

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

March 9th, 2021

5:00 PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
L. Kearns, Chair J. Krauskopf, Alternate	M. McDiarmid, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. Monkman, Assistant Superintendent
J. Williams (ex officio)	
Regrets P. Michell	

The meeting was conducted from 5:00 – 5:22 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

1. Draft 2021-2022 District Calendar

Mr. McDiarmid and Mr. Monkman updated the committee on the proposed revised draft 2021-2022 District Calendar. The proposed calendar will remain as one (1) week spring break. NID days have been adjusted to allow for longer weekends. It was also noted that the BVTU conducted a vote with a portion of their membership in regards to providing a two-week spring break in lieu of a NID prior to Labour Day weekend in order to maintain a consistent number of instructional days. The BVTU voted to reject the resolution.

Motion: The Committee recommends the Board approve the proposed Draft 2021-2022 District Calendar.

2. 2021 Trustee Stipend

Mr. Margerm updated the committee on the annual board evaluation of trustee stipends. If the board passes no resolution, Trustees will receive a 1% increase as of July 1, 2021.

The Committee makes no recommendations to the Board in regards to a trustee stipend increase. This allows for a 1% increase to the trustee stipend as of July 1, 2021.

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3. Walnut Park Totem Pole

Informational Item: Mr. McDiarmid provided a verbal update on the proposed totem pole at the Walnut Park Elementary rebuild. The cost for the totem pole is projected at \$250,000-\$300,000. Mr. McDiarmid acknowledged that the School District could not bear the full cost of a totem pole; though, he noted it would be an important project for the School District and community. A totem pole would provide an opportunity to acknowledge and provide information on the Indigenous Peoples of this area, for instance the history around Indian Town. Mr. McDiarmid is currently working with other organizations, Office of the Witsuwit'en, Town of Smithers, and Provincial Government representatives, to financially support the cost of the totem pole.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: April 13th, 2021.