



# School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

## AGENDA REGULAR BOARD MEETING MAY 20, 2014

SILVERTHORNE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOUSTON, BC  
7:00PM

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Opening Remarks
- 3) Adoption of Agenda
- 4) Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes April 15, 2014  
Synopsis In-Camera Meeting April 15, 2014
- 5) Administration Report C. van der Mark Report Attached
- 6) Committee Reports
  - a) Community Relations / Education Forum Committee F. Farrell Report & Invitation Attached
  - b) Operations Committee P. Michell Report Attached
  - c) Policy Committee L. Collingwood Report Attached
  - d) Trustee Report L. Kearns Report Attached
  - e) Trustee Report F. Farrell Report Attached
- 7) Unfinished Business
- 8) New Business
  - 8.1) 2014 – 2015 Annual Draft Budget
- 9) Other Business
  - 9.1) Expenditure Summary – April 30, 2014
- 10) Reading File

Ltr Fr. Arctica Cunningham re: Thank you	Ltr Fr. CPF re: Invitation
Ltr Fr. SD 27 to Minister Fassbender re: Stability for Students	Ltr. Fr. SD38 to Minister Fassbender re: Capital Cost Sharing
Ltr.Fr. SD 39 to C. Clark re: Budget Shortfall	Ltr. Fr. SD46 to Minister Fassbender re: Capital Cost Sharing
Ltr Fr. SD52 to Minister Fassbender re: Funding	Ltr. Fr. SD52 to Minister Fassbender re: Literacy Coordination
Ltr.Fr. SD53 to Minister Fassbender re: Stability for Students	Ltr. Fr. SD61 to Minister Fassbender re: Seismic Project
Ltr Fr. SD63 – Saanich Press Release Seismic Upgrade	Ltr. Fr. SD61 to Minister Fassbender re: Funding
Ltr Fr. SD67 to Minister Fassbender re: Capital Funding	Ltr. Fr. SD70 to Minister Fassbender re: Co-governance
Ltr Fr. SD78 to Minister Fassbender re: Capital Funding	

- 11) Closing Remarks
- 12) Next Board Meeting will be held on June 17, 2014 at the School Board Office, in Smithers, BC, commencing at 7:00 p.m.
- 13) Adjournment

#### 14) 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 15, 2014  
MORICETOWN MULTI-PLEX, MORICETOWN, BC

**PRESENT:** Trustees: L. Kearns, F. Farrell, P. Michell, L. Collingwood, K. Martinsen, J. McIntosh, S. Yaremco  
Regrets: M. McDiarmid – Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Staff: C. van der Mark – Superintendent of Schools  
D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer  
B. Kingsmill – Recording Secretary

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm

**MOVED/SECONDED:** F. Farrell / S. Yaremco

*"That the Board meeting move In-Camera."*

CARRIED

- The Board returned to Regular session at 7:05pm.

**2. OPENING REMARKS**

- Chairperson Kearns thanked the Wet'suwet'en First Nation and Mr. Henry Alfred, Chief Ut'akgit for the opportunity for us to hold our meeting in their territory. Trustee Kearns welcomed our guest: Birdy Markert, District Principal Aboriginal Services. Mr. Kearns sent out congratulations to Kuri Daust who received a second place award at the Taiwan International Science Fair. HSS had their annual arts fair that highlighted the school projects in music and drama. Twain Sullivan had a careers day where Mr. Kearns was a presenter. Thank you to the Twain Sullivan staff for organizing careers day.

**3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOVED/SECONDED** J. McIntosh / F. Farrell

*"That the agenda be accepted as presented."*

CARRIED

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- The Chairperson asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of March 25, 2014; the Synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes March 25, 2014. There being none, the minutes of: March 25, 2014 and the Synopsis of the In-Camera Meeting minutes March 25, 2014 were declared approved as presented.

