

Approved  
Minutes  
Regular  
Meeting

Board of School Trustees  
School District No. 57 (Prince George)  
1894 Ninth Avenue, Prince George, B.C.

2002.10.29  
7:00 p.m.

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This meeting was held in the council chambers at the municipal office in Mackenzie.

Present:

Bill Christie, Chairperson	Dick Chambers, Superintendent of Schools
Bev Christensen, Vice-Chairperson	Bryan Mix, Secretary-Treasurer
Barb Hall, Trustee	Wendy De Marsh, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
Lyn Hall, Trustee	
Michelle Marrelli, Trustee	
Fred McLeod, Trustee	
Patricia Wick Thibault, Trustee	

In attendance:

Kerry Firth, Assistant Superintendent  
Norm Monroe, Assistant Superintendent  
Bonnie Chappell, Director of School Services

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:21 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved with the addition of one item, that being a presentation by students from Mackenzie Secondary School as Item 4.2.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

3.1 Regular Meeting

The minutes of the regular meeting held October 1, 2002 were approved with the correction to the spelling of Stan Mitchell's name in Item 4.2.

3.2 Record of In Camera Meeting Minutes

The Chairperson noted that a report on the items discussed and decisions made at the in camera meeting of October 1, 2002 were included in the agenda booklet.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

**4.1 2002 BC Environment Award Winners**

Morfee Elementary School students Koren Pitkethly and Katie Dick gave a presentation on their trip to Government House to receive the award won by the school's "Green Team."

**4.2 "Smart Ask" Competition Winners**

Mackenzie Secondary School students Cerra Chuddy, Marc-Allen Laferriere and Candice Trudel spoke about their appearance on CBC's "Smart Ask" game show and their upcoming trip to Toronto to compete in the nationals.

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**6. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**6.1 Committee Report**

Mr. McLeod reported on the topics discussed at the last meeting, which included the Blackburn Jr. Secondary School replacement project, plans to reorganize the central administration office and some in camera property matters.

**6.2 Trustee Electoral Areas**

Mr. McLeod reported that, in response to a request from the District of Mackenzie, the Board would be investigating the possibility of establishing trustee electoral areas for the Mackenzie and Robson Valley areas.

Mr. Christie noted that the municipalities would be provided with copies of any report prepared by the school district on this issue.

**7. EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**7.1 Committee Report**

Ms. Wick Thibault reported that the committee had a long agenda at its last meeting, but had only been able to deal with two of the items, those being a presentation on UNBC's Centre for Excellence and the District Plan for Student Success.

7.2 District Plan for Student Success

Mrs. Chappell gave a presentation explaining the development process and the goals contained in the plan.

MOVED:

That the District Plan for Student Success be approved.

CARRIED.

8. **POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

8.1 Committee Report

Ms. Hall reported on the topics discussed at the last meeting, which included policy revisions made necessary by changes in provincial legislation and procedures for making routine revisions to policies.

8.2 Revisions to Policy 1221 District Parent Advisory Council

MOVED:

That Draft Policy 1221 District Parent Advisory Council be approved for distribution to reference groups for input.

CARRIED.

8.3 Revisions to Policy 1223 School Parent Advisory Councils

That revisions to Policy 1223 School Parent Advisory Councils be approved for distribution to reference groups for input.

CARRIED.

8.4 Draft Policy 1222 School Planning Councils

That Draft Policy 1222 School Planning Councils be approved for distribution to reference groups for input.

CARRIED.

8.5 Revisions to Policy 1240 Provision of Volunteer Services

MOVED:

That the proposed revisions to Policy 1240 Provision of Volunteer Services be approved.

CARRIED.

Ms. Hall explained that the proposed revisions to this policy had been distributed to reference groups for input, but the committee was not recommending any changes to the revisions as a result of the input received.

Concern was expressed that not enough information was provided in the policy regarding supervision of volunteers. Ms. Hall explained that more detailed information was available to principals in the *School Operations Handbook*, and agreed to add the handbook to the list of references in the policy.

8.6 Revisions to Policy 5133.2 District Student Advisory Council

MOVED:

That the proposed minor revisions to Policy 5133.2 District Student Advisory Council be approved.

CARRIED.

8.7 Rescind Bylaw No. 3 Health Services

MOVED:

That the notice period required for the amendment of bylaws be waived, as per the provisions of Bylaw No. 1.

CARRIED.

MOVED:

That Bylaw No. 3 Health Services be rescinded.

CARRIED.

Ms. Hall explained that the bylaw had been made obsolete by changes in legislation and practices.

9. **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

9.1 District Configuration Committee Update

Mr. Firth gave a brief update on the work being done by the committee and reviewed the criteria being used to evaluate alternatives for the amalgamation of district schools. The committee's report will be presented to the Board in January.

9.2 Student Conduct Review Committee 2001-2002 Annual Report

Mr. Monroe reviewed the report and answered questions from trustees about the increase in the incidence of drug use and the availability of drug and alcohol support services for students.

10. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

10.1 BC School Trustees' Association

Mrs. Christensen reported on her attendance at meetings of BCSTA's Education Committee and Provincial Council.

10.2 District Parent Advisory Council

Mr. Hall reported on the topics discussed at the last DPAC meeting, which included the work of the District Configuration Committee, the school planning council advisory committee, foundation skills assessment and corporate sponsorship.

10.3 District Student Advisory Council

Ms. Wick Thibault reported that the council's first meeting had included the election of representatives to the Board's standing committees, a discussion with trustees and a discussion about how to make it more feasible for students from the Robson Valley to attend the meetings.

10.4 Budget Review Committee

Mr. Hall reported that the committee was reviewing all of the suggestions received during last year's budget consultation process, but was focusing its initial attention on the suggestions of a four-day school week and a two-week spring break and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George's proposal related to rural schools.

10.5 Corporate Sponsorship Task Force

Mr. Hall reported that the task force had held a public input meeting the previous week and was also reviewing letters and e-mails from staff, students and the community. At its next meeting, the task force will begin work on a draft policy.

10.6 Moratorium on Choice Proposals for Implementation in September 2003

The Board discussed the issues of increased interest in choice options, the anticipated closure of more schools in 2003, time pressures and possible deadline dates for proposals to be considered for September 2003.

After several amendments, the following motion was agreed upon:

MOVED:

That the Board consider for possible implementation in September 2003 those proposals submitted to the Choice Committee as of October 29, 2002, those being a fine arts school, a single-track Montessori school, a secondary Montessori program, a French Immersion program in Mackenzie, a technology school proposed for Meadow Elementary and a technology/trades school proposed for Blackburn Jr. Secondary. Any submissions received after this date may be considered for implementation for September 2004.

CARRIED.

11. **OLD BUSINESS**

11.1 Configuration of Proposed Fine Arts School

MOVED:

That notice be given that the following motion will be brought to the public Board meeting of November 26, 2002:

1. That the fine arts school proposed for implementation in September 2003 be configured as a Kindergarten to Grade 5, single-track fine arts school.
2. That the fine arts curriculum be delivered with discrete fine arts blocks, supplemented by integration in the core subject areas.
3. That any Kindergarten to Grade 5 student in the district be eligible for enrolment, pending space availability, on a first-come, first-served basis.

CARRIED.

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

13. **ATTACHMENTS FOR INFORMATION**

Mr. Christie drew the Board's attention to the items included in the agenda for information, which were the September 30, 2002 class size report to the Minister of Education and a large class report for September 30, 2002.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.