

Present:

Tim Bennett, Chair
Tony Cable, Trustee
Bob Harris, Trustee
Brenda Hooker, Trustee
(telephone/Skype)
Sharel Warrington, Trustee

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

Absent:

Trish Bella, Vice-Chair
Bruce Wiebe, Trustee

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Additions to the agenda:

School District News:
4.2 VOWS 2017 (S. Warrington)

Business Arising from the Minutes:
6.2 Overnight Accommodation in Schools (B. Harris)

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Donkun Caron, School District No. 93 (Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique)parent, requested information regarding how the school district is addressing catchment and capacity issues at Duchess Park Secondary School, involving French Immersion and Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique students. Mr. Caron also inquired about regulations governing asbestos in schools and what the school district is doing in this regard.

John Ochieng, Duchess Park Secondary School parent, brought forward concerns regarding the availability of appropriate educational programming for his son during the 2017-2018 school year.

Nicole Laferriere, Lac des Bois Elementary and Duchess Park Secondary parent, requested information regarding how the school district is addressing catchment and capacity issues at Duchess Park Secondary School involving regular in-catchment, choice program, French Immersion and Spruceland Traditional Elementary students as well as Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique students.

Sarah Holland representing the Duchess Park Parent Advisory Council, requested information regarding how the school district is addressing catchment and capacity issues at Duchess Park Secondary School involving regular in-catchment, choice program, French Immersion and Spruceland Traditional Elementary School students as well as Conseil scolaire francophone de la Colombie-Britannique students and asked for workable solutions. Ms. Holland extended an invitation to attend the Duchess Park Secondary Parent Advisory Council on October 17, 2017.

Joanne Hapke representing the Prince George District Teachers' Association stated some of their membership experienced difficulties preparing the required Summative Reporting for 2016-17. Ms. Hapke advised there is more support for teachers in classrooms following the Supreme Court decision that restored contract language and noted that the collective agreement allows for teachers to advocate student support.

Gillian Burnett representing the Prince George District Parents' Association stated that many schools have seen an increase in enrolment number for the 2017/18 school year. Ms. Burnett noted that the enrolment numbers at Duchess Park Secondary School are of particular concern. She expressed concerns with the timeline of the Catchment and Capacity Review Stakeholder Committee and requested a mechanism for parents to provide input on changes prior to them being made. She also expressed concerns regarding traffic congestion and the structure of lunch hours at elementary schools.

4. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

4.1 Springwood Elementary Update

Trustee Bennett provided an update on the reopening of Springwood Elementary.

4.2 VOWS 2017

Trustee Warrington commented on the success of the annual offsite working session "Learning Begins with Leadership" that was held on August 23 and 24, 2017 at Duchess Park Secondary School. Ms. Warrington advised the session is an opportunity for district administrators to collaborate and hold professional conversations.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**5.1 Public Meeting**

Corrections:

- Item 9.2 duplicated motion to be corrected to read, *Trustee Warrington moved a further amendment to the main motion. As another trustee did not second the motion to amend, it was not discussed further.*
- Minor housekeeping items.

The minutes of the regular public meeting of June 20, 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 June 20, 2017 and Special In Camera Meetings of July 10 and September 6, 2017 were approved.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**6.1 Motion to Record Votes**

MOVED and SECONDED

That the votes taken on all motions considered at all regular public meetings during the 2017-18 school year be recorded.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the motion.

6.2 Overnight Accommodation in Schools

Trustee Harris requested an update on the motion approved at the regular public meeting held June 20, 2017 that directed the Superintendent to work with the Facilities Services Department to ensure a workable solution be found for out of town student team/groups to stay overnight in a school in Prince George, Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount.

The Superintendent advised that overnight accommodation in schools is an agenda item at the October 12th Secondary Principals' Meeting. Ms. Marquis-Forster stated a collaborative discussion with secondary school Principals is required prior to working with the Facility Services Department. She advised that a report will be provided to the Board at a future meeting.

7. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

7.1 2016-2017 Financial Statements

Darleen Patterson, Director of Finance presented a PowerPoint presentation that provided an overview of the 2016-2017 financial statements.

Ms. Patterson and Mr. Reed responded to questions from the Trustees.

Corey Naphtali, KPMG partner reviewed the Independent Auditors' Report of the School District No. 57 (Prince George) financial statements as at June 30, 2017 that was included in the agenda package. Mr. Naphtali reported that the Audit Findings Report including the Auditors' Report for the year ended June 30, 2017 was presented to the Management and Finance Committee on September 18, 2017.