## 5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

### District Based Initiatives

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the district based initiatives to the board: The 2014 – 2015 staffing process is well underway. We have established a process that ensures that the allocation of staffing and resources is equitable, transparent, sustainable and student driven; 20 District Scholarships will be awarded this year, with the presentations being held the week of May 14<sup>th</sup>; Trustee Kearns encouraged trustee participation in the Dogwood presentations; Grade 4 feast was recently held. Mr. Cori Merriman brought three drummers from Lake Kathlyn. There is a series of Witsuwit'en videos available on our website. These videos brought back a lot of emotion for the Witsuwit'en peoples. The videos were compiled by Tyler McCreary. The Regional Science Fair was hosted at NWCC this past weekend; Ms. Brownlie returns to work with our teachers on April 28 and 29<sup>th</sup>; The April Education Forum will take place on April 30<sup>th</sup> and will be hosted by our District Trades Coordinator Monika Strimbold. The Ed Forum will be about our current plans for Ace-IT, the upcoming Yes 2IT elementary trades opportunity and our long term plans for trades in general; The PLC/NOII group of 30+ teachers met on April 7<sup>th</sup> where they completed their examination of John Hattie's, Visible Learning for Teachers the final meeting will be on May 22; SSS student, Nico Palumbo competed at the Provincial Skills Competition where he placed 4<sup>th</sup> out of 13! Superintendent van der Mark received an email from Mrs. Palumbo expressing what a great experience the Skills Canada competition was for her son.

### School Based Initiatives

- Superintendent van der Mark presented the school based initiatives to the Board: HSS recently held their Annual Arts Fair on April 11<sup>th</sup>, thanks to HSS staff for putting on the event; SSS Music program competed in Terrace where they produced some outstanding results.

### Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trip received approval by the Assistant Superintendent:
  - TSE – 20 +/- Grade 4 Students to travel to Prince Rupert and Ayanish for their class year end field trip on June 9 through June 13, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - SSS – 15 Grade 11/12 Aviation Students to travel to Everett Washington to learn more about the aviation field and career opportunities on June 2 through June 6, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - WPS – 19 Grade 4 Students to Travel to Fort St. James on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> for their year-end trip. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - LKS – 33 Grade 6/7 Students to travel to Takysie Lake for their year-end field trip on June 17 through June 20, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - SSS – 50 +/- Grade 8-12 Arts Academy Students to Travel to Prince George to attend Theater Northwest's production of "**Bemused**" on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - SSS – 20 +/- Grade 10-12 Outdoor Education Students to travel to the Babine Mountains Provincial Park for some back country camping and hiking during the period of April 10-12, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - SSS – 14 +/- Grade 10-12 Outdoor Education Students to travel to Nankia –Kidprice to take part in a wilderness canoe and camping trip during the period of May 22-25, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- The following field trip received approval *in-principle* by the Assistant Superintendent:
  - SSS – 8 +/- Grade 8-12 Students to travel Vancouver to attend the Aboriginal Youth Conference during the period of May 11 – 14, 2014.
- **China Mission** – Superintendent van der Mark displayed gifts he received from his recent trip to China. There were many highlights for Mr. van der Mark, Mr. McAulay and Mr. Fehr, but some of them were: The exchange program has some really neat opportunities for student exchange, personalization and twenty-first generation of learning; arts and drama looked like SD54 classes. They were very kind and gracious hosts.

**OPERATIONS:**

- Provincial Labour Update: Superintendent van der Mark provided an update on the Provincial Labour Dispute: Provincial bargaining is still ongoing, BCTF has done a strike vote and can give 72 hour strike notice anytime, when that happens, recess will be cancelled, the school day will start 15 minutes earlier. The bus schedules have been adjusted.

**6.a) COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ EDUCATION FORUM COMMITTEE**

- Trustee Farrell presented the invitation to the April Education Forum on the District Trades program.

**6.b) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Chairperson Michell presented the Operations Committee's Report from the April 1, 2014 meeting;
- Chairperson Kearns asked for unanimous consent to do all three readings tonight for Capital Bylaw # 126770 (2014 – 2015 AFG) . Unanimous consent was given.

