



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

AGENDA REGULAR BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 18, 2016 SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS, B.C. 7:00PM

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Traditional Welcome / Opening Remarks
- 3) Adoption of Agenda
- 4) Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2016
Synopsis In-Camera Meeting – September 20, 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 P. Michell Report Attached
 - e) Trustee Report J. Williams Report Attached
 - f) Trustee Report L. Kearns Report Attached
 - g) Trustee Report F. Farrell Report Attached
- 7) Unfinished Business
- 8) New Business
 - 8.1) Class size and Learning Improvement Fund Report
- 9) Other Business

10) Reading File

September 2016 Enrolment	Ltr. Frm SD05 to M. Bernier re Submission Deadlines
Ltr. Frm. SD38 to SSCFGS re: K-12 Education Needs	Ltr. Frm. SD43 to SSCFGS re: Finance Gov't Services
Ltr. Frm. SD46 to SSCFGS re: Budget 2017	Ltr. Frm. SD69 to M. Bernier re: SSCFGS
Ltr. Frm. SD69 to M. Bernier re: Foundation Skills Assessment	

- 11) Closing Remarks - Next Board Meeting will be held on November 22, 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)
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, B.C.

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

Regrets: P. Michell

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 7:00pm

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 Gidm't'en.
- Chairperson Kearns welcomed all guests present. Trustee Michell sent her regrets. Chairperson Kearns welcomed everyone back from a wonderful summer holiday and hoped that everyone is well rested for another year of learning. The annual welcome back tour was held last week. Considerable work has been completed by Ed Hildebrandt, Director of Facilities & Maintenance's, team. Notably, significant work was also done at WPS for the amalgamation of WPS and LKS.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Chairperson Kearns noted an error on the September agenda, the October Board Meeting is scheduled for October 18th, 2016 not on September 20th, 2016. In addition, Chairperson Kearns requested that item 8.1) 2015-2016 Draft Financial Statements be addressed first on tonight's agenda.

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

"That the amended agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of June 21, 2016 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of June 21, 2016. There being none, the minutes of June 21, 2016 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of June 21, 2016 were declared approved as presented.

5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the student achievement report to the Board. The 2016 – 2017 School year has now begun. Implementation of the new curriculum is now underway. Four out of the five elementary schools will be moving to a "communicating student learning" program for reporting to parents to this year.

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the district based initiatives report to the Board. In August 16 students and 3 adults from Jiangsu China visited our district and the Bulkley Valley. Thanks go out to Heather Lee and Hans Saefkow for facilitating the tour for these students. Intermediate teachers will be coming together for learning conversations around reading assessments for Grades 4-7. Schools and teachers are encouraged to submit grant proposals for innovative approaches to learning. The District continues to offer a variety of trades and skills options for students once again this year. SD54 is pleased to welcome Mr. Andrew de Boer to the position of Trades Coordinator.
- Superintendent van der Mark presented the school based initiatives report to the Board. HSS and TSE hosted a combined "campus" open house this past week. SSS hosted their meet the teacher night. WPS 's "Pie Night" will be held on September 20th. New this year, SSS is running a Basketball Leadership Academy for students in grades 9-11. This is a 4 credit course that may be used as an elective or PE Credit.

Field Trip Proposals

- SSS – 30 +/- Grade 9-12 Students from SSS to travel to Vancouver on Sept 19-23 to attend Bard on the Beach – Shakespeare Festival. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

Operations

- Secretary Treasurer Margerm reported that enrolment is showing a decline of 22 students versus the February 2016 projection. A final enrolment report will be provided to the Board of Education in October after the September 1701 has been completed.

6.a) COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ EDUCATION FORUM COMMITTEE

- Community Relations / Education Forum Committee Chairperson Hanson presented the Community Relations / Education Forum Committee's Report from the September 13, 2016 committee meeting.
 - Next Meeting Tuesday, October 4, 2016 @ 4:00pm.

6.b) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Operations Chairperson Williams presented the Operations Committee's Report from the September 13, 2016 committee meeting.

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

"The Board approves the 2016 – 2017 District Capital Plan as presented."

CARRIED

- Next Meeting Tuesday, October 4, 2016 @ 5:00pm.