There were a number of questions related to the surplus reported in 2016-2017 appropriated operating surplus. Mr. Reed advised the Management and Finance Committee will be discussing this issue in more detail at the October committee meeting.

MOVED and SECOND

That the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2017, be approved.

CARRIED

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

7.2 Committee Report

Trustee Warrington reported on the Management and Finance Committee meeting held on September 18, 2017. Ms. Warrington reported the committee received three draft policies to address Accumulated Operating Surplus, Audit Committee and Budget Monitoring and Reporting following the Board approved motion of June 20, 2017. She advised the committee will continue the review of the draft policies at the October meeting.

Other agenda items included information on a reporting requirement from the Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia, a discussion regarding a possible presentation to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services and the analysis of Trustee travel.

The other agenda item discussed has been included as item 7.1 on this evening's public agenda.

8. EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**8.1 Committee Report**

Trustee Cable reported on the Education Programs and Planning Committee meeting held on September 19, 2017. Agenda items included a presentation providing updates on the Comprehensive Academic Intervention Strategy (CAIS), After School Academic Proficiency Program (ASAP), New Curriculum for Grades 10-12, and Early Learning.

Trustee Cable recited a communication reviewed by the committee from the Ministry of Education Director for Accountability recognizing the submission of the school district's Framework for Enhancing Student Learning.

Other agenda items included an update on the use of the Ness Lake Bible Camp by School District No. 57 schools and an update on student progress reporting to parents.

9. EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE**9.1 Committee Report**

Trustee Cable reported on the Education Services Committee meeting held on September 11, 2017. Agenda items included a PowerPoint presentation on the Provincial State of Emergency during the summer of 2017 and copy of a Letter of Recognition from the City of Prince George Fire Rescue Service for the support provided by the school district.

Other agenda items included updates on capital projects completed over the summer months, the progress to date of the Kelly Road Secondary Replacement Project, programs and activities of the South Fort George Family Resource Centre and a review of purchase orders over \$25,000.

The committee also received information from the City of Prince George Heritage Commission stating that Quinson Elementary School has been deemed to have heritage value. The committee has extended an invitation to the Heritage Commission to attend the next scheduled meeting for further discussion.

10. **POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

10.1 Committee Report

Trustee Warrington reported on the Policy and Governance Committee meeting held on September 6, 2017. Agenda items included the review of feedback received from reference groups on draft Policy 4117 SOGI (Sexual Orientation Gender Identity) with representatives from the SOGI Advisory Group in attendance and an update from the Superintendent on Policy 4112.5 Administrative Appointments. Ms. Warrington advised the committee will continue the review of the feedback received on both policies at future meetings.

The other agenda item appears on this evening's public agenda.

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

Trustee Warrington reviewed the recommendation and rationale included in the agenda package

The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Cindy Heitman responded to questions from the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That draft Policy 5123 Student Promotion, Communication Student Learning and Reporting be approved.

CARRIED

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

11. **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

11.1 Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent advised that School District No. 57 hosted its second annual Community Voices Key Directions Stakeholder Event on September 22, 2017. The event provided an opportunity for the Superintendent to outline the school district's ongoing plans for enhancing student success and to hear from community voices. A press release was issued and will be posted on the school district website.

12. TRUSTEE REPORTS**12.1 BC School Trustees' Association**

Trustee Warrington reported that the BCSTA will be providing weekly updates to Trustees through the BCSTA Weekly News updates that will be published every Thursday. Ms. Warrington reported on items included in the recent publication and responded to questions from the Trustees.

13. NEW BUSINESS**13.1 Board Performance Review**

Trustee Bennett advised that the Board of Education participated in its annual Board Effectiveness Self-Assessment Workshop on September 7, 2017 which was facilitated by Mike Roberts of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association. The workshop provided an opportunity for the Board to review their strengths, accomplishments over the past year, and to identify its priorities for the 2017-18 school year.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Bennett drew the Board's attention to the items of correspondence included in the agenda for information, which were:

- Letter of Congratulations to Hon. Rob Fleming dated July 24, 2017 regarding his appointment as Minister of Education.
- Letter of Response from Hon. Rob Fleming dated August 15, 2017 regarding his appointment as Minister of Education.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer