

13) Public Remarks**

NOTES:

****Public Remarks:** Just a reminder to everyone that this portion of the meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for members of the public to make comments to the Board. Public remarks should be relevant to items on the approved agenda. The Board will listen respectfully to comments but not respond to questions during this time.

Delegations: This item is intended to provide an opportunity to members of the public to make a presentation to the Board. Individuals wishing to be included on the agenda must submit a written request to the Secretary Treasurer at least one week prior to the meeting stating the subject of their presentation and including any background information to be considered by the Board.



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)
NOVEMBER 20, 2018
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS BC

PRESENT: Trustees: F. Farrell, J. Williams, P. Michell, L. Kearns, J. Krauskopf, E. Quinlan, F. Krishan

Staff: C. van der Mark – Superintendent
M. McDiarmid – Assistant Superintendent
D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer
T. Bancroft – Director of Facilities and Maintenance
B. Kingsmill – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 7:14pm.

2. TRADITIONAL WELCOME / OPENING REMARKS

- Chairperson Williams acknowledged that we are gathered on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Gidmt'en – Bear Wolf Clan.
- Chairperson Williams welcomed all guests present. Chairperson Williams also welcomed back the returning and new trustees to the first board meeting post elections. She looks forward working with everyone for the next four years. Trustee Williams was honoured to attend the HSS 2018 Remembrance Day Ceremony on behalf of the Board. The HSS ceremony is a full Legion Ceremony 45 minutes in length. Chairperson Williams was in awe of how respectful the students and staff were during this very special event.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Chairperson Williams requested that 10.2 – Signing Authority be added to the agenda.

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

"That the amended agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chairperson asked if there were any corrections to the regular meeting minutes of October 16, 2018 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of October 16, 2018. There being none, the regular meeting minutes of October 16, 2018 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of October 16, 2018 were declared approved as presented.

5. LEARNING PORTION

- **5.1 – Freshgrade – District Resource Teacher Sandra McAulay** presented a report to the Board on Freshgrade. Freshgrade is an online portfolio where teachers and students can post the students work into their private portfolio for viewing by their parents. It is an excellent way for students to have a conversations at home about their learning.

6. 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 Kearns 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 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 were received from Trustee Farrell and Trustee Kearns and Trustee Krishan.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice - Chairperson and called for nominations.
- Trustee Michell nominated Trustee Kearns for the position of Vice - Chairperson. Trustee Kearns accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Farrell nominated Trustee Krishan for the position of Vice - Chairperson. Trustee Krishan accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Kearns nominated Trustee Farrell for the position of Vice - Chairperson. Trustee Farrell declined 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 and Trustee Williams.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of BCPSEA Representative, and called for nominations.
- Trustee Michell nominated Trustee Williams for the position of BCPSEA Representative. Trustee Williams accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Farrell nominated Trustee Kearns for the position of BCPSEA Representative. Trustee Kearns accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Williams announced that she would like to withdraw her nomination for BCPSEA Representative.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Kearns was elected to the position of BCPSEA Representative by acclamation.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Williams will act as BCPSEA Representative Alternate. Trustee Williams accepted this position as alternate.

- **ELECTION OF BCSTA PROVINCIAL COUNCILOR**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Farrell and Trustee Quinlan.
- 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.
- Trustee Kearns nominated Trustee Quinlan for the position of BCSTA Provincial Councilor. Trustee Quinlan 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 Farrell was elected the BCSTA Provincial Councilor by ballot voting.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Quinlan will act as BCSTA Provincial Councilor representative - Alternate. Trustee Quinlan accepted this position as alternate.

- **ELECTION OF ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

- Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Farrell and Trustee Michell.
- Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative, and called for nominations.
- Trustee Williams nominated Trustee Michelle for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative. Trustee Michelle decline the nomination.
- Trustee Kearns nominated Trustee Farrell for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative. Trustee Farrell accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Krishan nominated Trustee Quinlan for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative. Trustee Quinlan accepted the nomination.
- Trustee Farrell nominated Trustee Krishan for the position of Aboriginal Education Council Representative. Trustee Krishan 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 Krishan was elected the Aboriginal Education Council representative by ballot vote.
- Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Quinlan will act as Aboriginal Education Council representative - Alternate. Trustee Quinlan accepted this position as alternate.

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

"That all ballots be destroyed."

CARRIED

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- Secretary Treasurer Margerm informed the Board members that committee assignments will be decided on by the Board Chair and will be announced very quickly as the next committee meeting will held on Tuesday, November 27th.
 - Trustee Williams assumed the Chair as Presiding Officer.

7. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the student achievement report to the Board. The first session of CR4AL has been completed. Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid took a team to the Ministry's early learning regional conference in Terrace recently. Ms. Carole Fullerton, a numeracy expert, is currently in the district providing in-services sessions, demonstrations lesson and collaborative lessons with our SD54 educators. The PLC/NOII group had their first meeting on October 29th. Superintendent van der Mark and SSS Principal Jaksun Grice attended the BCSSA Fall Conference that focused on mental health and well-being. District Principal of Learner Support and Safe School Coordinator Ms. Cathy van der Mark attended the two day provincial Safe Schools meeting in Richmond on October 22 and 23. Five SD54 members of the District's Safer Schools Team traveled to Terrace last week for their ERASE Level Three Violent Threat Risk Assessment training. This training equips district teams with the ability to conduct threat and risk assessment as well as plan for providing interventions necessary to support students at risk.
- Superintendent van der Mark presented the District initiatives report to the Board. Dr. David Burns will be in the district on November 29th to share his thoughts on competencies, assessment capstones and possibilities for University entrance. Mr. van der Mark and Mr. McDiarmid have been meeting with the administration to discuss their progress on their school goals. SD54 Innovations applications have been received and will be awarded in the near future. On November 19th and 20th District Trades Coordinator Tom Butz and secondary teachers Gavin Scorer and Scott Richmond attended the annual Career Education Society's conference focusing on the new Applied Design, Skills and Technology curriculum.
- Superintendent van der Mark presented the school based initiatives report to the Board. Carolfest will take place on December 5th at SSS. HSS Girl's Rugby teams won their respective zones and will be heading to the Provincials in May. They also did very well at Rugby Fest in Kamloops earlier this month. SSS running team had another successful show at the BC's, with many personal bests being recorded. SSS 2019 Graduation format has been adjusted this year. The graduation ceremony will take place on June 7th, with the prom and DAF grad taking place on June 8th.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trip has been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **WPS** – 52 +/- grade 7 students from Walnut Park Elementary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on three separate occasions (December 14, 2018, February 15, 2019 and March 8, 2019). The purpose of these trips is to support the PE curriculum and promote healthy living. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid announced to the board that Superintendent Mr. van der Mark was recently acclaimed as President of the British Columbia School Superintendent's Association (BCSSA). This is quite an accomplishment for a Superintendent in a northern district and this will be an excellent benefit to our district. Congratulations to Mr. van der Mark.

Operations

- Secretary Treasurer Margerm presented the operations report to the Board - A public consultation for the Walnut Park capital project was held November 1st in order to allow an opportunity for stakeholders to receive a project update and provide feedback. . The general feedback on current school design was very positive.

8.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- There was no Operations Committee meeting this month.
- Next Meeting Tuesday, November 27th, 2018.

8.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- There was no Policy Committee meeting this month.
- Next Meeting Tuesday, November 27th, 2018.

8.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- There were no trustee reports submitted this month.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- There was no unfinished business this month.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1) 2018 – 2019 Facilities Review
-

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

"That the Board move to adjourn to continue the meeting after the 2018-2019 Facilities Review presentation."

CARRIED

- Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm
-

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

"That the Board move to return to the meeting."

