

The meeting was held in the library at Mackenzie Secondary School, with a video conference connection to the Boardroom at the Central Administration Office in Prince George.

Present:

Tim Bennett, Chair
Trustee Bella, Vice-Chair
Tony Cable, Trustee
Bob Harris, Trustee
Brenda Hooker, Trustee
(Skype/Telephone)
Sharel Warrington, Trustee
Bruce Wiebe, Trustee

Marilyn Marquis-Forster, Superintendent of Schools
Allan Reed, Secretary Treasurer
Diane Nygaard, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Amendment to Item 6.2 to be titled Motions.

Addition under School District News, Item 4.1 Ron Brent Elementary – READ with Art

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Shannon Pride, School District No. 57 Teacher expressed concerns regarding the hiring and recruitment of teachers in the District of Mackenzie and suggested providing additional incentives as a solution to address the issue.

Richard Giroday speaking from Prince George by video conference, representing the Prince George District Teachers' Association (PGDTA) drew attention to the date of the upcoming provincial election and stressed that a champion for public education is needed. He commented on the current funding of public education and the recent Supreme Court decision.

Gillian Burnett speaking from Prince George by video conference, representing the District Parent Advisory Council commented on the success of the recent presentation of the White Hatter and the Springwood Community Information Meeting. Ms. Burnett repeated her request that the school district establish a standing committee with full partner group representation to meet annually to review enrollment, capacity and projections, challenges and emergent issues. She commented on the engagement portion of the school district's Strategic Plan and stated that the current process needs to be improved.

4. SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

4.1 Ron Brent Elementary – READ with Art

Trustee Harris provided an overview and congratulated Ron Brent Elementary School on the projects of the April 7th READ (Respect, Environment, Awareness and Diversity) with Art event.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1 Regular Public Meeting

Corrections:

- Item 4.6 to read Trustee Harris
- Minor housekeeping item

The minutes of the regular public meeting of April 4, 2017 were adopted as amended.

5.2 Record of In Camera Meeting Minutes

The report on the items discussed and decisions made at the regular in camera meeting of April 4, 2017 was approved.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Motion to Record Votes

MOVED and SECONDED

That the votes in the positive, negative and abstentions be recorded on all motions considered at this meeting.

CARRIED

All Trustees that were present voted in favour of the motion.

6.2 Motions

- Cultural Presentation

Trustee Bella reviewed and discussed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda with the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That in celebration of National Aboriginal Day and recognition of the First Nations students and employees of our school district, the Board through the Superintendent invite the Aboriginal Education Department to open the regular public meeting of June 27, 2017 with a performance or presentation by students and/or employees.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the motion.

- Student Performances/Presentations

Trustee Bella reviewed and discussed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda with the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education provide a maximum of 15 minutes at the beginning of each regular public meeting for a presentation or performance by school district students.

The motion was not considered further at this meeting, as a motion to postpone was presented and carried.

MOVED and SECONDED

To postpone the discussion of this motion until a review of the Board's existing meeting structure has been completed.

CARRIED.

Trustees Bennett, Cable, Harris, Warrington and Wiebe voted in favour of the motion.

Trustees Bella and Hooker were opposed to the motion.

- Role of Trustee Liaison – Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount

Trustee Bella reviewed and discussed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda with the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That for the 2017/2018 school year, the role of the Trustee Liaison for Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount be expanded to include the greater community including but not limited to the Mayor and Council of these communities.

CARRIED.

Trustees Bennett, Bella, Hooker and Warrington voted in favour of the motion.

Trustees Harris and Wiebe were opposed to the motion.

Trustee Cable abstained from the vote.

- Regular Board Meetings Outside of the City of Prince George

Trustee Bella reviewed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda.

MOVED

That the Board of Education hold a regular public meeting in each of the communities of Valemount, McBride and Mackenzie during the 2017/2018 school year.

As this motion was not SECONDED, it was not discussed further.