**MOTION/ SECONDED** F. Farrell / L. Collingwood

***" The committee recommends that the Board give all 3 readings to the Capital Bylaw # 126770 (2014 – 2015 AFG)***

**CARRIED**

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**CAPITAL PROJECT BYLAW NO. 126770**

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. 126770 (2014-2015 AFG)**.

NOW THEREFORE the Board agrees to the following:

- (a) 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;
- (b) observe and comply with any rule, policy or regulation of the Minister as may be applicable to the Board or the Project; and,
- (c) 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.

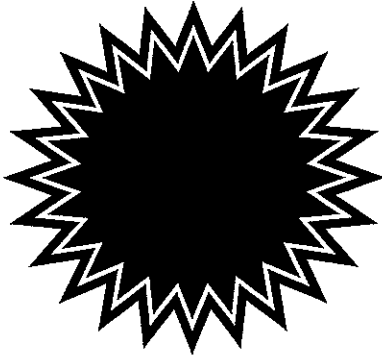
NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

1. The Capital Project of the Board approved by the Minister and specifying a maximum expenditure of **\$555,288** for Project No. **126770** is hereby adopted.
2. This Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 54 (Bulkley Valley) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126770

Read a first time the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

Read a second time the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

Read a third time, passed and adopted the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.



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. 126770 adopted by the Board the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Secretary-Treasurer

- **Facilities Review Update:** Current facilities that are currently under review are: School District #54 (Bulkley Valley) portables; Learner Support Centre; School Board Office; disposing of properties including Chandler Park, Quick Elementary and the Bulkley Valley Learning Centre.
- **High School Shop Grant :** Houston Secondary Shop has now been emptied and is starting to be renovated. School District #54 (Bulkley Valley) received a grant from the BC Construction Association in the amount of \$14,000 to assist with the HSS Project. (SD54 originally applied for a \$500,000 grant to go towards the HSS project.) Assistant Superintendent McDjarmid spoke with the BC Construction Association and ascertained that the original donation came from the Northern Gateway-Enbridge project. The trustees had a very frank discussion about accepting donations from a company engaged in controversial projects. Trustee Michell expressed to the Board that she really wants the Board members to think about accepting a donation from this company. She explained that the Northern Gateway Enbridge project plans to go through Witsuwit'en traditional territory and that the Witsuwit'en peoples still use these lands for traditional ways. Trustee Michell's house takes pride in bringing up younger generations in traditional ways. Superintendent van der Mark informed the Board that currently anyone can donate to the school district but the Board needs to address a bigger question, "How are we going to deal with donations? From industry or particular groups?" Trustee Yaremco provided some history on donations previously refused by the SD54 because there were "strings attached" to the donation. Mr. van der Mark added that a lot of public school districts deal with industry and questioned what exactly our ethical threshold is? Who would we accept a donation from? And Why? Trustee McIntosh reminded that Board that we have received grants and partnered with BC Hydro and PNG in the past and asked how does the Board go about drawing "the line"? Trustee Farrell commented that when you accept the gift from anybody, you accept their mantra. Trustee Farrell will vote no to this donation at this time. Review it on a case by case donation. We need to do the best for student learning. Trustee Kearns continued by saying if we looked back over the 20 years, cash or hamburgers – we have accepted a lot of things or money, and suggested this is an interesting conversation and it should be sent to the policy committee for future examination. But tonight's discussion is whether to deal with the donation or not. Mr. van der Mark added that we don't have to accept it or decline it at this point. There is a policy discussion with parameters. We don't have guiding principles as a Board. Trustee Kearns has asked if everyone was in favour to send to back to the policy committee. Mr. van der Mark reminded everyone that there is no response required at this time. Trustee Yaremco commented that when Policy Committee conducts their deliberations, she hopes the Policy Committee would look at who the donation is coming from. Trustee Farrell commented that if it comes up he is going to say "NO"; \$14,000 is not enough to buy us out. Trustee Kearns commented that he will vote the same as Trustee Farrell, and added that in the future it would be good to have a policy to fall back on.

