 2013. All board requirements have been met for this trip.
- The following field trips require approval *in-principle* by the Board of Education:
  - **SSS** – 26 +/- Students in Grades 9-12 to Travel to Continental Europe on March 18-28, 2015 to expand on social studies curriculum.

MOVED / SECONDED: S. Yaremco / J. McIntosh

***"To approve the proposed field trip IN PRINCIPLE to Continental Europe in March 18-28, 2015. subject to providing the District the necessary travel documentation and information required for travel to Europe. "***

CARRIED

- **SSS** – 30 Students in Grades 9 -12 to Travel to New York for a Broadway Tour on May 18-25, 2015.

MOVED / SECONDED: S. Yaremco / J. McIntosh

***"To approve the proposed field trip IN PRINCIPLE to New York in May 18-25, 2015 subject to providing the District the necessary travel documentation and information required for travel to New York."***

CARRIED

- The following field trip require **final** approval by the Board of Education:
  - HSS – 19 Grade 9-12 students – to Travel to Hawaii, Australia and New Zealand March 6 – March 21, 2014. Approval "**in principle**" was granted on June 19, 2012. All board requirements have been met for this trip.

MOVED / SECONDED: S. Yaremco / L. Collingwood

***"To approve the proposed field trip to Hawaii, Australia and New Zealand."***

CARRIED

- Superintendent van der Mark, Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid and Secretary Treasurer Margerm will be attending the BCSSA conference this week and a number of teachers will be attending as well with them.

**6.a) COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ EDUCATION FORUM COMMITTEE**

- No report this month.

**6.b) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Chairperson Yaremco presented the Operations Committee's Report from the November 5, 2013 meeting. There was a lengthy discussion about the 2014-2015 School Calendar. Trustee Yaremco requested that there be 3 trustees to be on the new school calendar committee.

MOVED / SECONDED: S. Yaremco / L. Collingwood

***"It is recommended to strike a calendar committee represented by up to 3 trustees from different regions within the district, district administration and different community and educational stakeholders to provide recommendations on the 2014-2015 Calendar to the School Board Operations Committee by February 2014"***

CARRIED

- Trustee Farrell, McIntosh, Collingwood and Yaremco all volunteered to let their name stand for the calendar committee.
- With the announcement of the two mill closures in our communities, the School District will be monitoring the enrollment situation closely. The Operations Committee received a letter from the Office of the Wet'suwet'en regarding the SSS graduation ceremony coinciding with National Aboriginal Day on June 21, 2014. Mr. van der Mark and the administration have drafted a letter to Office of the Wet'suwet'en with regards to this oversight but reminded everyone that the board does not set graduation dates.

**6.c) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Chairperson Farrell presented the Policy Committee Report from the November 5th, 2013 meeting: The committee discussed policy 11.140 Student Transportation with regards new information provided by Mr. Margerm and Ms. Whalen. This policy will be updated and sent back to the policy committee for review. 9.950 Student Choice Policy was also discussed centering around three points: 1) Busing Services 2) Information 3) Catchment areas. Mr. Keams suggested a sub-committee be created to discuss these issues and provide recommendations to the Policy committee in January.

MOTION/SECOND F. Farrell / J. McIntosh

***"It is recommended to form a committee to review School Choice Policy concerning transportation needs of the district and to provide recommendations to the policy committee for the January, 2014 policy committee."***

CARRIED

- Volunteers were requested to come forward to sit on this sub-committee.

**6.d) TRUSTEE REPORT**

- A Trustee Report was submitted by Trustee Collingwood on her trip to the Provincial Council Meeting on October 26, 2013. Trustee Yaremco presented her report on her trip to the Labour Relations Symposium held in Vancouver on October 24/25.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- There was no unfinished business.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- There was no new business

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 9.1 The October 31, 2013 expenditure summary was included in the Trustees Board Packages.

**10. READING FILE**

Ltr. Fr. Minister McRae re: Cooperative Gains October 31, 2013 Enrollment	Ltr. To. Groundbreakers Agricultural SD05 – Media Release re: CUPE Wage increase
SD23 Ltr. to MOE re: Cooperative Gains	SD28 - Ltr. To Select Standing Committee Re: Finance and Government Services
SD42 Ltr to MOE re: Bargaining	SD70 – Ltr to MOE re: CUPE wage increase
SD85 Ltr to MOE re: Cooperative Gains Savings Plan	SSS – Cianna Pawluk Nov 2013
Ltr frm: The Royal Canada Legion – Military Service Recognition Book	

MOVED/SECONDED: F. Farrell / J. McIntosh

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

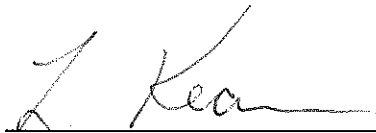
CARRIED

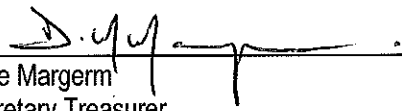
**11. NEXT BOARD MEETING**

- The next regularly School Board meeting will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013 commencing at 7:00 pm at the School Board Office in Smithers.

**12. ADJORNED**

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

  
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 Les Kearns  
 Chairman of the Board of Education

  
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 Dave Margerm  
 Secretary Treasurer