6.c) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- On behalf of Policy Committee Chairperson Collingwood, presented the Policy Committee Report from the September 13, 2016 committee meeting.

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

"The Board approves the amended Policy # 6.310 – Tobacco and Vapour Products as outlined."

CARRIED

- Next Meeting Tuesday, October 4, 2016 @ 3:00pm.

6.d) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- There were no trustee reports this month.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- There was no unfinished business this month.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- 2015 – 2106 Draft Financial Statement

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

“That the Board approves the 2015 – 2016 Audited Financial Statements as presented. ”

CARRIED

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- There was no other business this month.

10. READING FILE

MOTION: *It was moved by Trustee J. Williams and seconded by Trustee L. 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 October 18, 2016 commencing at 7:00 pm at the School Board Office in Smithers.

12. ADJORNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.

Approved by Les Kearns, Chairperson
of the Board of Education

Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer



**SYNOPSIS
OF
IN-CAMERA MEETING
SCHOOL DISTRICT #54 (Bulkley Valley)
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00pm and the Board resolved to go in-camera.

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the In-Camera meeting minutes of June 21, 2016. There being none, the In-Camera meeting minutes of June 21, 2016 declared approved as presented by the Chairperson.
- Administration reported on routine staffing issues.
- The Operations Committee reported on a labour relations matter.
- The Reading File was received and filed.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:20pm.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

to the
Board of Education
October 18, 2016

Student Achievement

- **Intermediate Assessment Training** – Continuing the work with Fay Brownlie last year and the Early Primary Reading Assessment for k-grade 2 teachers, teachers in grades 3-7 classrooms across the district met on September 27 to learn and discuss effective assessment practices. The collaboration of teachers across the district is powerful and it is encouraging that teachers are willing to be a part of the same conversation, making their practice stronger and learning more powerful.
- **School Improvement Plans** - Schools have once again submitted their annual plan of improvement. Schools have considerable flexibility in developing their goal(s) providing the goal(s) support that overarching district goal of improving completion and success rates for all and specifically aboriginal students.
- **Ministry Connections with SD54** – Once again we are fortunate to have staff members working closely with the Ministry of Education. District Principal of Innovation and Technology, Matthew Monkman is working at a Provincial Innovation session in Vancouver this week. Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid is once again lending his insights to the BCSSA and the Aspiring Aboriginal Leaders Program. Superintendent van der Mark will be adding to his committee schedule by joining the newly established, Learning Advisory Board, under the leadership of Dianne Turner, Chief Education for BC.
- **Flu Season**—A reminder to parents that Flu Season is, or will be, upon us. Check Northern Health for more information and helpful information.
<http://www.northernhealth.ca/YourHealth/PublicHealth/InfluenzaInformation/InfluenzaVaccinationsandClinicListings/Northwest/Smithers.aspx>

INNOVATION / INITIATIVES

District Based Initiatives

- **October Education Forum** – As mentioned on the website, on October 20th the District, led by Superintendent van der Mark and Assistant Superintendent McDiarmid, will host a community discussion on the changing landscape of education. Please check the website for more information.
- **District Collaboration Weeks** – Building on the work of last year, teachers from across the district will be co-planning and presenting lessons for other professionals to observe. These sessions are an excellent learning tool for our teachers and a great way to recognize and celebrate some of the amazing talent we have at SD54.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

- **PLC/NOII** – SD54 will be hosting the Northwest Regional Network kick off on November 7th in Smithers. We will be joined by Network founders Dr. Linda Kaser and Dr. Judy Halbert as well as teachers from around the region to discuss invocation and inquiry in teaching and learning.

