



School District No. 54 (BULKLEY VALLEY)

AGENDA REGULAR BOARD MEETING MARCH 12, 2024 SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE - SMITHERS B.C. 7:00PM

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Traditional Welcome / Opening Remarks
- 3) Adoption of Agenda
- 4) Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2024
Synopsis In-Camera Meeting – February 27, 2024
- 5) Learning Portion: Silverthorne Growth Plan
- 6) Administration Report M. McDiarmid Report Attached
- 7) Committee Reports:
 - a) Operations Committee L. Kearns No Report
 - b) Policy Committee K. Graham No Report
 - c) Trustee Report F. Farrell Report Attached
- 8) Unfinished Business
- 9) New Business
 - 9.1) Trustee Stipends
 - 9.2) SSS Washrooms – Mechanical Spending Resolution
- 10) Other Business
 - 10.1) Expenditure Summary
- 11) Reading File
- 12) Closing Remarks –Next regular Board Meeting will be held on April 23, 2024 at the Witset Multi-Plex in Witset 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/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1098428&type=d&pREC_ID=1358978



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (Bulkley Valley)
FEBRUARY 27, 2024
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE, SMITHERS B.C.**

PRESENT: Trustees: F. Farrell, F. Krishan, K. Graham, L. Kearns

Regrets: J. Williams, J. Krauskopf, P. Michell

Staff: M. McDiarmid – Superintendent
F. Fox – Assistant Superintendent
B. Kingsmill – Recording Secretary

Staff Regrets: D. Margerm – Secretary Treasurer

1. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.

2. TRADITIONAL WELCOME / OPENING REMARKS

- Vice Chairperson 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. Trustees Williams, Krauskopf and Michell send their regrets.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Vice Chairperson Kearns asked that agenda item 5 – Learning Portion, be moved to the March Board meeting agenda.

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

"That the amended 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 January 23, 2024 or the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of January 23, 2024. There being none, the regular meeting minutes of January 23, 2024 and the synopsis of the in-camera meeting minutes of January 23, 2024 were declared approved as presented.

5.) LEARNING PORTION: Moved to the March 2024 Board Meeting.

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the district update report to the Board. District Authority Scholarships have been released. This year the District has 16 \$1,250 vouchers to award. The District Assessment Group will be meeting again on March 8th where they will be reviewing feedback of the new reporting documents. A number of staff members attended the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills training hosted by Houston Links to Learning on February 15-16. The District Psychologist has been providing monthly learning on Pathological Demand Avoidance to Education Assistants.
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the district-based initiatives to the Board. Pink Shirt Day will take place on Wednesday February 28th and schools across the District will be earning their pink shirts and holding a variety of activities to ERASE bullying. There is a lot of exciting activities taking place in the Early Learning department and in the District Trades and Technology departments. Each school has a lot of winter activities taking place. The SSS Drama class won the "Best Play" at the Northwest Zone Drama Festival. They now will take their play to the National Theatre School Provincial Drama Festival in May.

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **SSS – 61 +/-** Grade 8-12 Ski and Snowboard students from Smithers Secondary to travel to Quesnel, BC between February 5-7, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to participate in the High School Ski and Snowboard Zones at Troll Mountain. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **SSS – 6 +/-** Grade 9-10 Robotics Students from Smithers Secondary to travel to North Vancouver, BC between February 15-19, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to participate in the VEX Robotics Competition. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
 - **HSS – 46 +/-** Grade 8-12 students from Houston Secondary School to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 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 – 27 +/-** Grade 9-10 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on February 21, 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 – 40 +/-** Grade 4-5 students from Twain Sullivan Elementary School to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 5 and March 12, 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 – 49 +/-** Grade 9-12 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on March 1, 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 – 22 +/-** Grade 9-12 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on February 28, 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 – 22 +/-** Grade 9-12 students from Smithers Secondary School to travel up to Hudson Bay Mountain on April 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 – 24 +/-** Grade 8-12 Ski and Snowboard students from Smithers Secondary to travel to Kamloops, BC between February 24-29, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to participate in the High School Ski and Snowboard Provincials at Sun Peaks Resort. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.
- **SSS – 1 +/-** Grade 12 Trades student from Smithers Secondary to travel to Terrace, BC between February 22-23, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to participate in the Skills Canada Regional Competition. 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 February 20, 2024 committee meeting. One item was moved to the Unfinished Business portion of the meeting.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, April 9, 2024 @ 5:00pm.

7.b) POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

- Policy Committee Vice Chairperson Farrell presented the Policy Committee's report from the February 20, 2024 committee meeting.
- Next meeting date Tuesday, April 9, 2024 @ 4:00pm.

7.c) TRUSTEE REPORTS

- Trustee Farrell and Trustee Williams submitted Trustee reports this month.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **8.1) 2023 / 2024 Amended Annual Budget** - The Operations Committee recommended that subject to the draft 2023-2024 Amended Budget presentation, the Committee recommends the board approve the Draft 2023-2024 Amended Budget as presented.
- Superintendent McDiarmid presented the amended budget to the Trustees presentation regarding actual funding vs planned spending for the year. The Trustees has a fulsome discussion.

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

"That the Board approve the third reading of the 2023 – 2024 Draft Amended Budget Bylaw."

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business this month.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- February expenditure summary was provided to the Trustees in their February 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, March 12, 2024, commencing at 7:00 p.m. at The School Board Office in Smithers, BC.

13. ADJOURNED

- The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm.

Approved by:

Ms. Jennifer Williams, Chairperson
of the Board of Education

Mr. Dave Margerm
Secretary Treasurer

DRAFT



**SYNOPSIS OF THE
IN - CAMERA MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.54 (*Bulkley Valley*)
FEBRUARY 27, 2024
SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE, SMITHERS, BC**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:42 pm and the Board resolved to go in-camera.

- The Chair asked if there were any corrections to the in-camera meeting minutes of January 23, 2024. There being none, the in-camera meeting minutes of January 23, 2024 was declared approved as presented by the Chairperson.
- Senior Administration reported on routine staffing items and school suspensions.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:44pm.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION

to the
Board of Education
March 12, 2024

District Update

- **District / Authority Scholarships** – We have received notification from the Ministry that the district has 16 scholarships available for distribution this year. Application packages have already been sent to the high schools and presentations will be scheduled for May 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Deadline for applications is April 26th, 2024. Trustees interested in participating in the adjudication process are encouraged to notify Ms. Fox.
- **Professional Learning Series (PLC)** - The last PLC session was held on Monday, February 27, 2023. Teachers gathered for professional reflection and awareness. Another night of insightful learning with SD54 colleagues. The next PLC gathering will be on March 11th.

Innovation / Initiatives

District Based Initiatives

- **Student Led Conferences** – Will be held on April 17 and 18. Please contact your child's school to arrange an interview time.
- **Trades and Technology Update** - We have planned a field trip on March 13th at Pacific Inland Resources. This day will include concentrated sessions where senior students get hands-on experiences working in forestry-related trades.

School Based Initiatives

- **SSS Ski / Snowboard results** – 24 athletes travelled to Sun Peaks for the High School Ski and Snowboard Championships Feb 26-28. Smithers athletes dominated, bringing home 3 provincial banners along with several team and individual awards. The competition consisted of a 2 run GS race and a single run Terrain Giant Slalom (TGS) race.

For the first time ever, SSS won both the Ski and the Snowboard Combined Team banners. The boys Snowboard team also won gold, bringing home the coveted provincial banner. Luca Wille won an individual bronze in the TGS. The girls' skiers won silver as a team, led by Cassidy Collingwood's gold in GS and bronze in the TGS and Samantha Love's bronze medal in the GS. The Girls' Snowboard team brought home the silver, led by Peyton Belisle with a silver in the TGS and bronze in the GS. The boys' skiers had a strong showing which combined with the girls for the overall team banner.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

Field Trip Proposals

- The following field trips have been approved by the Assistant Superintendent:
 - **MME** – 45 +/- Grade 6-7 students from Muheim Memorial Elementary to participate in a two-day Outdoor Ed Survival Challenge on April 25-26, 2024. The purpose of this trip is to support the PE and Outdoor Ed curriculums and practice social responsibility. All Board requirements have been met for this trip.

Operations

- **2024 - 2025 Budget and Staffing** - Currently the District staff is working through the budget and staffing for next school year. The strategic plan has been guiding decision making throughout this process, and this will continue as we develop the new strategic plan. The District is projecting a slight decrease in students and which means budgets and staffing levels will remain more or less the same as the current school year.

On Saturday February 24th I participated in the BCSTA Provincial Council meetings via the Zoom online platform. The meeting was the first since it was decided that all February meetings be held virtually.

We started with the Presidents report. President Carolyn Broady mentioned the resignation of Alan Chell as a board of Director of BCPSEA. Moreover, Broady mentioned the Provincial Budget and how it affects public education and areas such as retention of staff . She also mentioned 2024 Advocacy Priorities and Leadership series.

CEO Suzanne Hoffman talked about the Framework for Enhancement learning and the work of boards. Also mentioned FSA s , Grad Years Literacy assessment along with Grade 10 n Numeracy . CSBA report glanced on minority language rights throughout Canada , particularly Quebec Government appeal of a lower court ruling.

From there we went to committee reports. Education committee delved into Trustee leadership series. Finance Committee provided update on budget process to be voted on at Provincial Council at AGM. Of note is that the zoom February meetings have saved the BCSTA nearly 71000 dollars over in person meetings. Indigenous Education Committee report was also tabled.

The guest speakers were representatives of the Conseil-Scolaire Francophone School District. Marie -Pierre LaVose and Pascal Bernier discussed their work in providing minority language education to 56000 Francophone in K-12 in this province. Along with sharing facilities with many school districts.

There were no motions of any kind tabled at the meetings . Once again the next Provincial Council meeting will be held in April at the AGM.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank Farrell

Trustee