CARRIED

- Meeting returned at 9:39pm
-

- 10.2) Signing Authority

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

"That the Board update the signing authority at the Bulkley Valley Credit Union and the Royal Bank of Canada to reflect the new Board of Education members. Two signatures are required on all cheques and will consist of Secretary Treasurer Dave Margerm and ONE of the following trustees: Jennifer Williams, Leslie Kearns, Frank Farrell, Priscilla Michelle, Edward Quinlan, Jason Krauskopf or Floyd Krishan."

CARRIED

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- The October 31, 2018 expenditure summary was included in the Trustee Board packages.

12. READING FILE

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

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

CARRIED

13. CLOSING REMARKS

- Closing Remarks – There will be a facilities review presentation in Houston on November 22, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Houston Secondary School. Next regular Board Meeting will be held on December 11, 2018 at the School Board Office in Smithers B.C., commencing at 7:00 p.m.

14. ADJOURNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Approved by Jennifer Williams, Chairperson
of the Board of Education

Dave Margem
Secretary Treasurer

DRAFT

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

to the
Board of Education
December 11, 2018

Student Achievement

- **Report Cards** – Secondary schools have already sent out this year's first report cards and Elementary schools have been communicating student learning through regular, more meaningful methods of communication. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding his/her progress.

Innovation / Initiatives

District Based Initiatives

- **Aboriginal Education Council** — On Tuesday, December 4th, the Aboriginal Education Council invited the SD54 Board of Education to a Christmas lunch. During this session, Ms. Jana Fox provided an overview of some of the district work in the NOII/AESN as well as highlighting examples of projects from across the province.
- **Partnership with the Office of the Wisuwit'en**— SD54 and the Office of the Witsuwit'en have embarked on a pilot project to have one of their workers work closely with SD54 students at Smithers Secondary. This outreach worker will be a home and community interface with a focus on practical and cultural supports and interventions. Both organizations will evaluate the success of the project in May.
- **BCSTA** – The recently elected Board of Education attended the BC School Trustees Association Trustee Academy on November 29 – December 1st, 2018. It was a great opportunity for the new Board to learn together as they begin in their new work. Thank you to all trustees for your participation and engagement.
- **Dr. David Burns** – On Thursday, November 29th, Dr. David Burns (Kwantlen Polytechnic) met with educators from across the district to challenge our thinking about assessment, core competencies, graduation transition and University admission. Dr. Burns also provided a public keynote address in the Della Herman Theatre.
- **Carolfest 2018** – This year's Carolfest was on Wednesday, December 5th at SSS and it was an exceptional showcase of school, district and community spirit. It is a wonderful way to bring in December. A special thanks to the district maintenance staff for their work, to all the school music directors, accompanists, and volunteers who make this evening possible, and to Mr. Jaksun Grice for being the emcee.
- **Innovation Grants** – District staff have reviewed this year's applications from schools across the district. School teams applied for up to \$2,000 to support innovative practices/projects that enhance student outcomes. As always, there was a great variety of projects and we look forward to hearing about the progress in the Spring!

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- **Collaboration Rounds** – As noted last meeting , SD54 teachers were just wrapping up their first set of collaboration rounds with Carole Fullerton in Smithers and Houston. Demand and engagement for these sessions was incredibly high and feedback from participants has been off the charts!
- **Elementary Volleyball** - On Thursday, November 15th , Silverthorne , Twain Sullivan and HSS co-hosted the elementary volleyball event. This year the Houston Christian Elementary school joined in the play day. Thanks to those schools and all teacher sponsors and volunteers for making this event possible
- **Week of Code 2018** - December 3rd to 10th is "Coding Week" where schools are encouraged to introduce Computational Thinking and Coding activities to students and teachers. Teachers have been sent links from sites such as code.org and hourofcode.com where they can find engaging activities and instructional video to introduce students to coding concepts. Ms. Sandra McAulay has organized coding activity days at Walnut Park School where primary students are able to participate in "unplugged coding", robotics and binary coding with beads. Both Mrs. McAulay and Mr. Monkman have led students across different schools in programming for the Microbit which is a "raspberry pi" type device manufactured in conjunction with the BBC in order to provide school children with an affordable (\$25) device on which to learn principles of coding. Students tend to be very engaged in the code writing process with the Microbits, especially when they see the code function after they transfer it from the computer to their Microbit. Students can continue to explore this coding process at home by going to the microbit.org website.