- Town of Smithers Council – The trustees met with the Smithers Town Council to discuss the reciprocal use agreement, fees, facilities, organizational goals and current events. It was a very good meeting between both parties.
- Quick Plaque- The operations committee recommended that the Quick plaque remain with the SD54 for future display.

MOTION/SECOND P. Michell / F. Farrell

***"It is recommended that the plaque remain with the school district."***

CARRIED

**6.c) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

- Chairperson Collingwood presented the Policy Committee Report from the April 1, 2014 meeting: The committee continued their discussion on Policy #9.950 Student Choice and Policy # 11.140 Student Transportation. Secretary Treasurer Margerm reviewed the draft amended policies for the Board. Trustee Yaremco asked about removing Bus Rider Rules from the policy and questioned if there was ever a challenge and this policy has been removed. It has to be put in an administration manual somewhere. Secretary Treasurer Margerm responded to why the Bus Rider Rules were removed is due to if we wanted to change any we would have to go back to the policy committee i.e. cell phones. Mr. van der Mark agreed that those rules need to be somewhere else and there should be a line in the policy "a student shall a hear to bus ruled noted." Then we won't have to redo the policy again and again. Mr. Margerm suggested adding #5 "The rider shall follow bus rider rules."

MOTION/SECONDED L. Collingwood / J. McIntosh

***"Recommend that Policy 9.950 Student Choice and 11.140 Student Transportation be sent out for consultation to stakeholders."***

CARRIED

**6.d) TRUSTEE REPORT**

- There were no trustee reports submitted this month.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- There was no unfinished business.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- **8.1) Instructional Time** - Superintendent van der Mark informed the board that the 2014 – 2015 School Calendar has been set, and that SD54 we will meet the Ministry requirements for instructional time. Administration has met with BVTU and explained to them that recess is not instructional time. Administration is currently working with the BVTU to come up with a plan to make up instruction time lost due to the two week spring break: 1) Extend Thursdays or 2) Maintain a version of early Thursday and use that time for teacher collaborations, staff meetings etc. A one year Letter of Understanding would be issued. These two options are will be presented at the BVTU AGM. Trustee Kearns asked if there is a timeline to receive their decision. Mr. van der Mark is hoping to hear from the BVTU President directly following the AGM. Mr. van der Mark reminded the Board that we will need to add 20 minutes or we will be breaking the law. Trustee Kearns questioned what was best for the students and inquired what do the parents want? He has heard that parents want to get rid of early Thursdays. This has been put in the public portion of the board meeting to get feedback.

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 9.1) The March 31, 2014 expenditure summary was included in the Trustees Board Packages.

**10. READING FILE**

Ltr frm: VISTA to: P. Fassbender re: openStudent March 31, 2014 Enrollment Figures	Ltr frm: HSS re: Graduation Invitation
Ltr frm: Peter Cameron to J.lker re: BCTFStrike Action	Ltr frm: MME re: Concours D'Art Oratoire Invitation Regional Skills Gap Analysis Feb 27, 2014
Ltr frm: SD05 to C.Clark re: Bargaining and BCSC Ruling	Ltr frm: SD46 to P.Fassbender re: BCFT Bargaining
Ltr frm: SD57 to C. Clark and P. Fassbender re: Funding	Ltr frm: SD57 to P.Fassbender re: Stability for Students Action Plan
Ltr frm: SD71 to P. Fassbender re: Funding the BC Ed Plan	Ltr frm: SD71 to T.Stone; M.Corrigan; P.Fassbender re: BC Ferry Services
Village of Telkwa Volunteer Appreciation Invitation	

**MOVED/SECONDED:** J. McIntosh / L. Collingwood

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

CARRIED

**11. NEXT BOARD MEETING**

- The next regularly schedule School Board meeting will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 commencing at 7:00 pm at the Silverthorne Elementary School.

**12. ADJORNED**

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:39pm.

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Les Kearns  
Chairman of the Board of Education

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Dave Margerm  
Secretary Treasurer



SYNOPSIS  
OF  
IN-CAMERA MEETING  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #54 (Bulkley Valley)  
APRIL 15, 2014  
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE , SMITHERS , B.C.

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. and the Board resolved to go in-camera.

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the In-Camera meeting minutes of March 25, 2014. There being none, the In-Camera meeting minutes of March 25, 2014 declared approved as presented by the Chairperson.
- Administration reported on routine staffing issues.
- The Operations Committee reported on: Labour relations matters, real property issues and a proposed financial agreement.
- Administration also provided updated information on Labour relations matter and a legal issue.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:54 p.m.

# SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

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## REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

to the  
Board of Education

May 20, 2014

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### Student Achievement

- **District Scholarships** - This year's district scholarship presentations were held on May 12-14. Once again the presentations were excellent and were a great showcase of our student's talents and abilities. Thanks to the trustees who were able to sit on the panel.
- **Education Forum** - At the April Education Forum, Ms. Monica Strimbold (District Trades Coordinator) highlighted the opportunities and directions for trades training in SD#54.

### District Based Initiatives

- **LNG Conference** -- On May 22-23, students from across the district will be travelling to Vancouver to participate in a trades training conference to learn about pipefitting, scaffolding, crane operator, excavator and welder. Contact Ms. Monica Strimbold for more information.
- **Houston Secondary Shop Reno** – This project is fully underway and we are looking forward to the new options in the Fall. Thanks to Mr. Hildebrandt for his work on this.
- **Ready, Set, Learn** - On May 2 – 9<sup>th</sup> the district held it's Ready, Set, Learn events at our elementary schools. The sessions are for three and four year olds and their parents. The children participate in a number of activities set up by our staff and are also introduced to our schools and local community service providers. We have heard that the events were well attended with many connections made with our future students and parents.
- **Network of Inquiry and Innovation** - Educators and administration from SD54 joined others from around the province on May 2-3 to join a seminar led by Dr.'s Halbert and Kaser. SD#54 was well represented and proud to see how our work fits into the provincial and global framework of education. Dr. Halbert and Dr. Kaser will join the final meeting of the PLC/NOII group in Smithers on Thursday, May 22 and will then be part of the Network celebration at Walnut Park on Friday, May 23.
- **Faye Brownlie** - Ms. Brownlie wrapped up her final 2 day session with educators on April 21-22. Her 8 part series including general Pro-D and a specific teacher leadership group has been incredibly well attended and inspirational throughout this year. This year mentor teachers also took on the role of facilitator/presenters at multiple NID's and teacher leaders facilitated a day of co-planning and teaching with Faye at SSS on April 23. Thanks to Teresa Monkman and Jo-Anne Goble for their leadership on this project! We are looking forward to continuing our work with Faye next year. Ms. Brownlie also provided a session for support staff that was well attended and much appreciated!
- **District Initiatives (2014-15)** – We are pleased to announce that SD#54 will be working with **Faye Brownlie** as part of a 3 year leadership initiative. We are also pleased to be part of a provincial cohort of Districts that will continue working with **Dr. Stuart Shanker** with a focus on self-regulation. .

# SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

## School Based Initiatives

- **Graduation Ceremonies** – Graduation dates for Houston Secondary and Smithers Secondary are June 13<sup>th</sup> and June 21<sup>nd</sup>, respectively.
- **HSS/SSS Rugby**— Girls's Rugby and Boys' Rugby have had tremendous success and will be heading to the provincial championships!
- **SSS Soccer** – The Girls' Soccer Team is off to the provincial championships!
- **SSS Golf** – The Boys' Golf Team is off to the provincial championships!
- **SSS Drama**—Hosted their annual "Friday Night Live" this past week. Thanks to all the kids, volunteers, and of course Ms. Lytle and Mr. Saefkow for the great work!
- **French Language Awards**— Congratulations to several of our French language students. We had four students competing in this year's pan-provincial French public speaking competition, *Concours d'art oratoire* and one of the students, Emily Hoblely-McCosker from Smithers Secondary, finished in second place. The provincial finals were hosted Saturday, May 3rd at SFU Surrey.

## Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
  - **TES** – 22 Grade 5 & 6 students to travel to Ft. St. James for a historical learning day trip on June 11, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **HSS** – 6 Grade 11 & 12 students to travel to Bowron Lakes on May 29 to June 3, 2014 for a wilderness canoe excursion. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **HSS** – 22 Grade 11 students to travel to Vancouver on June 5 to June 10, 2014 for a Biology 11 Field trip on June 5 to June 10, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **TES** – 54 Grade 5-7 students to travel to Rough Acres Bible Camp for their year-end celebration on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **HSS**- 20 Grade 10-12 students to travel to Ayanish for a Science 10 and Outdoor Ed trip on June 11 to June 13, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **LKS** – 57 Grade K-5 students to travel to Rough Acres Bible Camp for their year-end celebration on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **MME** – 18 Grade 7 students to travel to Metlakatla Village for their year-end celebrations on June 1-5, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **MME** – 28 Grade 7 students to travel to Jo L'Orsa Cabin for their year-end celebrations on June 24-25, 2014
  - **SSS /HSS** – 146 Grade 9 SSS Students and 50 Grade 9 HSS Students to travel to Tyhee Lake to participate in a traditional ecological knowledge day on June 6, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **WPS** – 47 Grade 7 students to travel to Tyhee Lake for their year-end celebrations on June 18 -19, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **SSS** – 20 Students in Grades 10-12 to travel to Vancouver to participate in the LNG Conference on May 22-23, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
  - **WPS** – 114 Grade K-3 students to travel to Tyhee Lake for their year-end celebrations on June 24, 2014. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

# SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

*(Bulkley Valley)*

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- **BAA Application** – School district administration is seeking board approval for two proposed BAA courses. (Board Authorized Course)
  1. Basketball Skills and Leadership 11-12 is a new course and curriculum proposed by Smithers Secondary. The course will encourage learners to develop their basketball skills while learning coaching strategies, tactics, ethics and moral obligations required to promote and foster positive athletic learning environments.
  2. Philosophy 10-12 is a new course and curriculum proposed by Smithers Secondary. This course offers students the opportunity to gain critical thinking and debate skills by using the Socratic framework. It helps hone methods of thinking that encourage deep understanding of self and the world at large.

These courses add personalization and are consistent with the direction of BC Ed Plan and support students' ability to take courses that they are interested in. The courses have been reviewed and are compliant with all regulations and requirements set out in Ministry guidelines.



# *School District No. 54* (BULKLEY VALLEY)

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

## **Education Forum Report Wednesday, April 30, 2014**

On Wednesday April 30, 2014 the April Education Forum was held at the Walnut Park Training Centre. The focus of this Education Forum was the School District's expanding trades and skills training programs.

The session was led by our District Trades Coordinator, Monica Strimbold. She led us through the various options and programs available to our students. Ms. Strimbold also shared some of our long term plans for trades programs in general, (apprenticeships, careers programming, work experience) and went on to inform us about the upcoming plans for Ace-It programs, and the Yes 2IT elementary trades opportunity.

At the Forum we also heard from Smithers Secondary students and a teacher (Martin Courshesne) who recently competed at the Skills Canada contest in the culinary arts category. It was a great learning experience about the amount of preparation, effort and time the teachers and students put in to compete in these events.

This was a great session that was very informative to the many wonderful opportunities in trades and skills training that our students are doing now and will be doing in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Farrell  
Education Forum Chairperson



**School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)**

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

PO Box 758  
Smithers, BC \_\_\_\_\_  
V0J 2N0  
Ph (250) 877-6820  
Fax (250) 877-6835

May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**MAY 2014 EDUCATION FORUM**

Dear Education Forum Participant:

We would like to invite you, or a member from your organization, to participate in our Education Forum being held on ***Tuesday May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014.***

The focus of this Education Forum will be about "iPads in the Classroom", two of the School District's technology initiatives.

