



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)  
FEBRUARY 21, 2017  
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.

**PRESENT:** Trustees: L. Kearns, F. Farrell, J. Williams, D. Hanson, L. Collingwood, P. Michell, B.J. Beaubien  
Regrets: C. van der Mark – Superintendent of Schools  
Staff: 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 7:05pm

**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.
- Chairperson Kearns welcomed all guests present. Superintendent van der Mark sends his regrets. As the Vice President of the BCSSA, Mr. van de Mark was invited to the reading of the new provincial budget in Victoria this week. Mr. van der Mark was also selected as a member of the Ministry of Education Outreach Team. This committee is responsible for engaging with education stakeholders across the province on topics related to the implementation of BC's new curriculum. Congratulations to Mr. van der Mark. Silverthorne Elementary will be putting on the musical "How to Eat Like a Child and Other Lessons in Not Being a Grown Up" on March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. SSS will be hosting the BC High School Provincial Curling Championships on March 2-4<sup>th</sup> at the Smithers Curling Club. February 22 is Pink Shirt Day to Stand Up Against Bullying.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

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

CARRIED

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of January 17, 2017 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of January 17, 2017. There being none, the minutes of January 17, 2017 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of January 17, 2017 were declared approved as presented.

**5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

- Assistant Superintendent Mr. McDiarmid updated the Board regarding the BC Government and the BCTF Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Through consultations at the school level and the local teachers union, positions were created or expanded across the district.

- Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid presented the student achievement report to the Board. Twain Sullivan Elementary students will participate in Maker Week at HSS this week. SD54 will be sending approximately 12 students to the Skills Canada competition in Terrace once again this year. The Big Band Dance was held on February 11<sup>th</sup> this year and was once again a sensational evening of student excellence.
- Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid presented the district based innovations and initiatives report to the Board. Collaborations rounds will be held on February 24 in Smithers and in late March in Houston. Pink Shirt Day will be take place on Wednesday, February 22. The February Education Forum will be held on Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be the use of robotics in the classroom. The early notice incentive program will take place again this year for teachers. This notice is valuable in order to better plan and meet out staffing requirements. Twain Sullivan and Silverthorne will co-host the elementary basketball event on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at HSS. FSA's continue at the grade 4 and 7 levels. Parents and students in grades 4,7,10, and 12 will be completing the Provincial Satisfaction Survey's between now and April.
- Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid presented the school based initiatives report to the Board. Ms. Pesce took her class to work with the seniors over at the Meadows. There were a lot of smiles and it was truly heartwarming. SSS drama/theater students put on a showing of "Hansel and Gretel". Twain Sullivan and HSS are now combining their school breakfasts at HSS bringing all the students together. SSS hosted the Ski and Snowboard zone championships and the local students did very well. SSS had wrestlers participate at a large wrestling competition in Edmonton recently. Smithers will be hosting the BC High School Curling Championship on March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>. School basketball is wrapping up for the year. The Junior Girls won their zones last weekend and will be heading off to the Provincials at the beginning of March. Silverthorne Elementary will be putting on the musical "How to Eat Like a Child and Other Lessons in Not Being a Grown Up" on March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
  - **MME** – 45 +/- Grade 6/7 Students from Muheim Memorial Elementary to travel to Hudson Bay Mountain on three separate occasions for skiing and snowboarding. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **HSS – BVLC Campus** 10 +/- Grade 10-12 Students from Houston Secondary School to travel to Hudson Bay Mountain on February 24, 2017 for a day of skiing and snowboarding. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **SSS** – 8 +/- Grade 8-12 Students from Smithers Secondary to travel to Edmonton, Alberta to take part in the Golden Bear High School Wrestling Tournament on February 2-5, 2017. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

### Operations

- Mr. Margerm spoke to the Board about the extreme weather we have been experiencing recently and the undertaking that our Supervisor of Transportation, Cathy Whalen does to keep everyone safe during these treacherous conditions. Safety on the secondary roads is a main concern for bussing and Ms. Whalen relies heavily on the recommendations provided by the highways department and maintenance contractors on whether buses should be on the roads or not.

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

- The February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Community Relations Committee Meeting was cancelled as two trustees could not attend the meeting and therefore a lack of quorum. The agenda will be carried forward to the March meeting.
  - Next Education Forum will be held on Monday, February 27, 2017 at 5:00pm at the Smithers Secondary School Library. Topic will be Robotics in the Classroom.

**6.b) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Operations Chairperson Farrell presented the Operations Committee's Report from the February 7, 2017 committee meeting.
  - Next Meeting Tuesday, March 7, 2017 @ 5:15pm.

**6.c) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

- The February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Policy Committee Meeting was cancelled as two trustees could not attend the meeting and therefore a lack of quorum. The agenda will be carried forward to the March meeting.
  - Next Meeting Tuesday, March 7, 2017 @ 4:15pm.

**6.d) TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- Trustee Kearns submitted two Trustee Reports this month. The first was reporting on the January Education Forum on Aboriginal Education and the second was about Trustee Kearns's trip to the BCPSEA AGM.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**7.1) 2017 – 2018 Amended Draft School Calendar**

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

*"The Board approves sending the 2017-2018 Amended Draft School Calendar out for public consultation as outlined."*

2 Opposed  
5 For

CARRIED

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.1) 2016-2017 Amended Annual Budget-** Mr. Margerm provided a brief synopsis of the amended budget. The operations committee recommended that the Board give all three readings to the 2016-2017 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw.

- Chairperson Kearns asked for unanimous consent to do all three readings for the 2016 – 2017 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw. Unanimous consent was given.

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

*"The Board proceeds with three reading for the 2016 – 2017 Amended Budget Bylaw."*

CARRIED

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

- The January 31, 2017 expenditure summary was included in the Trustee Board packages.

**10. READING FILE**

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

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

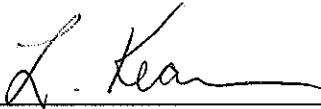
CARRIED

**11. CLOSING REMARKS**

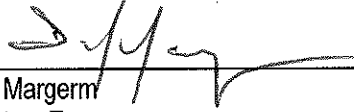
- The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 commencing at 7:00 pm at the School Board Office in Smithers.

**12. ADJOURNED**

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm.



Approved by Les Kearns, Chairperson  
of the Board of Education



Dave Margerm  
Secretary Treasurer