School Based Initiatives

- **Robotics** - A group of Smithers Secondary robotics students will be attending the VEX robotics competition at West Vancouver Secondary on Dec.9th. It is the first time our students have competed at this event and the teams are keen to test their machines against the competition. Also included in the trip are visits to Microsoft headquarters in Vancouver and a tour of the SFU Mechanatronics lab.
- **BVEC** – On December 20th , BVEC will hosting the 4th Annual Homeschool Christmas Variety Show being held at the Coast Mountain College. Home learners from the Bulkley Valley are welcome to share their talents during this family fun-filled evening. Students from Self-Design, E-bus, SD54 Education Connection, Christian School, Heartwood and un-registered will be in attendance.
- **Houston Secondary/Twain Campus** - Lots of events happening at the HSS/Twain Campus over the next couple of weeks. December 14th – The Twain Craft Fair, December 20th the annual Grad / Staff Hockey game and on December 21st the annual turkey lunch and talent show will take place.
- **Smithers Secondary School** – Once again the theatre/drama class will hold their annual "*Friday Night Live*" performance on December 7. As always, it will be a great performance and lots of laughs.
- **Smithers Secondary School** – The Sr. Boys' Volleyball and Sr. Girls' SSS Volleyball teams have just returned from competing at the BC Championships. The teams competed well and grew throughout the competition. Thanks to all the coaches and players for making this possible.

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- **Christmas concerts** - Will be starting soon at schools across the district. Please contact your child's school for more details. We are fortunate to have many parents, volunteers, staff community businesses and partners supporting our schools and students in a variety of ways. Thank you all for making a difference. We wish you a safe and happy holiday!

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **SSS** - 15 +/- grade 10-12 Outdoor Ed students from Smithers Secondary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on three separate occasions (November 30, December 7 and January 14, 2019). The purpose of these trips is to support the Outdoor Ed curriculum and healthy living. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SSS** - 15 +/- grade 9 Outdoor Ed students from Smithers Secondary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on November 29th. The purpose of this trip is to support the Outdoor Ed curriculum and healthy living. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SIL** - 45 +/- grade 4-7 students from Silverthorne Elementary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on December 21st. The purpose of this trip is to support the PE curriculum and healthy living. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

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OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

November 27th, 2018

5:00 PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
L. Kearns, Chair J. Krauskopf J. Williams (ex officio)	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer
Regrets: P. Michell	M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent

The meeting was conducted from 5:03 – 7:25pm.

Welcome: *Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered here today on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Gidmt'en - Bear Wolf Clan."*

REPORT

1. Facilities Review – Questions or Feedback

Mr. Margerm asked if there were any questions, feedback or if the board required any more information. It was noted the review was informative, and that the Houston review went well and was attended by some District of Houston Council members. Nothing specific was requested.

2. Surplus Management

Mr. Margerm updated the committee on Accumulated Surplus Policy 6.700. Committee reviewed the accumulated surplus as outlined in the briefing note and discussed the options for appropriating surplus for capital projects or funding infusions into educational programs.

Committee discussed the need for the SSS track resurfacing, supporting capital projects over and above AFG funding, funding additional multipurpose room at Walnut Park, capital investment into a Houston reconfiguration, technology upgrades, elimination of the covered sports complex, adding fields to list and the issue of how the funding model review may impact future capital spending or the budgeted surplus.

The Committee recommends:

1. holding the accumulated surplus reserve at its highest threshold level for contingency and unrestricted capital projects;
2. Reserving excess surplus until certain conditions allow for a decision:

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- a. holding reserves for Walnut Park project funding of additional space, or possible cost overruns until such time the school construction budget has been finalized. Though, Mr. Margerm can research the projected cost of additional 2nd level multipurpose room as this will need to be decided in short term;
- b. wait on decision to allocate accumulated surplus until after the new funding model has been revealed, expected by January 2019, and how the new model impacts the district budget;
- c. maintenance will provide a prioritized list of capital projects based on urgency of need.

3. Strategic Plan

Mr. van der Mark updated the new committee on the District's progress towards a strategic plan (working paper briefing note). Historically, the District has been working with an achievement plan that is regularly reviewed with the Board. Over time the Board and senior management should work to integrate the achievement plan, district action plans and school plans into on cohesive strategic plan.

The strategic plan should encompass:

- "what is good?" and "what to improve?" in regards to the school district;
- mission and vision statements;
- factors that affect student achievement: facilities, finances, culture; ...
- receive input from stakeholders;
- consider engagement ;
- currently, key elements of the Strategic Plan covered through:
 - Achievement Plan
 - Facilities Review
 - Budget.

Next steps:

- discuss how to how to receive increased input from stakeholders,
- trustees need to learn about the intricacies of the district with regards to learning prior to developing a strategic plan;
- currently very busy period with Walnut Park capital project, bargaining, new funding model, & new board;
- spend January - June orientating and educating Board on school district.

Recommendation:

The Committee recommends that the Board continue to be orientated & educated throughout spring 2019, and then initiate the process of developing a district strategic plan in the fall of 2019.

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POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

November 27th, 2018

3:00 PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
F. Farrell, Chair F. Krishan J. Williams (ex officio)	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets: E. Quinlan	

The meeting was conducted from 3:05-4:35 pm.

Welcome: *Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered here today on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Gidmt'en - Bear Wolf Clan."*

REPORT

PREVIOUS MEETING OF June 5th, 2018

Policy	Description	Type	Status	Consultation
	Review of future policy revisions or new policy			
	Policy & AP Framework		On-going	Not required

NEW BUSINESS

Revisions

Policy	Description	Type	Status	Consultation
4.700	Impairing Substances in the Workplace	New	In-Committee	Yes
	Policy & AP Framework		On-going	Not required

- Mr. Margerm provided overview of board policy vs. administrative procedures and the roles each document play in the district.

Committee discussed the new draft Policy 4.700 *Impairing Substances in the Workplace* which relates to employees. Topics discussed were issues such as:

- Where to draw the line with drugs ("no tolerance policy" vs "case-by-case")?

Type: New, Revision, Deletion
 Status: In-committee, on-going, approved
 Consultation: Yes, Not required, Complete, Rejected

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- b. Contractually, a no-tolerance policy is difficult to enforce from a discipline aspect.
- c. Does the district want to be the judge of impairment? What factors or levels become an impairment issue?
- d. Type of drug should be considered as some drugs do not impair, therefore Illicit or restricted drugs as part of policy.
- e. Is the employee in possession of drugs or under the influence? Is the drug impacting the employee's duty or behaviour?
- f. How do we define impairment? Language around impairment – not assess?
- g. Attempting not to have admin assess performance or impairment, but write language around "do not..." (eg. consume or possess)
- h. Language around contractor's obligation to have policy on employees and drugs and alcohol.
- i. Illicit vs. Medical prescriptions (restricted) vs. over the counter drugs
 - i. How to handle?
 - ii. What is allowable?
 - iii. Should employee report to administration?
- j. Acknowledging the board value of 'compassion' into drug and alcohol policy

It is recommended that:

1. the Policy Committee continue discussions on ***Policy 4.700 - Impairing Substances in the Workplace*** & ***Policy 9.120 - Students Involvement with Drugs and Alcohol***.
2. Send revisions of ***Policy 6.380 - District School Code of Conduct*** and ***Policy 6.310 - Tobacco Use on District Property*** out for public consultation.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: January 15th, 2018 @3:00pm

Type: New, Revision, Deletion
Status: In-committee, on-going, approved
Consultation: Yes, Not required, Complete, Rejected



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

"To empower all learners to live the challenges of a diverse and changing world."

TRUSTEE REPORT

BCSTA Trustee Academy
November 30 – Dec 1, 2018

Friday November 30th

BCSTA Branch Meeting:

This was attended by all the Boards in the North West Branch. There were a few new faces at this meeting but in general there were quite a few returning trustees. It is always good to hear the district updates from all the chairs and to hear what is happening in the north. The main item on this agenda was replacing the member on the provincial council and a Vice Chair until the AGM in April.

Plenary Session:

- 1) Signing of the MOU between BCSTA and the Minister of Education;
- 2) Minister of State for Childcare reviewed the new funding model for childcare subsidy;
- 3) Who's Who and who does what, an over view of who is responsible for what in the province. This was designed for New trustee's (and a reminder for returning ones).

The two concurrent sessions I attended were:

- 1) Ministry of Education funding review model: this was a status update on the report of themes that resulted from the work that has been done in the last year to update the funding model. Main themes were, accountability, financial management and equity of educational opportunity.
- 2) Eli Mina, Registered Parliamentarian: This session was all about running and being part of a successfully run meeting. How to not get bogged down or unraveled. How to be respectful and use the velvet gavel.

Saturday Dec 1st

Plenary Session:

- 1) Bargaining Preparation, overview of what BCPSEA has been doing to prepare for the next round of bargaining;
- 2) Deputy Minister Scott MacDonald, topics affecting Boards, Bargaining and Funding model where the main topics;
- 3) In preparation of the BCSTA AGM in April the art of writing a motion was reviewed/taught. Hopefully this will lessen the amount of amendments;
- 4) Eli Mina: How to work as a team, this session was focused on how trustee's as individuals and as a team can make quality decision to benefit the education system.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Williams
Trustee



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TRUSTEE REPORT

BCSTA Trustee Academy
November 30 – Dec 1, 2018

One of the purposes of this Academy is to provide new trustees with an opportunity to learn their roles and responsibilities and the resources available to them. This is vital this year as across the province, almost 50% of trustees are new. The academy also provides experienced members with a chance to hone their own trustee skills, as well as their mentoring skills.

During the Academy I attended the following presentations/activities:

- “Trustee Basics”, “BCPSEA and Labour Relations” and “Your Digital Footprint”.
- A wonderful keynote address by George Couros, author of “The Innovator’s Mindset”.
- The Northwest Branch meeting, of which the Bulkley Valley School District is one of six members.
- Presentations by the Minister of Education, the Minister of State for Child Care, and the Deputy Minister of Education.
- Introductions to key education partner groups, including School Business Officials, Public School Employers’, School Administrators’, District Superintendents’, Parent Advisory Councils, and the First Nations Education Steering Committee.
- Workshops on “Governance and Operations” and “Media Relations”.
- Presentations on “Bargaining Preparation”, “Motion Writing”, and “Board Decision Making”.

Although this is my 5th Academy I still find them valuable, as the information is pertinent and well presented. The education sector is changing as quickly as any sector in our society and if we intend to offer our children an education that is challenging, rewarding, flexible, and student-need driven, Boards need to have a vision, overcome the many obstacles, and make the vision happen. If you have any questions, please contact me or go the BCSTA website.

Respectfully submitted
Trustee Les Kearns



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"To empower all learners to live the challenges of a diverse and changing world."

TRUSTEE REPORT

BCSTA Trustee Academy

November 30 – Dec 1, 2018

I attended the academy and Provincial Council meetings, which were held at Hyatt Regency in Vancouver. The event offered a wealth of information for all trustees new and experienced.

The opening evening session was presented by noted author George Couros, who talked about how technology and great teachers can engage and empower all students. He opened with the reality that many traditional jobs are becoming obsolete and what does that mean for this generation of learners. He continued with a fast, high energy presentation on how we are educating the leaders of now not only the educators of the future. Students can be leaders in viral campaigns to change the world for the better. Engaging, and encompassing the notion that we need to educate students for an ever changing world.

The Friday morning session began with the Northwest Branch Meeting which offered an opportunity to engage with trustee neighbors many of whom are just newly elected. Moreover, it was decided that our next Northwest Conference will be held in the Bulkley Valley in September. After, the Northwest meeting it was off for a signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the BCSTA and President Gordon Swan and Education Minister Rob Fleming. Fleming and Katerina Chen, Minister responsible for Childcare offered insight in the government's commitment to education and children.

In the afternoon, I took in two plenary sessions one of which regarding the funding formula for education. The second was from noted Parliamentarian Eli Mina who offered insight on how to be an effective trustee working together as an effective board.

In the evening I took in a movie regarding the Musqueam First nation struggle to lobby and protest the desecration of an ancestral burial ground. Moving presentation from the Indigenous Education Council.

Saturday started with a Provincial Council meeting where I acted both as Provincial Council member and Finance Committee member. Among items discussed was a proposed motion to request government to have school districts install seat belts in all school buses by 2020. It will be deferred to the April AGM. From Provincial Council we had a session with BCPSEA regarding upcoming bargaining and the potential framework. The afternoon continued with Eli Mina offering insight on effective practices for Boards of Education

Overall it was a great event that help not only in personal development but bonding with fellow board members. Noteworthy was that province wide 46 percent of Trustees are newly elected. A balance of fresh perspective vital experience beneficial for a successful term of office.

Respectfully Submitted
Frank Farrell
Trustee

BCSTA Conference Recap - Floyd Krishan

Day 1

With my flight delayed by one day, my conference weekend started with George Couros' session titled - Your Digital Footprint.

I thought Couros was a very engaging speaker. He outlined for the group how we all could use social media to reach out to our communities. He also underscored the fact that our youth are very fluent with the social media medium. Couros suggests that if we want to better engage with our youth, we should consider developing a social media footprint.



The day ended with another presentation by Couros, this time as the keynote speaker. It was another excellent session that *'focused on not only what we know but what we do with what we know'*. Couros has also written a book titled *The Innovator's Mindset*, that further explains his views on creating exciting learning opportunities that will connect with students.

Day 2

After hearing from the BCSTA President, the Minister of Education and the Minister of State for Child Care, Key Education Partners discussed their roles for us. The Ministry discussed emerging topics that boards will have to confront, such as a concerning increase in competition for workers and a shortage of teachers for rural areas.

This lead us into the Concurrent Sessions. I was looking forward to these self-directed sessions as I am a new Trustee. Unfortunately, with only 2 hours given for this portion of the conference, participants were only able to pick two out of five sessions. The two sessions I went to were: "Governance and Operations" and "Indigenous Understandings". Both sessions were very educational for me.

At the Governance and Operations session, I learned the do's and don'ts of Trustee conduct and behaviour, housekeeping for policies, the role the CEO has in supporting the Board as well as ideas on how boards can hear student voices and support constituent views in consideration for all students.

At the Indigenous Understandings session, I heard speakers Valerie Adrian (Aanaatwoqwees), Erin Evans and Rick McCamy (Timook). They spoke their lives and challenges they had growing up Indigenous. It was an unscripted, uncensored session that spoke of major challenges that First Nations were faced with and continue to battle.



For me the evening finished with the movie night hosted by the Indigenous Education Committee. With a full room of Trustees we watched a documentary about the Musqueam Nation protecting a sacred burial site and village at the 1300 block of SW Marine. Drive in Vancouver. After the documentary I listened as elders spoke of what *cəsnaʔəm* (also known as Marpole Midden) meant to them and Musqueam heritage.

Day 3

The BCSPSEA representatives spoke about the upcoming contract negotiations. Renzo Del Negro talked about 5 themes the negotiations will include.

1. Teacher Workload
2. Innovative Learning Structures
3. Teacher Professional Learning
4. Continuity for Students
5. Recruitment and Retention.

The current CBA expires on June 30, 2019. This was an interesting session that spoke of a new vision being used during bargaining acknowledging that previous bargaining practises needed improving.

The conference ended with a session on motion writing and an interesting presentation from Eli Mina on how a board should operate to be effective. I found Mina's presentation to be very useful. Amongst the review of how an effective board operates, he underscored for us the following

1. All voices count
2. Don't be intimidated by being a 1st timer on the board
3. It's not OK to suppress input
4. It's everyone's obligation to speak their mind
5. If you believe the Board made a wrong decision you must not attack it publicly after the meeting.

We were given a copy of Mina's book, 101 Boardroom Problems. I read it for most of the flight back. I think for most boards; very useful information can be gleaned from the book to improve governance.

I found the conference to be very educational and a great way to network with Trustees from other School Districts. It was also nice to be able to spend time with our group.

Respectfully submitted,
Floyd Krishan – Trustee

BCSTA ACADEMY

November 29 – December 1, 2018

The opening Keynote from George Couros, Innovative Learning, Teaching, and Leadership Consultant, was both entertaining and thought provoking. His presentation was very much student centred. He believes that school should be the most positive experience for students. It's our responsibility to ensure we are not creating a negative culture within our schools, such as, constant reminders of all the things our students are "not allowed" to do, as this kills the student's curiosity. Nothing has been achieved without enthusiasm, whatever our kids need to succeed, we need to provide it for them. Isolation is a choice an educator makes, no child will ever say that tests changed their life, so we need to think about the kind of impact we want to have as an educator. Change is an opportunity to do something amazing as our actions and words matter to our students.

Minister of Education, we witnessed the signing of the MOU on co-governance and he spoke to key areas that will be focused on in the near future. First and foremost being the Truth 7 Reconciliation and the 94 Calls to Action. The Ministry, with guidance from numerous Indigenous experts to build an education system that serves Indigenous students well. He spoke to future jobs in the Technology Industry and recommended that we also keep in mind how to prepare our students for these types of future opportunities. He was informed that the literacy and numeracy tests were very successful Province wide. One very important issue he will focus on is putting a stop to cyberbullying. There will be a review of best practices in Mental Health services where they can take ideas and turn them into action. He commended all the districts on both supporting and creating SOGI policies Province wide.

I attended the "Indigenous Understanding", where we heard from a panel of four Trustees who shared their "Truth" related to the Truth and Reconciliation. It was very emotional as each Trustee shared intimate stories of a loved one who survived residential school and the long-term affects as a family unit. As leaders we need to take away what is important to us and how the personal stories will affect our future decision making related to Aboriginal Learner Success within our Districts. The second session I attended was "Conflict of Interest" facilitated by a BCSTA Legal Council along with a Lawyer from Harris & Co., who both specialize in the topic. They explained both pecuniary and non-pecuniary conflict of interest. We were given various case scenarios to review as Trustees to decide on the type of conflict we were dealing with and the best method of resolving the issues. It seemed like a simple task, but we could see how quickly and easily the discussion can get complicated, when dealing with passionate issues. When declaring conflict, we have to put our trust in the hands of our team to make the right decisions for all our students. If the decision was not made in your favor, then not only do you support the overall final decision, but also continue working in a professional manner.

The final day was spent reviewing topics to prepare our Boards of Education for Bargaining. The BCPSEA presented their consultation model for Boards of education to engage in meaningful discussions. We heard a presentation on Board Decision Making and the "TEAM" approach. Anyone who has participated on a Board and/or committee understands the dynamics each individual brings to the table. As a Board, we can decide how our team works together to make decisions that benefit a quality education for our students. In preparation for the BCSTA AGM, we heard about Motion Writing 101. In conclusion, an excellent opportunity for learning new skills and also taking the time we need for team building amongst our new Board. Thank you.

Awizah,
Priscilla Michell
Trustee