The use of tablet technology to support learning is a growing trend in classrooms around the globe. This year, two schools in SD54 applied for funds to support "iPads in the Classroom" initiatives. At the forum, we will hear from our teachers Cheryl Becker and Shirley White who will share their experiences as they have integrated this emerging technology into their classrooms at Telkwa Elementary and Smithers Secondary.

It will be a great learning experience about exciting new technologies for students and teachers in our district. Hope to see you there.

**May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 - 5pm @ School Board Office**  
**Please RSVP Bobbie Kingsmill at [bobbie.kingsmill@sd54.bc.ca](mailto:bobbie.kingsmill@sd54.bc.ca)**

Yours in education,

Chris A. van der Mark, Superintendent  
School District #54 (Bulkley Valley)

/bk

cc: Frank Farell, Chair – Education Forum

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

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

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

School Board Office

<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.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT 54 (Bulkley Valley)

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

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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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**SCHOOL DISTRICT 54**  
(Bulkley Valley)

**Minutes**

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

3:00 PM

School Board Office

<b>Members</b>	<b>Administration</b>
L. Collingwood, Chair J. McIntosh (Alternate) F. Farrell (ex officio)	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
<b>Regrets:</b> L. Kearns	

The regular meeting convened at 3:00 pm and continued to 4:34 pm.

**REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014**

Policy	Description	Type	Status
11.140	Student Transportation	Revision	Public Consultation
9.950	Student Choice	Revision	Public Consultation
	Student Trustee	New	Tabled
1.150	Standing Committees	Revision	In-committee
1.1525	Education Forum	Deletion	In-committee

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Corporate Donations**

**Policy 6.420 Voluntary Donations to Public Education Programs**

Committee reviewed Policy 6.420. Committee agreed that the policy is good in current condition, but may need extra language to do with politically sensitive or controversial donations are made to school district.

Considerations:

- If the company wants to make donation then district should take donation to put towards children?
- What is the process? Board approval?
- SD has been accepting donations for quite some time without questioning source of money. Could we really find the true corporate source of a donation? If we cannot find source of donation, do we accept it?
- What do other policies have to say on sensitive or controversial donations?
- What companies are controversial or politically sensitive?
- Should the amount matter, whether small or large? Thresholds?

**Recommendation:** *Table this discussion to next committee meeting and have Mr. Margerm look into other Board's policy around controversial or politically correct donations.*

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

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

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2. Standing Committee and Education Forum Policy  
Policy 1.150 & 1.1525

***Recommendation: Committee recommends that the 2 policies go to the Board with Mr. van der Mark's changes in order to delete policy 1.1525 and amend policy 1.150.***

**C. Date & Time of Next Meeting: June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014**

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



# *School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)*

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

## **Trustee Report**

**BCSTA Annual General Meeting**

**April 24-27, 2014**

On the weekend of April 24<sup>th</sup>, I attended the 110<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the British Columbia School Trustees Association in Vancouver.

The opening plenary speaker was Mr. Sean Slade, who is a director for the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), which is a global educational leadership organization, based in the United States. Mr. Slade's presentation focussed on a shift from a purely academic focus to a "whole child" approach that encompasses all factors required for successful student outcomes. It was reassuring to know that this is already part of our District's vision.

Lunch time events included some remarkable student music presentations and presentations by both BCTF president, Mr. Jim Iker and Minister of Education, Mr. Peter Fassbender (very interesting).

The pro-d component of the weekend enabled us to choose 2 professional development workshops. Both my choices involved new schools that are attempting to provide a more personalized approach to student learning. The 2 workshops were entitled "The Enquiry Hub: A Journey in Personalized Learning, Blended Instruction, and Inquiry" (Coquitlam) and "E.N.T.E.R.: Ecademy of New Technology, Engineering, and Robotics" (Comox Valley). It was fascinating to see some of the innovative changes that are occurring across our province.

