



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

AGENDA REGULAR BOARD MEETING JUNE 27, 2023 SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS, B.C. 7:00PM

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Traditional Welcome / Opening Remarks
- 3) Adoption of Agenda
- 4) Delegation: Bulkley Valley Teachers' Union
- 5) Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes – May 30, 2023
Synopsis In-Camera Meeting – May 30, 2023
- 6) Administration Report M. McDiarmid Report Attached
- 7) Committee Reports:
 - a) Operations Committee L. Kearns Report Attached
 - b) Policy Committee F. Farrell Report Attached
 - c) Trustee Reports F. Krishan Report Attached
- 8) Unfinished Business
- 9) New Business
 - 9.1) District Strategic Plan Review
- 10) Other Business
 - 10.1) Expenditure Summary
- 11) Reading File
- 12) Closing Remarks –Next regular Board Meeting will be held on September 26, 2023 at the School Board Office in Smithers, B.C., commencing at 7:00 p.m.
- 13) Adjournment
- 14) Public Remarks**

NOTES:

****Public Remarks:** Just a reminder to everyone that this portion of the meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for members of the public to make comments to the Board. Public remarks must be relevant to items on the approved board agenda. The Board will listen respectfully to comments but not respond to questions during this time.

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. (Board Policy # 1.190)

<https://www.sd54.bc.ca/board-policy-handbook/>



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (Bulkley Valley)
MAY 30, 2023
HOUSTON SECONDARY SCHOOL, HOUSTON B.C.**

PRESENT: Trustees: F. Farrell, J. Williams, K. Graham, J. Krauskopf, P. Michell

Trustee Regrets: L. Kearns, F. Krishan

Staff: M. McDiarmid – Superintendent
M. Monkman – Assistant Superintendent / Recording Secretary
D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer
B. Kingsmill – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 6:53pm.

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 Laksilyu, Small-Frog Clan.
- In Chairperson Williams's opening remarks, she highlighted her attendance in Witsset the previous week where she attended the Witsuwit'en 101 and 102 professional development day. She noticed there were a lot of SD54 staff, community members and foster parents present as well. It was very well attended and she hopes the organizers put on another professional development session again next year. Along with Trustee Farrell and Krishan, Chairperson Williams's also attended the SSS pride celebrations and she remarked that it was great to see such a large turn out!
- Chairperson Williams welcomed everyone present. Trustee Kearns and Trustee Krishan sent their regrets

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: *It was moved by Trustee Michell 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 April 25, 2023 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of April 25, 2023. There being none, the regular meeting minutes of April 25, 2023 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of April 25, 2023 were declared approved as presented.

5. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the district update to the Board. Mr. Dinty Moore has been chosen as the "2023 Driver of the Year" by the Association of School Transportation Services of BC. (ASTSBC) Congratulations Dinty !
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the District -based initiatives to the Board. District Elementary Track meet will be held on June 9th at the SSS Track. The NOIE conference was held in Richmond in May, where one teacher from each school was sponsored by the District to attend. Our very own Jana Fox was one of the main organizers of this provincial event. The District Authority Scholarship presentations were held during the week of May 16th. Once again, our students amaze the panel with their talents and thoughtful presentations. The District will be organizing another celebration of learning this year on June 12. The SSS Fine Arts Program held the annual Big Band fundraiser dance at the curling club. The Drama students also held a fundraiser which feathered a one act play and a musical performance. The District is also currently working on the staffing for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the School -based initiatives to the Board. Graduation ceremonies will take place on June 16 at HSS and June 22 at SSS. Pride Day was celebrated at SSS on May 26th. HSS/ Twain have been busy, hosting an Industry Day, and all the spring sports are well underway. Telkwa Elementary hosted a three-day Outdoor Learning Workshop and a family fun night. WPS held their school track meet last week, and hosted Rob Stiles where he introduced Wheelchair Basket Ball to the students. The school is also preparing for a number of field trips to celebrate the end of school for another year. At MME Mr. Gagnon's grade 3 class performed a play for the entire school community and their also held a community career day.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **SSS** – 15 Theatre students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to Vancouver, BC to take part in the National Theatre School Provincial Drama Festival between May 3 & 8, 2023. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **WPS** – 50 +/- Grade 7 students from Walnut Park Elementary to travel to Rock Nest Ranch on June 15/16 to participate in the grade 7-year end celebrations, community building, health and physical fitness. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **HSS** –Outdoor Education students Houston Secondary have five trips planned for the second semester (please see below). The purpose of these trips is to support the outdoor education curriculum. All Board requirements have been met for these trips.

Excursion Date	Destination	Purpose	# of Students
May 24, 2023	Mt. Harry Davis	Mountain Biking and Hiking	23
May 25-26, 2023	'Ksan	Driving Bulkley River Tour	40
June 6, 2023	Rock Nest Ranch	Canoeing	23
June 14, 2023	Rock Nest Ranch	Canoeing	23
June 21-25, 2023	Nanika Kid Price	Overnight camping & Canoeing	20

- **HSS** – 75 grade 8-12 students from Houston Secondary School to travel to Krager Lake, BC on June 7th. (revised date) The purpose of this trip to part in an experimental education day. Activities include: rock climbing; canoeing; mountain biking and hiking. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

- **SSS – 47 +/-** Grade 8-10 track students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to Prince Rupert, BC on May 26-27, 2023 to participate in the North West Zones Track and Field event. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- **SSS – 40 +/-** Grade 9-12 senior concert band, musical theatre, junior concert band students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to Prince Rupert, BC on June 9-11, 2023 to participate in the annual Seafest Parade . All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

Operations

- Secretary Treasurer Margerm presented the Operations update to the board: The District has ordered a second white fleet bus for medium to long distance travel. This purchase is helping with an aging minibus fleet and demand for greater curricular and non-curricular travel. An electric ride-on mower, push mower, and grass trimmers have been purchased by the District as part of environmental portion of the District Strategic Plan. Maintenance is currently trying to work on field conditioning, but breaks in aquatic systems has been a challenge. The Silverthorne Elementary HVAC project is progressing with installation of multi-stage heat pumps. Telkwa Elementary phase II is in progress with engineered drawings and contractors. Phase II consists of upgrading building envelope, new siding and adding more new windows. The front entrance is being designed for an expansion with new doors, reception area, clerical space and administrator office. Staff room and kitchen canteen will be renovated and new staff and student washroom systems have been designed. Maintenance is also working out design for new HVAC system at same time for installation in 2024.

6.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Operations Committee Vice Chairperson Michell informed that board that one item has been moved to the "Unfinished Business" portion of this meeting that was dealt with in the May operations committee meeting.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, June 13th, 2023 @ 5:00pm.

6.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- Policy Committee Chairperson Farrell presented the Policy Committee's Report from the May 9th, 2023 committee meeting.

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- Policy 9.700 Weapons at School – The committee recommended that the draft Policy 9.70 Weapons at School be approved as outlined.

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

"That the Board approve the draft Policy 9.700 Weapons at School as outlined. "

CARRIED

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- Policy 6.480 Partial Credit – The committee recommended that Policy 6.480 Partial Credit be deleted.

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

"That the Board approve the deletion of Policy 6.480 Partial Credit. "

CARRIED

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- Next meeting date Tuesday, June 13th, 2023 @ 4:00pm.

6.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- There were five Trustee Reports this month. Trustees reported on their trip to the BCSTA AGM in April. Trustee Farrell expanded on his report and spoke about the Provincial Council meeting he also took part in.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **7.1) Draft 2023 - 2024 Annual Budget Bylaw:** The Operations Committee recommended that the Board proceed with the third reading of the Draft 2023-2024 Annual Budget Bylaw.
- Secretary Treasurer Margerm presented the draft 2023- 2024 Annual Budget a report to the Board.

MOTION: *It was moved by Trustee Krauskopf and seconded by Trustee Graham.*

“That the Board proceed with the third reading of the 2023 - 2024 Annual Budget Bylaw.”

CARRIED

8. NEW BUSINESS

- There was no New Business this month.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- The May expenditure summary was provided to the Trustees in their board packages.

10. READING FILE

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

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

CARRIED

11. CLOSING REMARKS

- The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the School Board Office in Smithers, BC.

12. ADJOURNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Approved by:

Ms. Jennifer Williams, Chairperson
of the Board of Education

Mr. Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer



**SYNOPSIS OF THE
IN - CAMERA MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (*Bulkley Valley*)
MAY 30, 2023
HOUSTON SECONDARY SCHOOL, HOUSTON, BC**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:09 pm and the Board resolved to go in-camera.

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the in-camera meeting minutes of April 25, 2023. There being none, the in-camera meeting minutes of April 25 2023 was declared approved as presented by the Chairperson.
- Senior Administration reported on routine staffing items, a labour relations matter and a legal matter.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:14pm.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

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REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

to the
Board of Education
June 27, 2023

District Update

- **Teacher Staffing Update** – Despite ongoing recruitment efforts, SD54 will enter the summer with positions to fill at most schools. If positions are not filled, this could potentially alter school programming. The District will continue recruitment efforts throughout the summer.
- **Welcome to Kindergarten** – The annual school welcoming program has been occurring at Elementary schools over the last few weeks.
- On Monday, June 12th, Denise Augustine, Superintendent of Indigenous Education with the Ministry of Education, visited the district. The senior staff took Ms. Augustine to Houston to tour Houston Secondary where she was able to view the full and active lunch program with Twain Sullivan students filling the foyer. They stopped at Silverthorne to see the daycare renovation before coming back to Smithers where Ms. Augustine joined in viewing the teacher presentations of their PLC learning and took part in the barbeque that followed. Ms. Augustine indicated she was impressed with the positive work done to support students in the district and the number of teachers involved in an optional learning evening.

Innovation / Initiatives

District Based Initiatives

- **Bulkley Valley Professional Learning Community**- Once again the District arranged to bring together educators who received an Innovation Grant to do a short presentation for their peers at the Della Herman Theater. The event is a wind up gathering for the PLC group that had been meeting throughout the year. There were approximately 50 educators in attendance at this fantastic learning opportunity.
- **Community Recruitment meeting**- Recently the District participated in a meeting hosted by the Town of Smithers that involved several community agencies. Recruitment of qualified staff is a community wide problem and there may be some advantages to work collectively on the issue. The District will continue to work with this group as recruitment remains the District's highest priority.

School Based Initiatives

- **Houston Secondary Grad**- The Houston Secondary graduation ceremony was held on Friday June 16th. The ceremony was excellent and there were many positive comments from the happy parents and students that attended.

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- **SSS Time Capsule** – A Bentwood Box Time Capsule originally “buried” at Chandler Park School in the year 2000 was opened on last June at Smithers Secondary. During the month of May of this year, students, staff and community members had an opportunity to contribute to the Time Capsule. On June 21st, while celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day, the Time Capsule was closed until 2038.
- **Smithers Secondary Grad** – The ceremony was held on Thursday June 22th. This year’s event was arranged a little differently than last year, with the ceremony held in the decorated school gym with families in the audience. The ceremony was also live streamed so many people could watch the celebrations. Thanks to the maintenance department for all of their hard work getting the gym ready.

School Wind Up Activities

- **Telkwa Elementary** - June 15 – was a very busy Welcome to Kindergarten day. It was extremely helpful to see these little guys prior to actually entering in the fall.
On June 21 we celebrated an amazing National Indigenous Day. We started the day with an assembly and oral story. Then students set off on an Indigenous-focused scavenger hunt that took them through the community. When back at school we had bannock and tea and completed some birch bark art.
June 27 – Lake Day at Tyhee Lake
June 28 – Water Fun with the Telkwa Fire Truck
June 29 – Year End assembly & grade 7 farewell
- **Muheim Elementary**- We would like to acknowledge Ms. Richardson's efforts in planning and organizing Muheim's Indigenous Peoples Day celebration. We met as a whole school in the gym for a welcoming drum song, land acknowledgement, class performance, storytelling from Mr. Basil and a visit from Ms. Palmer. Students spent the rest of their day outdoors participating in a variety of activities: a stick game, painting rocks, art and drumming with Sarah Beaubien. Ms. Richardson organized a door decorating contest between our classes as well. Many teachers, a few parents as well as large groups of intermediate students took part to support the leadership pieces of this event.
- **Walnut Park Elementary**- For Indigenous Peoples Day, we had Travis Hebert come in, a local hip hop artist. He did an assembly and performance with our school. Millie Gunanoot had someone make Bannock that was brought in and served to each class. We had a school wide colouring contest that was very successful and we had an assembly with our drummers and the unveiling of Ms. Gunanoot’s grade 7 legacy project.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **SSS** – 16 +/- Grade 8-9 students from SSS to travel to Tyhee Lake on June 15, 2023. The purpose of this trip is to take part in the Grade 8-9 year-end celebrations, outdoor education, community building and health and physical fitness. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SSS** – 4 +/- Grade 10-12 students from SSS to travel to Terrace, BC on June 1, 2023. The purpose of this trip is to take part in a tour of the Coast Mountain College campus. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

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- **SIL** – 42 +/- Grade 3 Students from Silverthorne Elementary to travel to Radley Beach in Burns Lake, BC on June 27, 2023. The purpose of this trip is to hold an end of year transition celebration. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- **TES** – 42 +/- Kindergarten – Grade 7 students from Telkwa Elementary to travel up to Tyhee Lake on June 27, 2023. The purpose of this trip is to take part in the year end celebration. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

The following field trip requires approval by the Board of Education:

- **SSS** – 21 +/- Grade 10-12 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to Vancouver on Sept 11 - 18, 2023 to take part in Bard on the Beach – Shakespeare Festival. The purpose of this trip is to participate in live professional theatre and workshops. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

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(Bulkley Valley)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

June 13th, 2023

5:00 PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
L. Kearns, Chair P. Michell, Alternate F. Krishan J. Williams (ex officio)	M. McDiarmid, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. Monkman, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets	

The meeting was conducted from 5:01-5:12: pm

Acknowledgement: *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."*

REPORT

1. District Strategic Plan Review

Mr. McDiarmid advised the Committee that he is working on the strategic plan update and will present it at the June board meeting.

2. 2024-2025 Capital Plan Resolutions

Mr. Margerm presented the major and minor capital plan submissions for the Ministry as presented. This included no submissions under major capital and project submissions for minor capital: two carbon neutral, three school enhancement, one playground and two new buses.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: September 12th, 2023.

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POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 13th, 2023

4:00 PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
F. Farrell, Chair J. Krauskopf, Alternate K. Graham J. Williams (ex officio)	M. McDiarmid, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. Monkman, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets	

The meeting was conducted from 4:02 – 4:15 pm.

Acknowledgement: *“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.”*

REPORT

PREVIOUS MEETING OF May 9th, 2023

Policy	Description	Type	Status	Consultation
9.700	Weapons at School	Revision	In-committee	Yes
9.960	Course Fees for Non-enrolling Students	Revision	In-committee	Yes
6.480	Partial Credit	Deletion	In-committee	No

NEW BUSINESS

Policy	Description	Type	Status	Consultation
9.960	Course Fees for Non-enrolling Students	Revision	In-committee	Yes

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

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9.960 Course Fees for Non-enrolling Students

Given the increase in non-enrolling students that are applying to access district resources, there is a need to address proper protocols through policy. Given that there are special education implications, Ms. Miller had provided some input into the policy.

Motion: Committee recommends the Board accept the draft revisions of Policy 9.960 Course Fees for Non-enrolling Students and that the draft policy to be sent out for stakeholder consultation prior to final approval.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: September 12th, 2023.



TRUSTEE REPORT
SSS PRIDE CELEBRATION
May 26, 2023

I am writing to express my utmost appreciation for the recent SSS Pride event that took place at Smithers Secondary School on May 26, during the SSS lunch break. As a concerned member of our community and a witness to the positive impact of this event, I feel compelled to share my experience and highlight the exceptional work of Perry Rath in making the SSS Pride event a tremendous success. The SSS Pride event held at our school on May 26 was an outstanding display of inclusivity, respect, and acceptance. It provided a safe and empowering space for all students to celebrate their unique identities and fostered a sense of unity within our diverse student body.

I would like to specifically acknowledge the remarkable contributions of Perry Rath, who played an instrumental role in organizing and executing this meaningful event. Perry's dedication, creativity, and tireless efforts were evident throughout the entire process, making SSS Pride a resounding success. Perry went above and beyond to ensure that all students felt seen, heard, and valued, creating an atmosphere of acceptance and support.

Moreover, I would like to commend the collaborative efforts of the Youth Action - Youth for a Better World/Green Team and the Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA) in organizing and supporting the SSS Pride event. These groups played an integral role in promoting inclusivity and advocating for the rights and well-being of all students. Their commitment to fostering a supportive environment deserves recognition and appreciation.

I believe it is vital for our school district to recognize and celebrate initiatives like the SSS Pride event. The impact it had on the students and the community is immeasurable, and it reinforces the values of acceptance, respect, and diversity that we strive to uphold.

I kindly request that you take the time to acknowledge the exceptional work of Perry Rath, as well as the collaborative efforts of the Youth Action - Youth For a Better World/Green Team and the Gender-Sexuality Alliance (GSA) in supporting this event held during the SSS lunch break. Recognizing their contributions would not only serve as an encouragement to continue fostering an inclusive environment but also inspire other educators and students to embrace diversity and promote positive change.

I hope you will join me in commending the remarkable work of Perry Rath and the groups involved in the SSS Pride. Together, we can continue to create a safe, inclusive, and empowering educational environment for all students.

Sincerely,

Floyd Krishan
Trustee