

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

November 3rd, 2015

5:00PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
L. Collingwood, Chair P. Michell, Alternate J. Williams	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
L. Kearns (ex officio)	C. Whalen, Transportation & Custodial Supervisor
Regrets:	E. Hildebrandt, Director, Facilities and Maintenance

Meeting Time: 5:03 - 6:02 pm

REPORT

1. 2016-2017 Draft Calendar

Mr. van der Mark provided background information about spring break options in the 2016-2017 Draft Calendar. One version had spring break in 2nd full week in March 2017 and the other option had spring break in 3rd full week. The NID's would be negotiated between the Superintendent's Office and the BVTU.

Due to the late Easter in April (weekend of April 16th), the issue of 1 week vs. 2 week spring break arises again. Historically the District has attached the two week spring break to Easter with the loss of only 3 instructional days. Easter in late April would mean the loss of 5 days. The BVTU is currently surveying members to determine if there is interest to move 2 NID's into August which would result in loss of only 3 instructional days. BVTU must approve the 2 NID's outside the bookends as they are part of the Collective Agreement. Otherwise the loss of 5 days may be detrimental to CUPE staff and the historical Board practice of trying to keep students in school for the week.

Others questions raised were around the possibility that families may find it easier to plan travel during 2 week spring break rather than miss school or to plan for daycare providers. There may also be cost implications for Admin Savings Plan to employing CUPE for the extra week.

2. Routine Capital Funding Update & Capital Bylaw

Mr. Margerm updated the Committee that the School District will receive \$398,200 in funding for the Routine Capital Plan submission. This grant is meant to fund new DDC and air-handling systems at Telkwa and Silverthorne Elementary Schools to increase energy efficiency. The total project was \$663,600, and therefore, the District received 60% of the project funding. The state of subsequent 40% funding is has not been determined. For this

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

reason, Mr. Margerm has asked Mr. Hildebrandt to look into whether the District can renovate one school at a time rather than purchase all materials first and utilize the subsequent unsecured 40% for labour in next fiscal year. ***The Committee recommends that the Board approve the Routine Capital Bylaw for \$398,200 with three readings at the November Board Meeting.***

3. SBO Renovations Update

Mr. Margerm updated the Committee on the progress on the SBO renovations. Mr. Hildebrandt has hired contractors and plans to begin work on November 9th. The renovations will likely take place until Christmas break.

4. MyEd Update & Secondary Report Card Change

Mr. Margerm updated the Committee on progress of MyEd. The 1701 report has now been completed by Ms. Kerr and secondary report cards have to be extended by one week due to the MyEd downtime. Mr. Margerm thanked Ms. Kerr for all her work training in the spring, data conversion in August and her work with clerical in September in starting up the schools and the 1701 report.

5. Ms. Bryshun Letter: Walcott Rd. bussing letter

Mr. Margerm provided background for letter from Ms. Bryshun outlining her bussing request for services down Walcott Road. There are now 13 students on Walcott Road and on the other side of Walcott bridge. Ms. Whalen is working on a plan to provide service to Walcott Road, if possible. This is conditional upon the Highways Department maintaining the road in winter, and other routes being consolidated to provide the savings. These students and families are designated in the Community of Telkwa, yet historically this road has been in the catchment area of Houston. It is important to note that catchment areas are not necessarily enforced currently as students have the freedom to apply for any school.

6. Section 149, Meeting School Bus –Draft Letter

A draft of a letter has been prepared for the Attorney General & Minister of Justice to express the District's concerns over escalating vehicle infractions and safety with school busses. The draft letter also acknowledges a need for increasing the fines for school bus violations. ***The Committee recommends that the draft letter be accepted and sent to the Attorney General & Minister of Justice.***

Date & Time of Next Meeting: January 5th, 2016