- Sanctuary School

Trustee Bella reviewed and discussed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda with the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to prepare a draft Sanctuary School Policy for consideration.

The motion was amended as follows:

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education direct the superintendent to research the issues of a sanctuary school policy before consideration by the Board of Education.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the amended motion.

7. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

7.1 Committee Report

Trustee Warrington reported on the Management and Finance Committee meeting held on April 10, 2017. Agenda items included a financial update to March 31, 2017 and the analysis of trustee travel.

Ms. Warrington advised that the committee received a presentation on the first part of the financial governance and accountability guidance material and procedures for K-12 Public Education provided by a Financial Health Working Group. She stated the remaining materials provided by the working group will be reviewed at future committee meetings and invited all trustees to attend the next meeting for the discussion on surplus.

Other agenda items discussed appear on this evening's public agenda.

7.2 Capital Bylaw 17/18-CP-SD57-01

Trustee Warrington reviewed the recommendations and rationale included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That, in accordance with Section 68 (4) of the School Act, all three readings of Capital Bylaw No.17/18-CP-SD57-01 be given at tonight's meeting.
CARRIED

MOVED and SECONDED

That Capital Project Bylaw No.17/18-CP-SD57-01 be given first reading.
CARRIED

MOVED and SECONDED

That Capital Project Bylaw No.17/18-CP-SD57-01 be given second reading.
CARRIED

MOVED and SECONDED

That Capital Project Bylaw No.17/18-CP-SD57-01 be given third and final reading.
CARRIED

The Chair called a recess at 8:52 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:59 p.m.

8. EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

8.1 Committee Report

Trustee Cable reported on the Education Programs and Planning Committee meeting held on April 11, 2017. Agenda items included program updates from the Aboriginal Education Department, Student Support Services and the Centre for Learning Alternatives.

Marilyn Marquis-Forster reported the committee was also provided with an overview on the After School Academic Proficiency Program and Comprehensive Academic Intervention Strategy. She stated the programs are being proposed in direct response to address the concerns identified in the results of the school district's student achievement data. Trustee Warrington requested that all Trustees be provided with copies of the handouts related to the programs.

Other agenda items discussed appear on this evening's public agenda.

8.2 Rental of Ness Lake Bible Camp Facilities by School District No. 57 Schools

Trustee Cable reviewed and discussed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education allow the use of Ness Lake Bible Camp by School District No. 57 (Prince George) students on a strictly secular basis in accordance with the requirements of the School Act and where programs are designed and delivered by school district staff.

CARRIED.

Trustees Bennett, Cable, Harris, Hooker, Warrington and Wiebe voted in favour of the motion.

Trustee Bella was opposed to the motion.

9. EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

9.1 Committee Report

Trustee Wiebe advised the Education Services Committee meeting last met on March 6, 2017 and stated the committee report was provided at the regular public meeting of April 4, 2017.

9.2 Annual Facility Grant – 5 Year Plan

Trustee Wiebe drew attention to the five year Annual Facility Grant Plan 2017 to 2022 that was included in the agenda package. Mr. Wiebe advised the plan was reviewed and discussed at the Education Services Committee meeting held on March 6, 2017.

Mr. Reed responded to questions from the Trustees.

10. **POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

10.1 Draft Policy 5123 Student Promotion, Communicating Student Learning and Reporting

Trustee Bennett reviewed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the proposed revisions to Policy 5123 Student Promotion and Reporting be approved for distribution to reference groups for input.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the motion.

11. **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

11.1 Superintendent of Schools

Marilyn Marquis-Forster drew attention to the letter from the Ministry of Education dated April 3, 2017 regarding the Food for Bees Program that was included in the agenda package.

12. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

12.1 BC School Trustees' Association

Trustee Warrington reported on the BCSTA's Annual General Meeting that was held on April 20-23, 2017 in Richmond, BC. Ms. Warrington reported the five motions presented at the AGM by the Northern Interior Branch were carried.

13. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer