



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (*Bulkley Valley*)
JANUARY 23, 2024
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.**

PRESENT: Trustees: F. Farrell, F. Krishan, J. Williams, K. Graham, L. Kearns, J. Krauskopf
Via: Zoom P. Michell
Staff: M. McDiarmid – Superintendent
F. Fox – Assistant Superintendent
D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer
B. Kingsmill – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 7:09pm.

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 Gidmt'en – Bear Wolf Clan.
- Chairperson Williams welcomed everyone present. There was a unfortunate tragic accident involving a number of SSS students over the holidays. We would like to extending a large thank you to Cindy Miller – District Principal of Learner Support; Ms. Julie. Krall – SSS Principal; school and district counsellors and staff for quickly implementing a support plan for our students.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

"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 December 12, 2023. There being none, the regular meeting minutes of December 12, 2023 were declared approved as presented.

5.) LEARNING PORTION: Initiatives for Engagement in the Telkwa Elementary School Music- Mr. Brennan Anderson – Teacher at Telkwa Elementary made a presentation to the Board regarding the Telkwa Elementary music program.

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the student achievement report to the Board. Semester one will be ending soon. Early Kindergarten registration took place last week at all district elementary schools. The Trustees were presented with the mid-year strategic plan report and it will be placed on the school district website for viewing.
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the district-based initiatives to the Board. SD54 is pleased to welcome Ms. Sandra McAulay back to the district this spring to work with a group of teachers on numeracy at the elementary level. Early incentive notices will be sent out at the beginning of February. Mr. Scott Richmond submitted a report to the Board on the current activities in the Trades and Technology department and second semester offerings. Ms. Bev Forster submitted a report to the Board on the current activities in the Early Learning programs. Lots of winter activities are taking place in the schools.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **WPS** – 50 +/- Grade 7 students from Walnut Park Elementary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on February 23, March 8 and March 15, 2024. The purpose of these trips is to support the active living curriculum and for a fun day of winter outdoor activities. All Board requirements have been met for these trips.
 - **WPS** – 54 +/- Grade 5/6 students from Walnut Park Elementary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on February 15, February 22 and February 29, 2024. The purpose of these trips is to support the active living curriculum and for a fun day of winter outdoor activities. All Board requirements have been met for these trips.
 - **TES** – 28 +/- Grade 6/7 students from Telkwa Elementary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on February 6 and March 14, 2024. The purpose of these trips is to support the active living curriculum and for a fun day of winter outdoor activities. All Board requirements have been met for these trips.
 - **SSS** – 23 +/- Grade 9/10 students from Smithers Secondary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on January 12, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to support the active living curriculum and for a fun day of winter outdoor activities. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SSS** – 47 +/- Grade 9-12 students from Smithers Secondary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on January 19, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to support the active living curriculum and for a fun day of winter outdoor activities. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **HSS** – 42 +/- Grade 8-12 students from Houston Secondary to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on January 25, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to support the active living curriculum and for a fun day of winter outdoor activities. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **TSE** – 170 +/- Grade 4-7 students from Twain Sullivan Elementary to travel to Irrigation Lake on February 23, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to support the TEK Curriculum and for a fun day of winter outdoor activities. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- The following field trip **was approved** by the Board of Education:
 - **SSS** – 22 +/- Grade 10-12 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel to Berthierville, Quebec on February 17-25, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to take part in an Experience Canada Language and Culture Exchange. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

7.a) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Operations Committee Chairperson Kearns presented the Operations Committee's Report from the January 9, 2024 committee meeting. One item was moved to the Unfinished Business portion and one item was moved New Business portion of the meeting.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 5:00pm.

7.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- Policy Committee Chairperson Graham presented the Policy Committee's report from the January 9, 2024 committee meeting.
- The committee recommended that the Board recommended that the Board approve amended policy 6.175 Challenge of Learning Resources as presented and send it out for stakeholder consultation.

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

"That the Board approve the draft Policy 6.175 Challenge of Learning Resources and for the draft policy be sent out for stakeholder consultation as outlined. "

CARRIED

- Next meeting date Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 4:00pm.

7.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- There were no trustee reports this month.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **8.1) Strategic Plan Update** – Mr. McDiarmid presented the updated Strategic plan to the Board. It will be placed on the website for stakeholder viewing.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- **9.1) 2023 / 2024 Amended Annual Budget** - The Operations Committee recommended that the Board Proceed with the first two readings of the 2023 – 2024 Draft Amended Budget Bylaw.
- Secretary Treasurer Margerm presented the amended budget to the Trustees presentation regarding actual funding vs planned spending for the year. A more extensive report on spending will be presented in February.

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

"That the Board approve the first two readings of the 2023 – 2024 Draft Amended Budget Bylaw."

CARRIED

10. OTHER BUSINESS

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

11. READING FILE

- There were no reading file items this month.

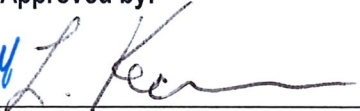
12. CLOSING REMARKS

- The next regular Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at The School Board Office in Smithers, BC.

13. ADJOURNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.

Approved by:

on behalf of: 

Ms. Jennifer Williams, Chairperson
of the Board of Education



Mr. Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer