



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (*Bulkley Valley*)
OCTOBER 26, 2021
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.**

PRESENT: Trustees: F. Farrell, L. Kearns, F. Krishan, J. Williams
Regrets: J. Krauskopf, P. Michell
Trustee Absence: E. Quinlan
Staff: M. McDiarmid – Superintendent
M. Monkman – Assistant Superintendent
D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer
B. Kingsmill – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

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 everyone to present. Chairperson Williams highlighted that it has been a busy few weeks regarding COVID. There has been a lot of discussions around mandated vaccinations throughout different government sectors. She emphasized that the Board knows the mandatory requirements for employees is of great interest to the community. She reminded everyone that as this matter has labour relation implications the Board, discussions are more appropriately dealt with in-camera. She thanked everyone for their understanding. Trustee Krauskopf and Trustee Michell sent their regrets.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

"That the agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chairperson asked if there were any corrections to the regular meeting minutes of the September 28, 2021 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of September 28, 2021. There being none, the regular meeting minutes of September 28, 2021 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of September 28, 2021 were declared approved as presented.

5) Learning Portion: SSS – High Performance Training Centre

- The Trustees and guests were treated to a presentation from SSS teachers Mr. Holland and Ms. Garland about the new Sports School. They also brought along (3) three athletes to speak of their experiences at the Sports School. The athletes were examples of how the program engages students from a wide variety of sports as the three female athletes included a Moto-Cross Rider; a volleyball player; a hockey player. The board heard about the program's structure of classroom time balanced with workout time. They were also given a tour of the High-Performance Centre. The students were very positive about the progress of the Sport School program thus far, specifically that it affords them the ability to get their strength and conditioning workouts in as part of their school day while balancing their academic load.

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the district-based initiatives to the Board. The PLC/NOII will hold their first meeting on November 18th. Class sizes have been reviewed and have remained relatively the same compared to last year. The new grade configurations at Silverthorne and Twain have gone extremely well. Faye Brownlie will be returning on October 26th to continue teaching our teachers about reading assessments. School Administrators have been working on their school improvement plans that support the overall District Strategic plan goals. The first Provincial Early Learning seminar took place on October 6th. On October 8th a larger group met in person to participate in the provincial initiative Changing Results for Young Children. The first Equity Scan meeting will be held on October 29th. This group will develop an Equity Action plan in service to Indigenous learners, families and communities. Antje vonSeydlitz and Mark Fehr are the coordinators for the Physical Literacy Initiative. Aimee Richmond – Teacher Librarian from WPS is helping lead our school libraries to evolve into Learning Commons spaces. Parent Teacher Interviews took place last week. Ten Innovation Grants have been awarded. This year the District is providing a surplus activity bus to a group of teachers who commute out to Houston daily, this is currently just a pilot project for this year.
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the school based and initiatives report to the Board. The District Elementary Cross-Country Run took place this year. Secondary School Extra-Curricular Sports are taking place this year. The Northwest Zone Athletic Associate has asked that schools not allow spectators at indoor playday events beyond coaches, officials and parent drivers. Schools will have a scaled back Remembrance Day Ceremony this year. 2022 Commencement Days have been set: HSS June 17th and SSS June 25th.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trip requires approval by the Board of Education:
 - **SSS – 90 +/-** Jr. & Sr. Concert Band, Jazz Band and Festival Choir Students in grades 8-12 from Smithers Secondary School to travel to Whistler, BC on April 20 to April 22, 2022. The purpose of this trip is to take part in the Cantando Festival. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

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

"That the SSS field trip to Whistler be approved as outlined."

CARRIED

7.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Operations Committee Chairperson Kearns presented the Operations Committee's Report from the October 5th, 2021 committee meeting.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, November 9th, 2021 @ 3:00pm

7.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- There was no Policy Committee report this month.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, November 9th, 2021 @ 3:00pm

7.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- Trustee Farrell and Trustee Williams both submitted trustee reports this month. Trust Farrell thanked Jennifer Hegan , Helene Fleury and Samantha Gambling for all their hard work on the Groundbreaker Agricultural Association.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- There was no unfinished business this month.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1) Surplus Management

MOTION: *It was moved by Trustee Kearns and seconded by Trustee Krishan*

"The Board approve maintaining the accumulated surplus contingency level at the maximum threshold of \$2.08 million."

CARRIED

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

" That the Board approve a resolution to allocate up to \$1,500,000 towards a 2021 – 2022 proposed surplus appropriation as presented. The remaining \$500,000 would be deferred into the 2022 - 2023 year to support planned appropriations."

CARRIED

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- No other business this month.

11. READING FILE

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

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

CARRIED

12. CLOSING REMARKS

- Closing Remarks – Next regular Board Meeting will be held on November 23, 2021, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at The School Board Office in Smithers, BC.

*NOTE: Location and meeting delivery method will be subject to current Provincial Health Orders in place.

13. ADJOURNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm.

Approved by:



Ms. Jennifer Williams, Chairperson
of the Board of Education



Mr. Dave Margem
Secretary Treasurer