School Based Initiatives

- **Muheim District Soccer Tournament** – The Muheim soccer tournament took place on Saturday, September 24 with all elementary schools participating. The sportsmanship and community spirit were all amazing. Thank you to all staff (especially Muheim for hosting), coaches, and students for making this day a success.
- **Orange Shirt Day** – On September 30 School District Staff proudly wore their orange t-shirts to support “Orange Shirt Day” to help raise awareness of residential schools students and share the story of Phyllis Webstad.
- **Happenings Around the District** – District schools participated in the annual Terry Fox Run with some very creative fundraising ideas. The District cross country run took place on October 6th this year with all schools participating. Silverthorne Elementary is busy working on their all-grades musical production, with the final performance scheduled for mid-March. While Telkwa Elementary had the SQx Dance company to do an interactive dance session with the whole school. The student then performed their dance numbers for their parents. Fun was had by all! Telkwa students will also be participating in painting murals on boards that will surround the outdoor skating rink in Telkwa.
- **Remembrance Day Ceremonies** – Schools across the District will be hosting ceremonies on November 10th and we encourage stakeholders to contact their local schools for more information if they wish to attend.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **SSS – Six (6) +/-** Grade 9-11 Students from Smithers Secondary School will be travelling to Princeton, BC on October 19-24, 2016 to attend the BC Student Leadership Conference. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

Operations

- **Enrolment Update** - The September 30 '1701 snapshot' on enrollment reports showed the district enrollment to be 2012.625 FTE. This is down 63.375 FTE from the February projections.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

October 4th, 2016 4:00 PM 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 M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets:	

The meeting was conducted from 4:05-4:22 pm

REPORT

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."

1. Education Forum Update:

Mr. McDiarmid updated the committee on the scheduled October Education Forum. The forum will be held in Smithers on October 20th from 7-9 pm and in Houston November 3rd. The topic is 'Recent Changes in Education' which will include conversations concerning the new revisions to reporting and curriculum. This will provide an opportunity for parents and students to learn more about the recent changes, express concerns or ask questions.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: November 1st, 2016 @4:00pm

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

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
Regular

October 4th, 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, Facilities and Maintenance

The meeting was conducted from 5:01-5:47 pm

REPORT

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."

1. LIF & Ed Fund

Mr. van der Mark updated the committee on LIF & Ed Fund. The total funding of \$441,000 has to be divided 80% BCTF (\$350,000), 12.5% CUPE (\$55,000) and balance of 7.5% to be used as necessary. Better planning has allowed for allocation earlier in year; this would suggest that issues were addressed in spring. Mr. van der Mark will provide update at October Board meeting.

2. Communicating Student Learning Update

Mr. McDiarmid updated the committee on Communicating Student Learning. Four out of five elementary schools are participating in enhanced reporting methods. Both high schools are not participating. A new reporting order should be received from the Ministry soon. The reporting committee will advise the Board as to new policy required. If parent request letter grades, they will be provided by schools.

3. Calendar 2017-2018

Mr. van der Mark introduced the Draft 2017-2018 Calendar. Most immediate issue is the placement and duration of the spring break. Easter holidays fall early on March 30th and April 2nd, 2018. We know there is interest from some stakeholders for a 2 week break. The Board has established principles of minimizing impact on students and families, particularly for those where 3 or 4 additional days out of school create additional challenges. Discussions revolved around 'what is best for kids'. Simply adding minutes to the day does not mitigate the above concern, though it does ensure minimum instructional time legislation is met.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

4. Smithers Town Request for Trail Access

Mr. Margerm advised the Committee on questions or concerns that the school district may have with the Town of Smithers request for discussions on a community path through Smithers Secondary. It is recommended that Mr. Margerm draft a letter to the Town of Smithers requesting additional information relating to the Committee's questions and concerns before formal meetings are scheduled.

5. December Board Meeting Adjustment

Mr. Margerm advised the Committee that December 12th, 2016 is the most opportune day for the December Board meeting given school Christmas concert dates and other trustee obligations. *It is recommended that the December Board meeting be moved to Monday December 12th, 2016 at 7:00 pm.*

Date & Time of Next Meeting: November 1st, 2016 @ 5:00pm

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
Regular

October 4th, 2016

3:00 PM

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 3:04-4:05 pm

REPORT

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."

