



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (*Bulkley Valley*)
DECEMBER 12, 2023
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.**

PRESENT: Trustees: L. Kearns, F. Krishan, K. Graham, J. Krauskopf, F. Farrell, P. Michell

Via Conference Call: J. Williams

Staff: M. McDiarmid – Superintendent
M. Monkman – Assistant Superintendent
J. Fox – Assistant Superintendent
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

- Vice - Chairperson Trustee Kearns acknowledged that we are gathered on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Gidmt'en – Bear Wolf Clan.
- Vice Chairperson Kearns welcomed everyone present and commented that this will be the last meeting of 2023 and how time flies.
- Vice Chairperson Kearns then handed the meeting over to Secretary Treasurer Margerm

3. BOARD ELECTIONS

- Secretary Treasurer Dave Margerm explained the Board Election as per Board Policy 1.160 Annual Board Elections.
- Mr. Margerm requested a motion to appoint Mr. McDiarmid and Mr. Monkman as scrutineers for the election proceedings.

MOTION: It was moved by Trustee Michell and seconded by Trustee Graham.

"That Mr. McDiarmid and Mr. Monkman be named as scrutineers."

CARRIED

- **ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**
 - Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Williams.
 - Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chairperson and called for nominations.
 - Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time.
 - Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
 - Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Williams was elected the Chairperson by acclamation.

- **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**
 - Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Kearns.
 - Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice - Chairperson and called for nominations.
 - Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time.
 - Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
 - Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Kearns was elected the Vice - Chairperson by acclamation.

- **ELECTION OF BCPSEA REPRESENTATIVE**
 - Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Kearns and Trustee Williams.
 - Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of BCPSEA Representative, and called for nominations.
 - Trustee Williams withdrew her expression of interest.
 - Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time.
 - Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
 - Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Kearns was elected to the position of BCPSEA Representative by acclamation

- **ELECTION OF BCSTA PROVINCIAL COUNCILOR**
 - Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trustee Farrell.
 - Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of BCSTA Provincial Councilor, and called for nominations.
 - Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time.
 - Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
 - Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Farrell was elected the BCSTA Provincial Councilor by acclamation.

- **ELECTION OF INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**
 - Mr. Margerm informed the Board that expression of interest was received from Trust Graham Trustee Farrell.
 - Trustee Farrell withdrew his expression of interest.
 - Mr. Margerm opened the floor for nominations for the position of Indigenous Education Council Representative, and called for nominations.
 - Mr. Margerm called for nominations a second time.
 - Mr. Margerm then called for further nominations a third and last time, and hearing none declared the nominations closed.
 - Mr. Margerm announced that Trustee Graham was elected the Indigenous Education Council representative by acclamation.

- Trustee Kearns assumed the Vice Chairperson as Presiding Officer.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

"That the agenda be accepted as presented."

CARRIED

5. DELEGATION – Ms. Tanya Davidson requested for a demonstration of support for SOGI staff and students from the Board of Education.

6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- The Chairperson asked if there were any corrections to the regular meeting minutes of November 28, 2023 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of November 28, 2023. There being none, the regular meeting minutes of November 28, 2023 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of November 28, 2023 were declared approved as presented.

7. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent McDiarmid presented activities happening around the district to the Board. 2024 Kindergarten registration will take place the week of January 15-19, 2024 at all District Elementary Schools. Carolfest took place on December 6th. A great way to start off the holiday season! The redesigned Learning Summaries will go home with Elementary / Intermediate students on December 19th. SD54 is excited to welcome Ms. Jana Fox as our new Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Monkman has accepted the Superintendent position in SD92 Nisga'a .
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the District initiatives report to the Board. Board of Education and Mr. McDiarmid and Mr. Margerm attended the annual BCSTA Academy in Vancouver at the end of November.
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the school-based initiatives report to the Board. The SSS Senior Boys Volleyball team travelled to Langley to take part in the Provincial Volleyball tournament. All schools have a full schedule of Christmas / Winter festivals leading up to the Christmas holidays.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trip has been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
- **MME** – 45 +/- Grade 6-7 students from Muheim Memorial Elementary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on January 24, February 1 and 14, 2024. The purpose of these trips is to support the active living and outdoor education curriculums. All Board requirements have been met for these trips.

8.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- There were no Operations Committee meetings this month.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, January 9, 2024. Meeting time to be announce.

8.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- There were no Policy Committee meetings this month.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, January 9, 2024. Meeting time to be announce.

8.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- There were five (5) Trustee reports summarizing their trips to the BCSTA Academy in November. Trustee Farrell said that at this BCSTA Academy he got something out of every session. The Kindness presentation was a highlight. Trustee Kearns said the Kindness presentation about the dogs was a highlight. All the presenters did a great job.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- There was no unfinished business this month.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business this month.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

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

12. READING FILE

- There were no items in the reading file this month.

13. CLOSING REMARKS

- Closing Remarks –The next regular Board Meeting will be held on January 23, 2024 at the School Board Office in Smithers B.C., commencing at 7:00 p.m. Next Committee meetings will be held next Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
- Trustee Krishan wanted to acknowledged former teacher and current district TTOC Mike Doogan-Smith for his contribution at this year's Carolfest.
- As Superintendent McDiarmid mentioned in his report, Mr. Monkman will be leaving us at the end of this month, and Trustee Kearns said that he is both proud and honoured to say, that for many of his 38 years in the District, he had the privilege of working with him. Mr. Monkman's goal in education has never wavered, "to make the education system, the best he can make it, for all students", and with that goal in mind, he has been tireless. We are very fortunate to have had you working for the students in the Bulkley Valley! Thank you for your service!

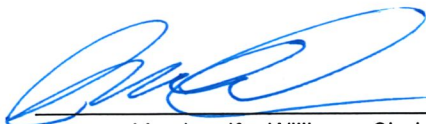
On behalf of the Board, we wish you the best of luck, in your somewhat short retirement, and your new job in Nisga'a.

He closed the meeting by wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season.

14. ADJOURNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Approved by:



Approved by Jennifer Williams, Chairperson
of the Board of Education on behalf of Les
Kearns, Vice Chairperson



Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer