

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 54**  
*(Bulkley Valley)*

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**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 5:00 PM  
School Board Office

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<b>Members</b>	<b>Administration</b>
K. Martinsen, Chair Yaremco F. Farrell (ex officio) Guest: J. McIntosh	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent E. Hildebrandt, Director, Facilities and Maintenance
<b>Regrets:</b> P. Michell, L. Kearns	

The regular meeting convened at 6:35pm and continued to 7:25 pm.

**Operations Committee Regular Report**

**1. Early Thursday/ Instructional Time**

Mr. van der Mark updated committee on options around early Thursday and instructional time. The 2014-15 Calendar has been set with 2 week break. SD54 will ensure legislation regarding instructional time is met. District administration has yet to confirm what it will look like. On Tuesday, April 8, Mr. McDiarmid, Mr. van der Mark and Chair Kearns met with members of the BVTU to discuss 2 options. Second meeting with Mr. van der Mark, Mr. McDiarmid and Mr. Margerm also discussed proposals for early Thursday. No agreement around language for Thursday use. BVTU struggling with giving up any "autonomy".

OPTION 1: Extend Thursday

Need to add 20 mins. per Thursday to make up for 3 lost days due to 2 week Spring Break. Could simply extend day further to 3pm and remain within the Collective Agreement.

OPTION 2: Maintain a version of early Thursday

- add the 20 mins. as per above
- re-instate parameters/ expectation for use of time by staff
- collaboration
- admin purposes

District staff to continue working with BVTU to ensure professionalism and accountability for how the early dismissal time is used in a 1 year LOU.

**2. Draft Budget Bylaw & update**

Mr. Margerm provided presentation update. (attached)

1. Budget consultation period May 6<sup>th</sup> – June 17<sup>th</sup>
  2. **First reading** of 2014-2015 draft budget bylaw at May Board meeting.
  3. Public consultation meeting May Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm – SBO.
  4. **Second** and **third** reading of 2014-2015 draft budget bylaw in June 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
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### 3. Facility Planning: Covered multipurpose facility @ SSS

Mr. van der Mark initiated a conversation around athletic facilities continuing to be a pressing need for students and the community. We are unlikely to get a new gymnasium as part of our capital plan due to other more pressing issues. Senior staff has been exploring more effective and cost efficient approaches for the same goal.

Other capital needs and new arena limit, if not eliminate chances of second gym. We have been exploring other options, including examples of covered, multipurpose facilities that would provide year round access to our students and the wider communities. We are interested in moving from the idea stage to the vision stage by having Mr. Hildebrandt work with necessary parties to create visual "options" and "costs" from which we can look for interested parties to partner with SD#54.

Benefits of multi-use facility:

1. Increased indoor activity space for PE classes, sports teams, large open area facility for general use.
2. Extended athletic time and training season. Teams could train/practice for greater durations of year (start earlier-end later in year, or hours of day due to lighting).
3. Allow for increased maintenance of SSS field. Teams wanting to use fields at times when it may damage field.
4. Allow for greater community activities.

Recommend: **Authorize administration to investigate and initiate a feasibility study and explore the opportunity to build a covered multi-purpose facility at SSS.** The Board will be updated during the feasibility stage.

### 4. Joint Use agreement

Mr. van der Mark and Mr. Margerm updated committee on ongoing discussions with Town of Smithers. As a result of the two meetings held between the Town of Smithers and School District 54, it was decided to discuss:

1. The joint-use agreement
  - Currently, we allow the Town to organize recreational activities in our facilities. They use approximately 1,000 usage hours per year in SD54 facilities. SD54 uses approximately 230 hours of ice rink time for the hockey academies. Town Council is proposing to implement a user fee of \$76/hr for SD54 to use the arena next year.
  - Possibility of financial contribution to second sheet of ice
  - Discussion around a possible financial contribution towards supporting second ice facility in return for defined long term ice time for school district

#### Considerations:

- SD54 is primary user of the arena during the day (academies)
  - Joint use agreement largely a 'wash'
  - SD54 is expanding the hockey academy program to elementary (Gr. 6-7)
  - Increased need for specific ice times
  - Excellent opportunity for the two Boards to work together to enhance opportunities for youth
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- We would need to define terms of agreement in addition to joint use agreement and it would solidify the ability to gain extra ice time at arena.
- We could utilize capital surplus to support donation initiative

***Recommend: District administration put together a proposal for the Town of Smithers to contribute a specific amount of money provided there are considerations for long term arena use over and above current time benchmarks of the joint use agreement.***

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**Date & Time of Next Meeting: June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 @ 5:00pm**

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