PREVIOUS MEETING OF September 13th, 2016

Policy	Description	Type	Status
6.310	Student Trustee Tobacco and Vapour Products	New Revision	In-Committee Approved

NEW BUSINESS

Policy	Description	Type	Consultation
4.380	Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity	Revision	Yes
	Water Testing	New	No
9.960	Course Fees For Non-Enrolling Students	Revision	Yes

1. Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (Policy 4.380)

Language concerning 'sexual orientation and gender identity or expression' consistent with Ministry directive will be inserted into Policy on Code of Conduct (Policy 6.380). The Committee also discussed the need to keep the scope of district policy broad rather than too specific. The Committee has asked Mr. McDiarmid to report back to the committee in November after the SOGI Summit (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) on October 25th,

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

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54 *(Bulkley Valley)*

2016 with recommendations for amending Policy 4.380 Gender Equity and Non Discrimination & Diversity and Policy 4.385 Bullying & Harassment. These recommendations are related to whether particular SOGI language is necessary in our current policy and what type of language would specifically be required. This committee may also want to re-evaluate how these policies are organized within a Board policy framework.

2. Water Testing

The Ministry of Education has developed and implemented policy outlining the need for districts to ensure water quality complies with Water Management Best Practices and Drinking Water Protection Act. Mr. Margerm will proceed with creating and enacting district regulations to meet the Ministry policy around evaluating water qualities in schools. This will not necessitate a district policy.

3. Course Fees for Non-Enrolling Students (Policy 9.960)

This current policy needs to be amended to become up-to-date with current practice. Mr. McDiarmid and Mr. Margerm will provide draft language around amending policy. Revised policy will take into account the following:

- Consider non-enrolling, non-funded, cross-enrolled and graduated students
- guidelines for fees that provide flexibility and choice
- leave decisions at school level
- conditions for acceptance
- consider implications to other post-secondary institutions
- Based on premise of creating equity for all students

Date & Time of Next Meeting: November 1st, 2016 @3:00pm

**BCSTA Northwest & Northern Interior Branch
Joint Fall Meeting
Terrace, BC, SD 82**

Firstly, I would like to both acknowledge and thank the Tsimshian people of Kitsumkalum, especially the Laxgibuu Clan on whose traditional territory this meeting took place.

The first order of business was a presentation from the Coast Mountain School District 82 on their Trades Programs. They formed a partnership with Northwest Community College in order to upgrade a former school which is now known as the Northwest Trades & Employment Training Centre located in Thornhill. They received 18.4 Million to Upgrade the Facility and 1.6 Million to purchase equipment from Industry. Much planning went into their Strategic Plan along with the Feasibility study that allowed them to develop and implement their Trades Training Program. The feasibility study identified the Trades Training needs and interests of the general student population. They are now looking at Phase II, which is a Dual Credit for Adult Learners to complete their Dogwood with a Trades Training Program. They are planning for the near future of Phase III – Consolidate local employers/industry and create partnership which is part of the employment planning stage.

The next exciting presentation was from another area of SD82, Hazelton Secondary School by Virginia Morgan, Language & Culture Teacher. She presented their "Back to the Land" Program. This program not only offers the local cultural teachings but also incorporates the ACE IT Program. She was excited to share how she was approved to build a smoke house that will be a valuable part of the cultural teachings within this program. The Program is open to multi-age, the students participate in an experimental and cooperative learning environment. The training fosters positive relationship building and team work. I was impressed to hear that 75% of the food in this program came directly from the land, wild salmon and moose meat along with vegetables from her garden. The main training camp is based on a Hunting trip, where the students not only learn how to hunt and respect the land, but also enjoy story telling around the camp fire. The combined activities is believed to combat the Racism that exist within the high school. Everyone is treated equally as Mrs. Morgan maximizes each opportunity to create meaningful connections and a sense of belonging amongst each other and with nature.

Each District provided their local reports on recent events and highlights. We received a BCSTA Board report and two items stood out for me, first being that BCSTA Board is now meeting with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) to further discuss the 11 Recommendations from the Auditor General's Report: An Audit of the Education of Aboriginal Students in the BC Public School Systems. It was reported that one District is taking the initiative to compare these recommendations to their District and evaluate how many of the recommendations they currently practice and evaluate other strategies they may be able to develop and implement related to these recommendations. As the Chair of the SD54 Aboriginal Education Committee, I will be providing the Summary of Recommendations for us to Review with the District Aboriginal Principal. I understand we are one of the Districts Leading the way in Aboriginal Education, however, we have much ground to cover in closing the gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal student outcomes.

Our BCSTA Regional meetings provide such valuable local knowledge and excellent opportunities to network. We are very fortunate to have such good learning opportunities. Thank you.

