

Present:

Tim Bennett, Chair  
Sharel Warrington, Vice-Chair  
Betty Bekkering, Trustee  
Trent Derrick, Trustee  
Ron Polillo, Trustee  
Bob Thompson, Trustee  
Shuirose Valimohamed, Trustee

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Additions to the agenda:

- New Business
  - Ad Hoc Committee - Poverty Reduction Plan (T. Derrick)

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Myrna Lemky, Grandparent and Sandra Blackwell, Parent Advisory Council Chair, Heritage Elementary School submitted a request to the Board of Education for a new parking lot at Heritage Elementary School to accommodate parking for parent/guardians. The Board was provided with a petition of support from parents/guardians and homeowners for the new parking lot at the school.

Joanne Hapke representing the Prince George District Teachers' Association stated that school counsellors are overwhelmed by the need and demand for their services and advocated for more school counsellors to meet the needs of all students in the school district. Ms. Hapke provided a handout providing information on *What Are School Counselling Services; Issues our Youth Struggle With;* and *What some SD57 Teachers say about Counsellors* to the Trustees.

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#### 4. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

##### 4.1 Press Release – Mackenzie Public Consultation Meeting

Trustee Bennett drew attention to the press release for the April 12<sup>th</sup> Mackenzie Public Consultation Meeting regarding the proposed demolition of Mackenzie Elementary that was included in the agenda package.

##### 4.2 RCMP Youth Academy

Trustee Bennett reviewed the report on the RCMP Youth Academy held at Kelly Road Secondary School on March 30<sup>th</sup> that was included in the agenda package.

##### 4.3 District of Mackenzie – Bus Signage

Trustee Valimohamed reviewed the report on the District of Mackenzie's installation of bus signs that was included in the agenda package.

##### 4.4 Trustee Reports

Trustee Bekkering provided a verbal report on the following events:

- February 28<sup>th</sup>
  - 25 Year Service Awards held at the Inn of the North
- March 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Spruceland Traditional Elementary School, Business Fair
- March 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Week in Politics at UNBC
- March 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Government announcement at UNBC of \$3.5 Million in funding for the development of a Civil Engineering Program at UNBC
- March 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Government announcement at the Prince George Native Friendship Centre of the British Columbia Poverty Reduction Plan

The Board Chair presented Trustee Warrington with a pin in recognition of 10 years of service to the school district.

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5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

5.1 Regular Public Meeting of February 26, 2019

The minutes of the regular public meeting of February 26, 2019 were adopted as published.

5.2 Record of In Camera Meeting Minutes

The report on the items discussed and decisions made at the regular in camera meeting of February 26, 2019 and the special in camera meeting of March 12, 2019 was approved.

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

None.

7. **MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – EXPANDED COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

7.1 Committee Report

Trustee Warrington reviewed and discussed the March 2019 Expanded Management and Finance Committee Report that was included in the agenda package.

Trustee Warrington and the Secretary Treasurer responded to questions from the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report of the Expanded Management and Finance Committee meeting held on March 11, 2019 be received.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the motion.

7.2 Expanded Management and Finance Committee

Trustee Warrington reviewed the recommendation and rationale that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education authorizes the Management and Finance Committee to operate as a Committee of the Whole until June 30, 2019.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the motion.

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8. **EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE**

8.1 Committee Report

Trustee Polillo reviewed the March 2019 Education Services Committee Report that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report of the Education Services Committee meeting held on March 4, 2019 be received.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the motion.

8.2 Annual Facility Grant – 5 Year Plan

Trustee Polillo drew attention to the five-year Annual Facility Grant Plan 2019 to 2024 that was included in the agenda package. Mr. Polillo advised that the plan was reviewed and discussed at the Education Services Committee meeting held on March 4, 2019.

9. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

9.1 Aboriginal Education Committee

Trustee Warrington reviewed the report of the Aboriginal Education Committee meeting held on March 11, 2019 that was included in the agenda package. Ms. Warrington noted a correction in the report to indicate that the committee reviewed a *draft* letter to parents.

9.2 District Parent Advisory Council

Trustee Valimohamed reviewed the report on the District Parent Advisory Council meeting held on March 4, 2019 that was included in the agenda package.

Trustee Derrick reviewed the report on the District Parent Advisory Council meeting held on April 1, 2019 that was included in the agenda package.

9.3 District Student Advisory Council

Trustee Polillo reviewed the report on the District Student Advisory Council meeting held on March 4 and April 1, 2019 that was included in the agenda package.

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9.4 Liaison Updates

9.4.1 Trustee Bekkering

Trustee Bekkering provided a verbal report on the BCPSEA conference call held on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Bekkering advised that an update from the BCPSEA Bargaining Committee regarding the negotiations of a new collective agreement with the British Columbia Teachers' Association was received. The update reported that proposals have been presented by both parties and that serious consideration will be given to both of the proposals.

Trustee Bekkering reviewed the report of Trustee Liaison update that was included in the agenda package.

9.4.2 Trustee Polillo

Trustee Polillo reviewed the report of Trustee Liaison update that was included in the agenda package.

9.4.3 Trustee Warrington

Trustee Warrington reviewed the report of Trustee Liaison update that was included in the agenda package.

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

10.1 BC Poverty Reduction Strategy

Trustee Derrick brought forward the following motion in response to the recent Poverty Reduction Plan announcement by the Social Development Minister Shane Simpson to reduce overall poverty in the province by 25 per cent within five years and cut child poverty in half within five years.

MOVED and SECONDED

That School District No. 57 (Prince George) form an Ad Hoc Committee to review the school district's food programs in regards to the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy food security recommendation.

CARRIED

All Trustees voted in favour of the motion.

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11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary Treasurer