The majority of our time was spent electing our new BCSTA executive and passing or defeating over 30 motions, put on the floor. If you have an interest in the workings of the BCSTA, please feel free to check out their website.

Respectfully submitted by:

Les Kearns  
Chairperson of the Board of Education  
School District #54 (Bulkley Valley)



**Trustee Report**  
**BCSTA Annual General Meeting**  
**April 24-27, 2014**

The 2014 BCSTA Annual General Meeting – Shinning the spotlight on student success was held at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver April 24-27 2014. It offered a glimpse on student success as a byproduct of a marriage of enthusiastic teachers and support staff with innovative programs that are inclusive to all students. Moreover the AGM offered a regular business session that included executive elections, motions to the floor and public addresses from government and stakeholders.

To begin, on the afternoon of the 24<sup>th</sup>, I attended the optional session of municipal elections which offered insight not only on the new guidelines from Elections BC, but also the thought process that takes place when determining ones candidacy for re-election. Amongst the speakers was Charley Beresford of the Columbia institute and Former Liberal Education Minister George Abbott. Great insight into the new processes for filing papers along with strategies to reaching the electorate in order to bring out a clearer message to the voter. All in all much needed as we all need pointers in reaching out to the public in consultation on the issues of the day.

The opening speaker of the AGM was Sean Slade, Director of the Whole Child Programs Association for Supervision and Curriculum, ASCD. He offered meaningful insight into the need of helping the whole child to develop before one can educate the child. The quote he used was great in that he states” We need to find out what kind of society we want and plan our education system to meet it.”

The Friday and Saturday sessions were filled with activity that included a number of individual breakout sessions where focus was on select districts initiatives in learning. One such district (SD 71 Comox Valley) offered a program called E.N.T.E.R: ECADEMY OF NEW TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND ROBOTICS. Two great educators Principal Jeff Stewart and Teacher Roger Vernon started a program where students can learn at their own pace and create engineering feats like miniature robots and electronic components. This student engaging work is able to bring students together collaboratively and offer personalized learning to help students work at their own pace and entice parental involvement. It was a great presentation and it helps immensely when the educators and administration are passionately glowing about the success and yes even pitfalls to be encountered. All in all the sessions showcase what public education in BC is all about.

Moreover the days centered on the Executive elections that brought both stability and fresh directors to the BCSTA. President Theresa Rezanoff and Vice President Gordon Swan were reelected by acclamation. Returning Directors include Valerie Adrian, and Corky Neufeld. New Trustees to the executive board include, Christine Younghusband, Donna Sargent, and former BCPSEA Director Alan Schell.

The business session included the debating and discussion of motions to the floor that could be used to lobby on behalf of education. A plethora of motions passed including increased attention and funding to areas of special needs, aboriginal learning and trades training. Moreover, a motion passed that offered the framework for individual districts the option of enacting a Student Trustee to their board.

Two notable addresses were both Education Minister Peter Fassbender on Friday and Education Critic Rob Flemming on Saturday. Both discussed educational considerations and priorities. While Minister Fassbender offered a peak into considerations for education he also warned of the provinces fiscal climate with regard to its credit rating and fiscal imbalance. I addressed the floor and wished him the best as an advocate for education at the cabinet table. My trouble that his remarks about the fiscal imbalance might needlessly shortchange students

was noted in my question to the minister. Education needs to reflect an investment in the future in which learners will have a working climate and structure far different than we presently face. That certainly needs to be addressed to its fullest attention.

In conclusion the event offered a great vantage point to where the province as a whole is heading in regards to educational direction. We have great leadership in our educational community that is instructing, guiding and moving young learners towards a new economy in great success. Our never-ending goal and mandate is to ensure that attention to the real needs of education must continue and advocacy partnered with educational stewardship will continue on.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank Farrell  
Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Education  
School District 54 (Bulkley Valley)