Awizah,

Priscilla Michell
Trustee





School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

Trustee Report

Northwest Branch and Northern Interior Meetings

Terrace, BC

September 23- 24, 2016

On September 23rd and 24th I travel to Terrace to attend our annual Branch meetings. There were multiple presentations mixed in with the business portions.

- CMSD82 Trades Program presentation: It is good to see other School Districts partnering with NWCC. SD82 and NWCC are now offering many trades to their students ranging from cosmetology to welding; there are options for almost everyone.
- CMSD82 Back to the Land Program: This presentation really caught my interest. This program is designed to get students back to their roots. They learn how to call moose, living and cooking outdoors and how to live by traditional ways. Virginia Morgan gave a wonderful presentation on this program.
- BCSTA report and update was given to inform us of up and coming issues and talked to us about current issues around the province.
- School District Round table: I always find this section interesting. I like to hear what is happening in all the other districts in our region.

I always come away from these meetings with a sense of pride in our School District knowing that what most schools district are just now implementing we have already been practicing.

Submitted by,
Trustee Jennifer Williams



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

Trustee Report

Northwest Branch and Northern Interior Meetings

Terrace, BC

September 23- 24, 2016

On Sept. 24/16, I attended the Joint Fall Meeting of the Northwest Branch and the Northern Interior Branch. This is the first time the two Branches have had a joint meeting in several years.

The program included the following events:

- A wonderful, traditional welcome performed by the Suwilaawks drum group, from the Suwilaawks Elementary School- the group not only drummed but sang traditional songs- one rousing song included participation from a very enthusiastic audience;
- A presentation of SD 82's Trades program- the presentation was done by the SD 82 Superintendent, the SD 82 Technical Skills Administrator, and the Northwest Community College President- the presentation included the past, the present, and the future with an emphasis on partnerships;
- A tour of the Northwest Trades and Employment Training Centre and a chance to play with some of the training equipment;
- A report on a very successful educational program (run out of Hazelton) entitled "Back to the Land" which encourages First Nations students to stay in school and also takes them back to the land to learn tradition survival skills;
- The Branch business meeting (minutes will be provided when they become available);
- The BCSTA report and update done by the 2 BCSTA Branch liaisons;
- The BCPSEA report done by the CEO and a consultant.

Respectfully submitted by,

Trustee Les Kearns



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

Trustee Report

Northwest Branch and Northern Interior Meetings Terrace, BC September 23- 24, 2016

On Friday September 23 and Saturday September 24 in Terrace, I had the opportunity to attend the BCSTA Joint Fall meeting of the Northwest and Northern Interior Branches Highlights of the meeting include the following.

-An opening performance from the Suwilaawks Drum Group (Suwillaawks Community School). A great opening to the Saturday meeting which included audience participation. Great performance which many felt was worthy of opening a provincial BCSTA event.

-After introductions a presentation from Coast Mountain School District Superintendent of Schools , Katherine McIntosh, along with Geoff McKay , District Technical Skills administrator and Ken Burt , President and CEO and President of Northwest Community College. They were presenting work on offering choice and community engagement in trades programs. Providing students with skills in demand in the Terrace and area community.

-Virginia Morgan Hazelton Secondary School Language and Culture Teacher with a presentation of her work in teaching a Back to the Land program. Offering young students firsthand experience in cultivating food and processing. It is a traditional all natural process that engages students to feel an appreciation for the land and traditional values.

-BCSTA update from Board of Directors Reps. Gloria Jackson and Donna Sargent. They provided insight in such areas as planning for the BC Election, Fall Provincial Council, Learning Forward 2016, CSBA 2017, along with Board of Director and Aboriginal Education Committee updates.

-BCPSEA update provided by Janet Stewart, Chief Administrative Officer and Georgina Johnson, Senior Labor Relations Contact. They discussed the plans leading up to the next round of negotiations. Including staff changes which include Georgians retirement, scheduled for next June.

-Lastly was the tabling of reports including administrative branch reports along with individual districts reporting on "What's happening in your district?" These reports provide great feedback on what's happening in member districts.

All in All much information gathered that will assist me as I attend the BCSTA Provincial Council October 28-29 in Vancouver.

Submitted by,

Trustee Frank Farrell