



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)
DECEMBER 12, 2016
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE , SMITHERS BC

PRESENT: Trustees: L. Kearns, F. Farrell, J. Williams, B.J. Beaubien, D. Hanson, L. Collingwood, 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 7:00pm. Trustee Kearns welcomed the guests in attendance.

2) OPENING REMARKS

- Chairperson Kearns acknowledged that we are gathered on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Gidm't'en.
- The board meeting was turned over to the Secretary Treasurer Dave Margerm.

3. BOARD ELECTIONS

- Secretary Treasurer Dave Margerm explained the Board Election process.
- Mr. Margerm requested a motion to appoint Mr. van der Mark and Mr. McDiarmid as scrutineers for the election proceedings.

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

"That Mr. van der Mark and Mr. McDiarmid be named as scrutineers."

CARRIED

• **ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Kearns.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chairperson and called for nominations.
- Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time. Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Kearns was elected the Chairperson by acclamation.

• **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Williams.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice - Chairperson and called for nominations.
- Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time. Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Williams was elected the Vice Chairperson by acclamation.

- **ELECTION OF BCPSEA REPRESENTATIVE**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Farrell and Trustee Kearns.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of BCPSEA Representative, and called for nominations.
- Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time. Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
- Trustees voted by secret ballot then Mr. van der Mark and Mr. McDiarmid collected the ballots from the Trustees and left the room to tabulate votes. Upon their return, Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Kearns was elected to the position of BCPSEA Representative.

- **ELECTION OF BCSTA PROVINCIAL COUNCILOR**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Collingwood, Trustee Farrell and Trustee Hanson. Trustee Collingwood withdrew her interest.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Provincial Councilor, and called for nominations.
- Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time. Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
- Trustees voted by secret ballot. Mr. van der Mark and Mr. McDiarmid collected ballots from Trustees and left the room to tabulate votes. Upon their return, Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Farrell was elected the BCSTA Provincial Councilor.

- **ELECTION OF ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Hanson.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative, and called for nominations.
- Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time. Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Hanson was elected the Aboriginal Education Council representative by acclamation.

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

"That all ballots be destroyed."

CARRIED

-
- Trustee Kearns assumed the Chair as Presiding Officer.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

"THAT the agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of November 15, 2016; the synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes November 15, 2016. There being none, the minutes of November 15, 2016 and the synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes of November 15, 2016 were declared approved as presented.

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Student Achievement

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the student achievement report to the Board. Secondary report cards have been sent out and elementary schools will be sent out soon. This will be the first time most elementary schools are using the "Communicating Student Learning" format for report cards. On December 5-7 the administration team attended the Learning Forward Conference held in Vancouver. Mr. van der Mark commented that it has been a great year and he was happy to be a part of it. We have had great involvement from our staff and he is very fortunate and proud to be here.

District Based Initiatives

- Superintendent Chris van der Mark presented the following district based initiatives to the Board. The SD has received confirmation that the "Intro to Health" course will proceed in the second semester at the NWCC. 25 Students from both SSS and HSS will be taking part in this course. A large number of students took part in the "Hour of Code" on December 7th. WPS and MME participated in a project called "Not a Board". All creations were on display at WPS on Dec 9th. Ms. Birdy Markert hosted a book launch for the second edition of the Witsuwit'en history book. Carolfest was held on Dec 1st and once again it was an exceptional showcase of school and district community spirit. Thank you to the maintenance department, school music directors, accompanists and volunteers.

School Based Initiatives

- Superintendent Chris van der Mark presented the school based initiatives to the Board. SSS Sr. Boys Volleyball team travelled to the BC Championships. SSS drama department held their annual "Friday Night Live" event on November 25th.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips require final approval by the Board of Education:
 - **SSS – 40 +/-** Students in Grades 10-12 to participate in "Return to Vimy 2017" with travel to Amsterdam and France between April 5 – April 16, 2017 to visit historically significant locations with key significance to Canadian and world history.

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

"To approve the proposed SSS field trip to Amsterdam and France from April 5 to April 16, 2017."

CARRIED

- Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid advised the Board members that Superintendent van der Mark was recently elected as Vice President of BCSSA.

7.a) COMMUNITY RELATIONS / EDUCATION FORUM COMMITTEE

- Community Relations Chairperson Hanson requested that everyone "Save the Date" for Monday January 23rd, 2017 at 7:00pm as that will be the first Education Forum of the new year. The topic will be Aboriginal Education and the new curriculum. The Aboriginal Education Committee will be in attendance as well.

7.b) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- No report this month.

7.c) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- No report this month.

7.d) TRUSTEE REPORT

- No reports this month.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- There was no Unfinished Business.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- There was no Unfinished Business.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1) Expenditure Summary for the period ended November 30, 2016 was included in Trustee Board packages.

11. READING FILE

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

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

CARRIED

12. CLOSING REMARKS

- Chairperson Kearns wished everyone a very safe and happy holiday season. The people in our District are the reason why we are doing so well. Our district works as a team and the kids are our #1 priority. Chairperson Kearns thanked the district as a whole for a great job that everyone does.

13. NEXT BOARD MEETING

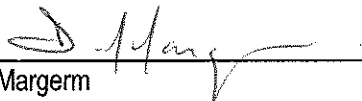
- The next School Board meeting will be held on January 17, 2017 at the School Board Office in Smithers at 7:00 pm.

15. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:31pm.



Les Kearns
Chairman of the Board



Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer