



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

AGENDA REGULAR BOARD MEETING MAY 17, 2016 TWIN SULLIVAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOUSTON, B.C. 7:00PM

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Tradional Welcome / Opening Remarks
- 3) Adoption of Agenda
- 4) Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2016
Synopsis In-Camera Meeting – April 19, 2016
- 5) Administration Report C. van der Mark Report Attached
- 6) Committee Reports
 - a) Community Relations / Education Forum Committee D. Hanson Report Attached
 - b) Operations Committee J. Williams Report Attached
 - c) Policy Committee L. Collingwood Report Attached
 - d) Trustee Report L. Kearns Report Attached
 - e) Trustee Report L. Kearns Report Attached
 - f) Trustee Report F. Farrell Report Attached
 - g) Trustee Report P. Michell Report Attached
- 7) Unfinished Business
- 8) New Business
 - 8.1) 2016-2017 Annual Budget Bylaw
- 9) Other Business
 - 9.1) Expenditure Summary – April 30, 2016
- 10) Reading File

April 30, 2016 Enrolment	Ltr. Frm. BVPVPA re: Lake Kathlyn School Closure
Ltr. Frm. Minister Byng to BCSTA re: Additional Funding for 2016 - 2017	Ltr. Frm. Minister Byng to BCSTA re: Participation of TTOC's & Teachers in Pro-Development
Ltr. Frm. Minister Byng to BCSTA re: Indigenous Language IRPS's	Ltr. Frm. CPF to Minister Bernier re: Teacher Shortage
Ltr. Frm. Minister Bernier to BCSTA re: Budget 2016	Ltr. Frm. SD05 to MLA's re: So Long, Elected Trustees
Ltr. Frm. SD50 to Minister Bernier re: Funding Pressure	Ltr. Frm. SD57 to Minister Bernier re: TTOC and SEA Shortage

- 11) Closing Remarks - Next Board Meeting will be held on June 21, 2016 at the School Board Office in Smithers, commencing at 7:00 p.m.
- 12) Adjournment
- 13) Public Remarks**

NOTES:

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.

****Public Remarks:** this item is intended to provide an opportunity to members of the public to make comments to the Board.



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)
APRIL 19, 2016
MORICETOWN MULTI-PLEX, MORICTOWN, B.C.

PRESENT: Trustees: L. Kearns, B.J. Beaubien, F. Farrell, J. Williams, D. Hanson, P. Michell, L. Collingwood

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 7:05pm

2. OPENING REMARKS

- Chairperson Kearns acknowledged that we gathered on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Likhshilya. And welcomed all guests present.
- Chief Ron Mitchell Hagwilneh from the Laksilya Clan delivered a traditional welcome to the Wet'suwet'en Territory to the Board of Education.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

"That the agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of March 15, 2016 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of March 15, 2016 or the minutes of the April 12, 2016 Special Board Meeting. There being none, the minutes of March 15, 2016 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of March 15, 2016 and minutes of the April 12, 2016 Special Board Meeting were declared approved as presented.

5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the student achievement report to the Board. The Fraser Institute Schools rankings have been released. This ranking is based on a very narrow piece of data; all schools in SD54 perform at above provincial averages on a broad set of indicators. Trustees and senior staff attended the BCSTA Spring AGM this past weekend. There have been some administration changes for the 2016-2017 School year. Mr. Andrew Bond will be the new Principal at WPS, Ms. Bev Forster will be the new Principal at MME and Ms. Julie Krall will be the new Principal at Silverthorne.
- Superintendent van der Mark presented the district based initiatives report to the Board. The District is well into the staffing process for the 2016-2017 school year. District Dogwood Scholarship packages have started to arrive as students vie for one of the nineteen (19) \$1,250 scholarships available this year. Presentations will be held the week of May 9th. Jan Unwin and Maureen Dockendorf from the Ministry of Education were in the district this week working with our teachers on the new curriculum. 52 students from Telkwa Elementary worked with the Missoula Children's

Theatre to put on a production of "Sleeping Beauty". Twain Sullivan will now be working with the Missoula Children's Theatre on the same production. There were presentations across the district by the group 'Out in Schools', which works in building school culture and educating youth, teachers and parents about LGBTQ+ issues. Schools are increasing course offerings for robotics, coding, trades and ACE-IT programs for next year. The District X-Country ski event was held last month and everyone had a great time.

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the school based initiatives report to the Board. WPS had their monthly Breakfast and Books last Wednesday. MME had their annual "Concours" French speaking event on April 12th. Thank you to the MME staff for organizing this again this year. SSS & Buick Canada will host a 'Drive for Students' fundraiser And Family Fun Fair will be held on April 30th at WPS school. Funds from this fundraiser will go towards SSS athletics.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **SSS** – 40 Grade 10-12 Senior Concert & Jazz Band Students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to Edmonton, AB on April 16 thru April 20th, 2016 to take part in the annual Edmonton Cantando Music Festival. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **HSS** - 20 +/- Grade 8-12 students from Houston Secondary School to travel to Irrigation Lake on a weekly basis during the months of May and June as a part of their angling course. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **LKS** – 25 Grade 6/7 students from Lake Kathlyn Elementary School to travel to Camp Caledonia on June 15th – June 17th, 2016 to take part in their year-end celebrations. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- The following field trip require approval by the Board of Education:
 - **MME** – 28 +/- Grade 7 students to travel to Prudhomme Lake (Prince Rupert) and Metlakatla during the period of June 6 and June 10, 2016. This trip is to support student curriculum and will be the class's year-end celebration. All other Board requirements have been met for this trip.

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

"The Board approves the proposed field trip to the Prudhomme Lake and Metlakatla as outlined."

CARRIED

Operations

- **2016 – 2017 Budget** – Budget planning is well underway and will be presented to the Board and the public in May. Planning for the 2016-2017 AFG is underway and planning for the LKS closure and consultation with the Board has begun.
- **Lake Kathlyn Transition Committee** – Superintendent van der Mark informed the Board that Mr. McDiarmid is establishing a transition committee in order to address student and family transition, Lake Kathlyn Elementary history and artifacts and PAC organization and finances. The committee will have representation from both Lake Kathlyn and Walnut Park PAC's, school administration, staff and district staff.

6.a) COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ EDUCATION FORUM COMMITTEE

- Trustee Hanson invited everyone to the April 25th February Education Forum on BC's new K-9 Curriculum. The Forum will start at 5pm at the School Board Office.
 - Next Meeting Tuesday, May 3, 2016 @ 4:00pm.

6.b) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Operations Chairperson Williams presented the Operations Committee's Report from the April 5, 2016 committee meeting.
 - Next Meeting Tuesday, May 3, 2016 @ 5:00pm.

6.c) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- Policy Committee Chairperson Collingwood presented the Policy Committee Report from the April 5, 2016 committee meeting. The committee recommended that Policy# 11.290 - Field Trips be approved as amended.

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

"The Board approve the amended Policy # 11.290 – Field Trips as outlined."

CARRIED

- Next Meeting Tuesday, May 3, 2016 @ 3:00pm.

6.d) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- No Trustee reports were submitted this month.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- No unfinished business this month.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- **8.1) 2016-2017 Annual Facilities Grant:** The operations committee recommended that the 2016-2017 Capital AFG Bylaw # 127093 be approved in three readings.
- Chairperson Kearns asked for unanimous consent to do all three reading tonight for 2016 – 2017 Capital AFG Bylaw# 127093. Unanimous consent was given.

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

"The Board approves the 2016- 2017 Annual Facilities Grant - Bylaw #127093 in the amount of \$ 536,597."

CARRIED

CAPITAL PROJECT BYLAW NO. 127093

A BYLAW by the Board of Education of School District No. 54 (Bulkley Valley) (hereinafter called the "Board") to adopt a Capital Project.

WHEREAS in accordance with provisions of the *School Act* the Minister of Education (hereinafter called the "Minister") has approved Capital Project No. 127093 (2016-2017 AFG).

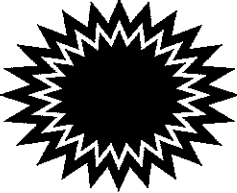
NOW THEREFORE the Board agrees to the following:

- upon approval to proceed, commence the Project and proceed diligently and use its best efforts to complete the Project substantially in accordance with the Project Agreement or as directed by the Minister;
- observe and comply with any rule, policy or regulation of the Minister as may be applicable to the Board or the Project; and,
- maintain proper books of account, and other information and documents with respect to the affairs of the Project, as may be prescribed by the Minister.

NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

1. The Capital Project of the Board approved by the Minister and specifying a maximum expenditure of \$536,597 for Project No. 127093 is hereby adopted.
2. This Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 54 (Bulkley Valley) Capital Project Bylaw No. 127093

Read a first time the 19th day of April, 2016.
Read a second time the 19th day of April, 2016.
Read a third time, passed and adopted the 19th day of April, 2016.



NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED
Board Chair

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED
Secretary-Treasurer

I HEREBY CERTIFY this to be a true and original School District No. 54(Bulkley Valley) Capital Project Bylaw No. 127093 adopted by the Board the 19th day of April, 2016.

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED
Secretary-Treasurer.

9. EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

- The March 31, 2016 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 May 17, 2016 commencing at 7:00 pm at the Twain Sullivan Elementary School.

12. ADJORNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.

Approved by Les Kearns, Chairperson
of the Board of Education

Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer



**SYNOPSIS
OF
IN-CAMERA MEETING
SCHOOL DISTRICT #54 (Bulkley Valley)
APRIL 19, 2016
MORICETOWN MULTI-PLEX, MORICETOWN B.C.**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:06pm and the Board resolved to go in-camera.

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the In-Camera meeting minutes of March 15, 2016. There being none, the In-Camera meeting minutes of March 15, 2016 declared approved as presented by the Chairperson.
- Administration reported on routine staffing issues.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:19pm.

DRAFT

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION
to the
Board of Education
May 17, 2016

Student Achievement

- **Lake Kathlyn Transition** - Mr. McDiarmid has been meeting with parents, staff and administration from Lake Kathlyn and Walnut Park to ensure transition of students and artifacts is as smooth as possible. We continue to appreciate the genuine cooperation and respect that has been maintained throughout this work.
- **Staffing** - We have completed the first round of staffing, and we are pleased that post and fill has gone relatively smoothly and quickly. We will proceed with subsequent rounds of postings until June 30th.
- **Trent Monkman** - Fresh off of an outstanding performance at the BC Basketball Championships, Trent had several offers from college and CIS programs. He eventually committed to Thompson River University and we look forward to following his adventures in the future. Trent is the most recent in a new crop of male and female basketball players following the likes of Kye Wyllie (Grand Prairie) and Corey Martens (TRU).
- **SSS Band** - Traveled to Edmonton last month as part of an international music festival. Although it was a non-competitive festival, adjudicators were impressed by the quality of the Smithers Secondary group. Mr. Doogan-Smith also commended his group for their outstanding performances and their superb behavior while representing the community.
- **District Scholarships** - Grade 12 students from Houston Secondary and Smithers Secondary completed their presentations last week over a four day period. They were competing for 19 scholarships of \$1,250 each. The presentations were of a wide variety and a great showcase of skills from some of our best students. An excellent and rewarding four days. Thanks to the trustees for giving up their time to watch these students showcase their learning.
- **U15 Basketball**- Congrats to Olivia Davey, Haley Hanchard, Angela Jennings, Mackinley Unruh and Aleigha Young-Lowry for taking their game on the road to the regional camp in Prince George. Young-Lowry and Unruh also participated in the U15 Team BC SuperCamp in Langley with the best players in the province. Great job girls!
- **Education Forum** – The May education forum will be held in Houston on social media and internet safety. This same forum was held in February in Smithers. It will be held on Tuesday, May 24th at 7:00pm at the Houston Secondary School Library.

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INNOVATION / INITIATIVES

District Based Initiatives

- **Year End Celebration** – On Wednesday, June 22, 2016 we will be recognizing retirees and employees who will be awarded long service pins. This event will take place at Smithers Golf Course from 5:00 – 7:00pm. We encourage everyone to attend to recognize honoured staff members.
- **Grizzly Den** - As part of the Trade Expo, SSS students competed in an entrepreneur course in order to win the rights to a trailer for the purpose of running an ice cream business in Smithers this summer. Logan Lush, Brad Wellington, and Jack de Rooy were the winning contestants with their “Frozen North” project. Thanks to the Smithers Chamber of Commerce and NWCC for making this business venture possible!
- **District Elementary Track** - On Friday, June 3rd the annual Elementary track meet will be held at SSS. Contact your local elementary school for more info.
- **Ready, Set, Learn** - Will be held in Houston on May 31st, Smithers area schools from June 3-7. Families and their three-year-olds and four-year-olds who attend will engage in play-based early learning activities while finding out about the early learning programs and services offered by the school district and school. It will be a fun filled session of activities, snacks and families leave with a gift bag of resources.
- **Network of Inquiry and Innovation** - Educators and administration from SD54 joined others from around the province on Friday and Saturday May13-14 to attend a seminar led by Dr.'s Halbert and Kaser. Walnut Park Vice-Principal Nicole Davey was co-facilitator for the 2 days, while a team from SSS led a breakout session to highlight their work with transitions.

School Based Initiatives

- **Graduation Ceremonies** – Graduation dates for Houston Secondary and Smithers Secondary are June 10th and June 25nd, respectively.
- **Muheim Memorial**—Concours (French public speaking contest) was held on April 12 and two MME students will be going to Vancouver for the provincials, Matthias DeGisi, Hannah Buchanan and from SSS, past Muheim FI student Emily Hobley McCosker.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **SIL** – 163 +/- Grade K-7 Students from Silverthorne Elementary School to travel to Rough Acres Bible Camp on June 24, 2016 to take part in the year-end school celebration. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

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- **SIL** – 80 +/- Grade 4-7 Students from Silverthorne Elementary School to travel to Rough Acres Bible Camp on June 16, 2016 to take part in their year-end class celebration. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SIL** – 23 +/- Grade 4 Students from Silverthorne Elementary School to travel to Ft. St. James June 13 - June 15, 2016. The purpose of this trip is to support student curriculum. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **WPS** – 51 +/- Grade 7 Students from Walnut Park Elementary School to travel to Camp Ness in Prince George on May 25-27, 2016 to take part in their year-end class celebration. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **WPS** – 47 +/- Grade 4 & 5 Students from Walnut Park Elementary School to travel to Ft. St. James June 16 - June 17, 2016. The purpose of this trip is to support student curriculum. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SSS** - 3 Grade 11-12 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to UNBC in Prince George to attend UNBC'S " Spring into Transition Program" from May 15 to May 21, 2016. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- The following field trip requires approval in principle by the Board of Education:
- **SSS** – 60 +/- Grade 10-12 SSS Sr. Concert Band and SSS Sr. Jazz Band Students travelling to Cuba to take part in the "Performance Tour of Cuba" for the during the period of April 21st – April 29, 2017. Departure date is subject to pending flight schedule from/to Smithers. Board approval will be subject to the required travel documentation being supplied to the board office including the finalized list of students travelling.

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(Bulkley Valley)

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

May 3rd, 2016

4:00PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
D. Hanson, Chair L. Collingwood, Alternate F. Farrell L. Kearns (ex officio)	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer Mr. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets:	

The meeting was conducted from 3:30-3:35 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

1. Education Forum Update

The May education forum will be held in Houston on Tuesday, May 24th at 7:00pm at the Houston Secondary School library. The topic will be on social media and internet safety. The same forum was held in Smithers in February.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: June 3rd, 2016 @ 4:00pm

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OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular
May 3rd, 2016 5:00PM School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
J. Williams, Chair B. Beaubien, Alternate P. Michell L. Kearns (ex officio)	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets:	E. Hildebrandt, Director of Facilities

The meeting was conducted from 5:06-5:35 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

1. 2016-2017 Draft Budget

Mr. Margerm provided an overview of the Draft 2016-2017 Budget to Committee. It will also be presented at a public meeting on May 10th, 2016 at the school board office and again at the public board meeting on May 17th. Details of a balanced draft budget were presented. Mr. Margerm also noted that this would have been a more difficult process to balance a budget if the Board had not decided on the closure of Lake Kathlyn. ***Committee recommends proceeding with the 3 readings of the 2016-2017 Budget Bylaw.***

2. Official Community Plan (OCP) Amendment

Mr. Margerm provided an OCP letter from the Town of Smithers asking for any input on a rezoning application. Trustees may provide any comment they have to Mr. Margerm, and he will forward on to the Town.

3. Lake Kathlyn Transition

Mr. McDiarmid discussed that senior staff had met with Mr. Hildebrandt and it would appear that there will be minor renovations required for Walnut Park and additions can be easily accommodated. A transition committee has been formed to help oversee planning and transition of LKE students to Walnut. First meeting was April 28th where the committee received input into the transition process.

4. AFG request update

Mr. Margerm gave an overview of the proposed AFG plans for \$654,140. Significant facility expenditures include new roofs, a new boiler at Twain Sullivan, in which the District has applied for \$110,000 carbon neutral grant. The other possible project would be a

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renovation to the water supply plumbing at Twain and SBO as a long-term solution to reduce lead levels. Currently lead levels are below Recommended Canadian Guidelines at Twain and SBO due to flushing.

5. Post and fill update

Mr. van der Mark updated the Committee on the current post-and-fill process. The first round of teacher posting went out today. The Telkwa Principal position has been posted and remains open to May 13th.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: June 7th, 2016 @ 5:00pm

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

REPORT
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 3rd, 2016

3:00PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
L. Collingwood, Chair F. Farrell, Alternate D. Hanson L. Kearns (ex officio)	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets:	

The meeting was conducted from 3:05-3:30 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."*

NEW BUSINESS

Policy	Description	Type	Consultation
6.340	Purchasing	Revision	No

1. Purchasing 6.340

The Committee recommends the revisions to the Purchasing Policy 6.340 as outlined in the attached draft.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: June 7th, 2015 @ 3:00pm



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

Trustee Report

BCSTA, AGM

April 14 – 17, 2016

Making the Connections for Student Success: Aligning vision, governance and finance.

On April 14-16, I attended the British Columbia School Trustee Association's Annual General Meeting, entitled "Making the Connections for Student Success: Aligning vision, governance and finance", in Vancouver. During this time, I attended the following presentations/meetings.

- 1) Workshop for Board Chairs and Vice-Chairs. What's working well, what's not, and what's next?
- 2) AGM Opening- The Keynote address- "Damned Nations: Greed, Guns, Armies, and Aid!" was delivered by Dr. Samantha Nutt .
- 3) Branch Meeting- The Northwest Branch met to conduct business.
- 4) Plenary- The Honourable Mike Bernier, Minister of Education did a presentation and Dave Byng, Deputy Minister of Education, did a Ministry update.
- 5) Plenary- "The World is Changing and Schools Should Too." by Larry Rosenstock, founding Principal and CEO of High Tech High.
- 6) BCSTA Directors' Election- After nominations, speeches, questions, and an election, 5 Trustees were elected to the BCSTA Board of Directors.
- 8) Business Session- Just over 30 motions made it to the floor, were debated, and voted upon. For a list of the results, please go to the BCSTA website.

During the AGM there were many opportunities to talk to fellow trustees and Board Chairs. It was very enlightening.

Respectfully submitted by:

Trustee L. Kearns



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

Trustee Report BCPSEA REGIONAL MEETING REPORT

April 11, 2016

On April 11th, I attended the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA), Regional Meeting, held in Terrace, with Human Resources Administrator Bobbie Kingsmill and Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid. During this time, we received updates on the following topics:

- 1) BCPSEA Advisory Committee
- 2) Bargaining 2019
- 3) Collective Agreement Implementation/Committees
 - Labour/Management
 - Job Evaluation Committee
 - Education Assistant Committee
- 4) Shared Services
 - Employment Practices Litigation Program (EPLP)
 - Attendance Support and Wellness Initiative (ASW)
- 5) Exempt Staff Compensation Project
- 6) Make a Future.

Respectfully submitted by:

Trustee L. Kearns



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

Trustee Report

BCSTA, AGM

April 14 – 17, 2016

Making the Connections for Student Success: Aligning vision, governance and finance.

On Thursday April 14 to Sunday April 17 2016 I had the opportunity to travel to the 112th BCSTA AGM held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and conference facility. The first three days were filled with pre-conference and conference sessions. While the Sunday session was restricted to my role as provincial councilor at the annual Provincial Council AGM meeting.

On Thursday my session started with a pre-conference event entitled "Public Education, getting keeping and using the social license" with Alberta politician David King. Among his ideas in reaching out in the community was to offer a brown bag lunch session with members of the community in understanding the educational issues in the community.

The evening session consisted of the Opening of the AGM and the keynote address of Dr. Samantha Nutt, founder of War Child Canada. Her address delved into such areas as arms dealing, child soldiers, rape and the responsibility of many nations in the developed world including Canada to act responsibly and ethically in all areas including business and social advocacy. Including the realization that the biggest arms dealers in the world are situated amongst all nations in the United Nations Security Council.

Friday consisted of a keynote address from Larry Rosenstock , Founding Principal and CEO OF San Diego based High Tech High. His session entitled " The world is changing- schools should too" Moreover the day included remarks from member partners and of course the Minister of Education Mike Bernier –whom I had the opportunity to ask a question regarding supports for school closing transitions.

The Saturday session was primarily the business session. The day started with voting on the BCSTA executive and debating motions to be used as a template for a document to lobby government under our co-governance model. The executive was elected on the first ballot with all incumbents re-elected. Among motions passed was one from the Northern Interior Branch regarding a strategy to address child poverty in our schools?

The Sunday session was the provincial council meeting which passed the BCSTA budget for the upcoming year. Also questions regarding the allocation of funds for advocacy leading up to the May 2017 Provincial Election was asked, along with cost saving efficiencies that can be raised at BCSTA. For further information contact BCSTA.org.

Respectfully submitted

Frank Farrell,
Trustee and Provincial Council Rep.



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

Trustee Report

BCSTA, AGM

April 14 – 17, 2016

Making the Connections for Student Success: Aligning vision, governance and finance.

Each year I attend both the Trustee Academy and the Annual General Meeting, the quality of information sharing raises more awareness of both the local resources along with a broader world perspective of Education. As a result, I feel very appreciative of the opportunities available to me in this leadership role.

Pre-conference presentation by David King, Canadian politician and public education policy activist, former Minister of Education in Alberta and former Executive Director of the Public School Board's Association of Alberta. He spoke passionately about the political role of Trustees and how effective Boards have a strong social license from their communities. As a board we can measure social licenses based on critical decision making and review how we engage people in the process. We measure by the public feedback directly from our constituents. Education has to be reflective of the quality education and student achievement. The board structure has changes from its inception, it's changing and now reflective of the current times and I see that through the Aboriginal voice at the table and the continued support over the several terms I have served. "The foundation of a social license is a compelling story illustrating a preferred future." The story demonstrates the work is ongoing strategic planning begins with a "preferred future." Powerful stories resonate with us and a strong message that we must make ourselves available both in the good times and the bad. Make these people the heroes: students, parents and Teachers. In his wrap up he also stated: "People can't hear until they feel like they have been heard"

Keynote Presenter, Samantha Nutt, shared her perspective and understanding of more current and international affairs on the challenges and opportunities facing our world. She has worked with children across the world. She began by explaining the importance of implementing changes to meet the needs of displaced children from refugee countries entering our Canadian Public School System. Children in these countries have little to no education at the young age of 8 years, it is more common for them to be well trained in weaponry. She shared a very tragic story of her personal experience with a young girl in the Eastern Congo that silenced the room. Nurturing dreams is one of the most important things we can do and what children want from us as parents and leaders. You only have to step out of this country to understand how great our Canadian education system is and to be appreciative. We can forge meaningful relationships.

SD 71, Comox Valley: The Residential School Experience and Reconciliation: An engaging Enquiry Project. This session allows participants to explore the Residential School experience with a lens of compassion. How are reconciliation and compassion linked? The statistics shared that there were more than 150,000 Aboriginal children across Canada who endured the Indian Residential School system, and that a least 6,000 children perished in it. As a top government official said at the time, the system was "geared towards the Final Solution to the "Indian Problem." It was expressly designed to "kill the Indian in the child." It comes as no surprise how emotional this topic is to me as an Aboriginal Trustee. However, I feel the more people in general are willing to learn about the effects of Residential School, which will help us to be more compassionate in our daily lives. This workshop provided us with valuable resources that we can take back to our Districts to enable us to the "lens" incorporate into our curriculum, such as, video clips from Justice Murray Sinclair: "What are we teaching our children about the History of Aboriginal People? We need to look at where we want to be 7 generations from now, when we talk about the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in this country. If we can agree on what that relationship needs to look like in the future, then what we need to think about is: What can we do today that will contribute to that objective? Reconciliation will be about ensuring that everything we do today is aimed at the high standard of restoring that balance to that relationship." Finally, to include the quote from Jim Iker, BC Teacher's Federation President: "The BCTF has a long-standing commitment to building new relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people based on education, mutual respect, and collective action. Recently, education faculties across BC implemented a requirement that all student teachers must complete at least one course in Aboriginal Culture and history.

Another informative event and I look forward to sharing the resources where applicable in our District. Thank you.

Awitzah, Thank you.

Priscilla Michell,
Trustee