



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)
DECEMBER 5, 2017
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
T. Bancroft – 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.
- Trustee Kearns welcomed the guests in attendance and expressed his disbelief that it was December already and that Christmas was so close.
- 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. McDiarmid and Mr. van der Mark as scrutineers for the election proceedings.

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

"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 Williams.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chairperson and called for nominations.
- Trustee Kearns nominated Trustee Williams for the position of Chairperson. Trustee Williams accepted the nomination.
- 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 Chairperson by acclamation.

- **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Kearns and Trustee Farrell.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice - Chairperson and called for nominations.
- Trustee Williams nominated Trustee Kearns for the position of Vice - Chairperson. Trustee Kearns accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Collingwood nominated Trustee Farrell for the position of Vice - Chairperson. Trustee Farrell accepted the nomination.
- 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 the votes.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Kearns was elected the Vice Chairperson by ballot voting.

- **ELECTION OF BCPSEA REPRESENTATIVE**

- 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 BCPSEA Representative, and called for nominations.
- Trustee Hanson nominated Trustee Kearns for the position of BCPSEA Representative. Trustee Kearns accepted the nomination.
- 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 to the position of BCPSEA Representative by acclamation.

- **ELECTION OF BCSTA PROVINCIAL COUNCILOR**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Farrell.
- Williams – Farrell accepted
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Provincial Councilor, and called for nominations.
- Trustee Williams nominated Trustee Farrell for the position of BCSTA Provincial Councilor. Trustee Farrell accepted the nomination.
- 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 Farrell was elected the BCSTA Provincial Councilor by acclamation.

- **ELECTION OF ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Michell and Trustee Hanson.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative, and called for nominations.
- Trustee Farrell nominated Trustee Hanson for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative. Trustee Hanson accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Williams nominated Trustee Michell for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative. Trustee Michell accepted the nomination.
- 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 the votes.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Michell was elected the Aboriginal Education Council representative by ballot vote.

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

"That all ballots be destroyed."

CARRIED

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- Trustee Williams assumed the Chair as Presiding Officer.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

"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 21, 2017, the synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes November 21, 2017. There being none, the minutes of November 21, 2017 and the synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes of November 21, 2017, 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 have been communicating student learning through regular, more meaningful methods of communication. The November Education Forum was held on November 27 and two master teachers shared the work they have been doing supporting teacher learning and collaboration across the district. SSS student Molly Moolman was selected to audition to be a part of this year's Provincial Honours Vocal Jazz Ensemble put on by the BCMEA. The PLC / NOII meeting took place on December 4th and the teachers discussed a variety of topics such as: best practices; what makes learning better; international trends in education; what teachers have currently and what they need. Ms. Jana Fox and Ms. Lauren L'Orsa, have been working on an inquiry project about reconciliation. They both teachers presented at the First Nations Education Steering Committee (fnesc) conference in Vancouver at the end of November. Feedback from the conference reported that this presentation was the best at the conference. Ms. Fox and Ms. L'Orsa will repeat the same presentation at the ABED luncheon next week.

District Based Initiatives

- Superintendent Chris van der Mark presented the following district based initiatives to the Board. Carolfest will take place on December 6th and will once again it will be an exceptional showcase of school and district community spirit. In addition, it will be an emotional evening as it will be Mr. Mike Doogan-Smith's last Carolfest. Thank you to the maintenance department, student's, directors and accompanist for making this an outstanding evening once again. The elementary volleyball tournament took place on November 9th at HSS. Thank you to Silverthorne and Twain Sullivan for hosting this event and HSS for donating their gym! The District held it's first SOGI Committee meeting recently. The roll of the committee is to: 1) Review proposed procedures regarding our Diversity and Non-Discrimination policy with regards to SOGI issues; 2) Make recommendations to the Board, through the Policy Committee, with regards to decisions being made around SOGI issues. It was a very powerful meeting for all that attended.

School Based Initiatives

- Superintendent Chris van der Mark presented the school based initiatives to the Board. BVLC and NWCC will be hosting a Christmas Lunch on December 14th. BVLC / NWCC also held a special birthday party for our long service employee Susie Hooper last week. They not only celebrated a special birthday but her outstanding work at BVLC. Ms. Helen Erickson presented at the POPFASD conference in Vancouver recently about the research project at HSS and Silverthorne she is working on with Ms. Julie Krall. The goal of this project is to support teachers to collaborate, co-plan and co-teach in order that they gain more understanding of how individual students learn. Unfortunately, Ms. Krall was unable to attend the conference due to bad weather and flight delays.
- SSS hosted their annual "Friday Night Live" performance. SSS Sr. Boys' Volleyball team competed that the BC Championships this past weekend had a great experience at this highly competitive event. School Christmas concerts will be starting soon at schools across the district.

Operations:

- Secretary Margerm presented the administration operations report to the Board. Silverthorne's water main has now been fixed. Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Young are working on new LED lighting systems for SSS and exterior lights for schools which will help to create energy savings. Ms. Whalen is working on a shared services agreement for bus transportation, mapping software and purchasing more automatic chaining systems for busses as part of our transportation grant.

7.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- No report this month.

7.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- No report this month.

7.c) TRUSTEE REPORT

- Trustee Kearns and Trustee Williams both submitted trustee reports from their trip to the BCSTA 2017 Trustee Academy.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 8.1) 2017 – 2018 Facilities Review.

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

"That School District 54 Board of Education direct senior administration to explore and pursue the option of requesting financial support from the Ministry for a fixed modular annex in Houston."

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

"That School District 54 Board of Education direct senior administration to explore and pursue the option of requesting financial support from the Ministry for a fixed modular annex / addition in Houston."

CARRIED

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

" That the School District 54 Board of Education direct senior administration to apply for funding from the 2018/19 Rural Education Enhancement Fund in regards to a potential school closure."

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

- There was no Unfinished Business.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1) Expenditure Summary for the period ended November 30, 2017 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 Williams thanked Trustee Kearns for his 12 years of serving as Board Chair. She said that his dignity and integrity along with his advocacy for students has set the standards high for those who will follow him.
- Trustee Kearns spoke to the board about his time as Board Chair and as a Trustee.
- Superintendent van der Mark sent out seasons' greetings to everyone and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.
- The next School Board meeting will be held on January 23, 2018 at the School Board Office in Smithers at 7:00 pm.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.


Approved by Jennifer Williams
Chairperson of the Board of Education


Dave Margern
Secretary Treasurer