

Present:

Lyn Hall, Chairperson	Brian Pepper, Superintendent of Schools
Lois Boone, Vice-Chairperson	Bryan Mix, Secretary-Treasurer
Trish Bella, Trustee	Wendy De Marsh, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
Valentine Crawford, Trustee	
Roxanne Ricard, Trustee	
Sharel Warrington, Trustee (via speakerphone)	
Rhonda White, Trustee	

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item 11.1 was withdrawn. The agenda was approved as amended.

3. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Sandra Lamb, an École College Heights Elementary parent, expressed disappointment in the proposed revisions to Policy 5119 (School Catchment Areas and Student Transfers), asked why there was a difference between the transfer process and Kindergarten registration and expressed concern about the online registration process.

Carolyn Holmes, an École College Heights Elementary parent, expressed her delight with the education her son was receiving there and her concern that his younger brother might not be guaranteed a spot in the school if the proposed revisions to Policy 5119 were approved.

Donald MacKinnon, an École College Heights Elementary parent, expressed concern that if the proposed revisions to Policy 5119 were approved, his three children might all have to attend different schools.

Liz Rocha, an École College Heights Elementary parent, expressed concern about the proposed revisions to Policy 5119 and spoke about the importance of sibling relationships.

Trish Mahmoud, an École College Heights Elementary parent, expressed concerns about the proposed revisions to Policy 5119 and her inability to get her second child registered into the French Immersion program at the school.

Jay Greenfield, an École College Heights Elementary parent, expressed concern about the burden that would be put on families if siblings were not given priority in registration and expressed confusion about whether the district's current policy included sibling preference or not.

Kate Cooke, an École College Heights Elementary parent, spoke about her experiences in school, her desire to have school be a positive experience for her children and her concern that the proposed revisions to Policy 5119 would mean her children would not be able to attend the same school.

Jacqueline Dockray, an École College Heights Elementary parent, expressed concern about the Board's policy revision and public consultation process, about the effect that the proposed revisions to Policy 5119 would have on families and about the need for stability in the district after the upheaval of the previous year's school closures.

Don Sabo, representing the District Parent Advisory Council, spoke about DPAC's recent meeting with the Board, the recent BCCPAC conference and the upcoming workshop for parent advisory councils, the main focus of which was the management of PAC funds.

Josh Hewitt, representing the District Student Advisory Council, spoke about DSAC's efforts to increase its membership and have representation from all district schools.

Matt Pearce, representing the Prince George District Teachers' Association, spoke about the B.C. Teachers' Federation's commitment to expanding local bargaining and asked the Board to choose a path that would avoid job action and disruption to schools.

4. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

Ms. White spoke about recent graduation ceremonies at the Centre for Learning Alternatives and the Baldy Hughes Therapeutic Community.

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

5.1 Public Meeting

The minutes of the regular public meeting of October 26, 2010, were adopted as circulated

5.2 Record of In Camera Meeting Minutes

The report on the items discussed and decisions made at the special in camera meetings held on October 26 and 27 and November 9, 2010, were approved.

6. **PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 LINK Program

Kelly Road Secondary School principal Lee Karpenko, teacher Shandee Whitehead and students Danielle Gutwillinger, Lebo Kolisang and Jessica Hogue gave a presentation on the school's LINK program, which fosters leadership skills and helps students transition from elementary to secondary school.

6.2 Anti-Gang Summit

Mr. Crawford and Assistant Superintendents Sharon Cairns and John McLay gave a presentation on the anti-gang summit recently held in Prince George

7. **MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

7.1 Committee Report

Ms. Warrington reported that at its last meeting the committee had received a number of financial updates as well as updates on the issue of parent advisory council funding and the report of the Select Standing Committee on Finance.

7.2 Property Disposition Bylaw No. 2-2010 – Duchess Park Lands (Lot 3)

Ms. Warrington explained that adoption of a bylaw was required in order to transfer title of the property on which the old Duchess Park Secondary School was located to the City of Prince George. She noted that this transfer had been agreed to in the spring of 2009 as part of an agreement between the city, the Ministry of Education and the school district and that as compensation for the property the school district's contribution to the cost of the Duchess Park replacement project had been reduced by \$2.2 million.

MOVED:

That, in accordance with Section 68 (4) of the *School Act*, all three readings of Property Disposition Bylaw No. 2-2010 be given at tonight's meeting.

CARRIED.

MOVED:

That Property Disposition Bylaw No. 2-2010 be given first reading.

CARRIED.

MOVED:

That Property Disposition Bylaw No. 2-2010 be given second reading.

CARRIED.

It was noted that once the transfer of title was complete, the city could begin work on the park and recreational facilities that were planned for the site.

MOVED:

That Property Disposition Bylaw No. 2-2010 be given third and final reading.

CARRIED.

Ms. Warrington left the meeting at this point, due to another commitment.

8. EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

8.1 Committee Report

Ms. Ricard reported on the agenda items from the last committee meeting, which included an update on the capital asset management program and discussion of issues related to student transportation. She reported that the committee had also discussed concerns raised regarding the playground situation at Heather Park Elementary and a number of concerns raised regarding issues related to the reconfiguration of Heather Park and the John McInnis Centre.

Regarding the playground issue at Heather Park, Ms. Ricard noted that parents had requested that playgrounds be moved from the closed Springwood and Austin Road elementary schools, but that on investigation it had been determined that the cost to do so would be prohibitive, equivalent to buying a new playground.

Mr. Mix was asked to investigate the feasibility of having the maintenance department undertake the relocation of the playgrounds, instead of an outside contractor, and provide a report to the Education Services Committee.

9. POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**9.1 Committee Report**

Mr. Crawford reported that most of the committee's last meeting had been devoted to discussion of issues related to the district's transportation policies. He noted that no conclusions had been reached and that the discussion was expected to continue at the committee's next meeting.

10. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**10.1 Superintendent's Report on Class Size**

Mr. Pepper presented his report and answered questions.

MOVED:

That the Superintendent's report on the organization of classes in School District No. 57, as of October 29, 2010, as required under Section 76 (3) of the *School Act*, be accepted.

CARRIED.

11. TRUSTEE REPORTS**11.1 BC School Trustees' Association**

This item was withdrawn.

11.2 District Parent Advisory Council

Ms. Boone reported on some of the items discussed at the last meeting, which included the establishment of a parent involvement committee and plans for an anti-bullying workshop.

11.3 District Student Advisory Council

Mr. Crawford reported that at its last meeting the council had worked on its report to the Board, which would be presented at the December 7 public meeting. He reported that the council was continuing its work to increase its membership.

Ms. Boone announced that she would not be seeking the position of vice-chair at the upcoming inaugural meeting and that she would not be seeking re-election as a trustee in the general school elections in 2011.

12. ATTACHMENTS FOR INFORMATION

12.1 Update to Policy 4133.1 (Reimbursement of Travel and Meeting Expenses)

Mr. Crawford drew attention to a memo included in the agenda package and explained that the appendix of this policy had been revised to remove the schools that had been closed.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.