



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 47 (POWELL RIVER)
BOARD OF EDUCATION - REGULAR MEETING
4:00 PM., Wednesday, September 14, 2022
SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE

MINUTES

Present: Dale Lawson, Jaclyn Miller, Rob Hill, Doug Skinner

Regrets: Brendan Behan

Also in attendance: Jay Yule (Superintendent), Steve Hopkins (Secretary-Treasurer), Kristen Brach (Director of Instruction), Allison Burt (Director of Instruction), Kristy Payne (Director of Communications)

PRESENTATIONS:

Cory Vanderhorst, Kristy Rowbotham MNP – Audited Financial Statements

Mr. Vanderhorst thanked the finance team for a smooth audit and stated that statements are in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines. The audit has been completed with no issues to bring to the Board's attention.

Mr. Vanderhorst reviewed how the School District ended the fiscal year at June 30th 2022 compared to June 30 2021.

Siobhan Brown, Program Coordinator and Chelsea Friesen, qathet Community Justice

Please see presentation in agenda.

qathet Community Justice would like:

- To be included in the Board's Strategic Plan for 2023-2026 in order to Identify Restorative Approaches as a priority.
- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding or Protocol (SD47 AP352, Police Action in Schools Restorative Approaches) where necessary.
- Financial support.

D. Lawson asked for an example of the outcome of their sessions. S. Brown indicated that students return to school feeling the conflict has been resolved and they are safe.

J. Miller asked if there are crimes that would be screened out? S. Brown indicated that it is not so much about crime, but rather about the person committed to be there and helping work through their traumatization.

R. Hill asked if teachers at Brooks are involved? S. Brown indicated not at all meetings. If the conflict is between student/teacher, it really depends on their comfort level about meeting.

Question asked about the length of a process. Response was that it could be anywhere from a month to a year.

D. Skinner asked if Lindsay Carlos, our Family Liaison Worker is involved. S. Brown indicated she had not heard of Ms. Carlos. T. Larkin attends all meetings.

Question Period

Ellen Gould – PRESS.

Ms. Gould spoke to the Board indicating that PRESS is pre-empting and dominating the School District elections and would like clarification on a few items and requests as well.

E. Gould asked PRESS to clean up publicity materials, so the School District address does not appear on their publications. It is still listed on the PRESS brochure.

Hugh Prichard is supposedly listing/using his School District email for Terracentric business. Could he be asked to not continue doing this.

E. Gould stated that Dr. Jay Yule is the Executive Director of PRESS and Superintendent of School District 47 and would like to know if there any School District resources allocated to PRESS and the OLC? D. Lawson responded that the Board has no involvement or business with PRESS, nor does it look after any part of PRESS.

E. Gould asked if staff time is being allocated to PRESS. Response was that there is not.

J. Yule mentioned that he would be happy to meet with Ms. Gould should she have any further questions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

'September is a perfect time to welcome new beginnings, I always enjoy the proud 'first day' photos shared by many at the beginning of the school year. There's a sense of excitement throughout the district with meet the teacher nights, community building days, house teams, dances, and a plethora of activities to get students, families and staff reacquainted and get everyone back into the groove.

For those of us around this table today, September also marks an ending as we participate in our last board meeting together today. Most of us are looking forward to continued involvement as part of our team to support student success across SD47, others have made a different choice.

Each of us bring unique skills, experiences and perspective to this role, it doesn't matter where you come from or what experiences have helped to shape who you are, student success matters to all of us. Over this term trustees have invested in a considerable number of leadership positions to advance the board's priorities including Directors of Instruction, Communications, Technology and District Principal of Indigenous Education. We've made additional investments in staffing for implementation of before and after school care, summer, spring break and school meal programs and added two new childcare centres to our community just to name a few.

Over this term we engaged all stakeholder groups to complete an overhaul of district policies and administrative procedures to ensure they reflect our board's values and continued commitment to facilitating a safe, diverse, inclusive, and collaborative culture for staff and students.

I'd like to take a moment to thank all who put their names forward over this term for the opportunity to serve in the important work of school trustee. It's a big commitment to put your time, passion and dedication into a four-year term. I'd like to acknowledge Doug Skinner for his commitment of 14 years of service as trustee in our district. Doug's contributions have been extensive over the years, his passion for supporting student success has been unwavering. His voice will be missed around the table, we wish him well in his retirement. Thank you, Doug. **

The next time we convene at this table, our team will look a little different, regardless we will remain steadfast in our commitment to continuing momentum and preparing students to face a changing world as lifelong learners and informed, responsible citizens.

Visit our [Website](#) to learn more about the SD47 Board of Education, our strategic plan and the programs and services that we offer.

Lastly, on behalf of the board, I'd like to extend sincere thanks and appreciation for all of our staff who work so hard to deliver excellence in the work they do for us every single day. Thank you all, we're going to have a fantastic school year!

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved: D. Skinner

Seconded: R. Hill

THAT the Regular meeting agenda of September 14, 2022, be adopted as circulated.

Status: Carried

2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved: R. Hill

Seconded: D. Skinner

THAT the Regular meeting minutes of June 22, 2022, be adopted as circulated.

Status: Carried

3. **REPORT OF CLOSED MEETINGS**

3.a) June 22, 2022 – The Board met in-camera to discuss items concerning personnel and student welfare.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

INCOMING

4.a) SD72 to Hon. J. Whiteside
For information.

4.b) SD68 to Hon. J. Whiteside
J. Miller stated she strongly agrees with this letter to Ministry asking for partnering with Ministry of Education and Child Care.

Moved: J. Miller

Seconded: R. Hill

THAT the Board of Education send a similar letter to Hon. J. Whiteside, re: Mental Health.

Status: Carried

4.c) Hon. J. Whiteside to All Board Chairs, Superintendents, Secretary-Treasurers

Welcomed announcement. We are fortunate to enhance local programs. Stakeholder engagement process will be forthcoming. J. Yule stated our District is in a good position. This is an opportunity to enhance and make more things affordable for parents. Principals will be discussing with their school PACS and we will be discussing with DPAC and Tla'amin. Currently in place are free workbooks.

R. Hill asked if we are not sending out surveys similar to other districts. J. Yule indicated it is best to work via our PACS as they are the voice of parents.

4.d) Assistant Deputy Minister C. Brown to C. Broady, BCSTA President
For information.

Moved: R. Hill

Seconded: D. Skinner

THAT the correspondence listed in items 4.a) to 4.d) be received.

Status: Carried

5. **OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE**

5.a) SD47 to Hon. R. Fleming
For information.

5.b) SD47 to Prov. of BC, Community and Employer Partnerships Program
For information.

5.c) SD47 to Community Forest Board
For information.

6. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORT

6.a) First Week of School Summary

J. Yule updated the Board with respect to school start up.

The District appears to have an increase of approximately 200 students. Enrollments are still trickling in. Although this increase is welcomed, it has caused a little pressure at our schools – Westview and Edgehill Elementary Schools are full and Henderson Elementary has added a section. We can still accommodate students and encouraged parents to plan ahead.

New teachers and education assistants have been hired, along with new openings in the Early Learning Program. It has been an exciting start to the year. We have also added coordinators, technology staff, along with mental health programs/staff.

R. Hill asked for clarification with respect to being placed on a waitlist when not being able to enroll at a school of choice. J. Yule responded in that they can register at their school of choice provided there is space available. Waitlists are created only when schools are full. Students attend another school and most end up staying but re-iterated that we do have waitlists. Also mentioned was that transportation assistance is available if needed, or a courtesy bus riding pass could be made available if it fits the schedule/location of the stop.

R. Hill asked how full could a school get? J. Yule responded that we can go over dependent on space available and that class size limits dictate how much space we have.

6.b) Early Learning and Childcare Capacity Funding

Mr. Raun Rainbow, Vice Principal at Westview Elementary will be responsible for our Early Learning and Child Care Program. Childcare is coming onboard and will expand over the next few years.

6.c) Enhanced Student Learning Annual Report

Framework for enhancing student learning highlights were provided to the Board. Communications Director will be sharing information for involvement.

K.Brach and A. Burt presented an annual review, analysis, and interpretation of provincial measures. K. Brach spoke to EDI data and how JB4 and Seamless Day programs will help students be prepared for entering school. Senior staff will continue working collaboratively with Kindergarten teachers. Also reported was the districts continued participation in MDI and the expected addition of YDI this year. Please see agenda for details.

Indigenous Education

Hiring our District Principal of Indigenous Education and using that position to resource, make connections, and reaching out to the Nation to work on a draft LEA, adding a cultural support worker, offering Ayajuthem Language to grades 8 – 12, grad requirement a year

ahead for First Peoples 10 at Brooks and as an online program are highlights to celebrate although we will continue working on more.

Foundation Skills Assessment

Literacy rates have increased significantly and are higher than province (13-21% up). Numeracy in grade 4 stayed equal with our province. Grade 7 stayed the same – equal with our province. Thanks to school staff as it has helped us improve. Still work to do but will continue to strive to get even better. D. Skinner asked if numbers of students participating in FSA have increased? K. Brach indicated they have increased although we would like to be even higher, but we are getting better.

Graduation Data

Academic counsellor and increase in counselling time have been added to help students graduate.

Mental Health in Schools

This is an area of concern and Covid hasn't helped. This will continue to be a focus. Ed Can modules are being promoted. Employee health important for student health. Wellness Committee is doing a good job providing wellness information including Homewood Health information. Unions are also providing information as is our SOGI Committee.

D. Lawson indicated that data is important but delivery of data also important. K. Brach agreed with D. Lawson and indicated that grade 6 student council focus groups are setting the stage for sharing information, and that conversation with students will be taking place.

R. Hill asked if numeracy is standard across the province and if grade 8+ teachers collaborating? A. Burt and K. Brach explained what teachers can do, what they meet about, and what assessments could be used.

Moved: R. Hill
Seconded: J. Miller

THAT the Board of Education of School District 47 (Powell River) approve the submission of the Enhanced Student Learning Report for the 2021/2022 School Year.

Status: Carried

6.d) Strategic Communications Plan

Please refer to presentation in agenda.

K. Payne reviewed document in agenda. D. Lawson thanked K. Payne for her work thus far.

Moved: J. Miller
Seconded: R. Hill

THAT the Strategic Communications Plan be adopted as presented.

Status: Carried

6.e) Youth Restorative Action Project Proposal

Background info from group that presented earlier. Further discussion/recommendation to take place at a later meeting.

6.f) Power to Suspend for 2022-2023

Moved: R. Hill

Seconded: D. Skinner

TO recognize the personnel listed as having the authorization outlined.

Status: Carried

6.g) Maintenance of Order for 2022-2023

Moved: R. Hill

Seconded: D. Skinner

TO recognize the personnel listed as having the authorization outlined.

Status: Carried

6.h) Out of Country Field Trip Proposal

Moved: R. Hill

Seconded: J. Miller

TO approve in principle the travel itinerary for a prospective student trip to Switzerland and Italy during Spring Break of 2024.

Status: Carried

6.i) Suspension, Exclusion and Seclusion Report

N/A

Moved: D. Skinner

Seconded: R. Hill

THAT the Superintendent of Schools' Report be received as presented.

Status: Carried

7. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

7.a) Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis

S. Hopkins spoke to auditors presentation and documents in agenda and itemized financial data in various departments.

7.b) Audited Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2022

Moved: D. Skinner

Seconded: J. Miller

TO approve the operating surplus restriction of \$1,367,635 and the Local Capital Restriction of \$967,473 as detailed in NOTE 18 of the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2022.

Status: Carried

Moved: R. Hill

Seconded: J. Miller

THAT the Board of Education of School District 47 (Powell River) approve the Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2022.

Status: Carried

7.c) 2023/2024 Capital Plan Overview

S. Hopkins spoke to document provided in agenda. Preliminary report submitted in spring, now finalized report to be submitted.

Edgehill Elementary - addition to the building which, if supported, would potentially increase the school capacity to 40 kindergarten and 225 elementary aged students.

Seismic Mitigation Program (SMP)

Seismic improvements (million) - Texada - \$4.3 and James Thomson (Heritage) - \$2.9

School Enhancement Program (SEP)

Mechanical system & ventilation upgrade – James Thomson Elementary – main building estimate - \$1,285,625, Mechanical system & ventilation upgrade – James Thomson Elementary – main building estimate - \$811,250

Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCP)

LED lighting upgrade – multiple elementary sites estimate - \$180,521

Bus Acquisition Program (BUS)

Business case for early replacement of a unit under review

Moved: D. Skinner
Seconded: J. Miller

TO approve the 2022/2023 Capital Plan Submission.

Status: Carried

7.d) Operational Update

S. Hopkins provided the following updates:

- Work endorsed in spring which was to be completed in the summer is on track.
- Turning corner on two daycares. Modular company had their rep here in summer and a meeting is taking place again tomorrow to continue discussions.
- Expansion to turf field almost complete.
- LED lighting at Texada has started.
- Outdoor classroom at Edgehill has been completed.
- Bussing-processing late applicants and on the cusp of entertaining courtesy riders. Hoping for better messaging next year.
- Technology-supply chain issues with equipment order. Plan for work to continue.
- J. Miller asked if there will be a change in bus application process? S. Hopkins explained that it hadn't but that the process could be improved.
- R. Hill asked the status of hiring an Operations Director. S. Hopkins reported that multiple candidates had been interviewed but that a fit had not yet been found.
- D. Lawson asked if all schools have outdoor classrooms. S. Hopkins responded that Kelly Creek, Edgehill, Henderson, James Thomson, and Westview do, however no formal plans for Texada.
- R. Hill asked if there is potential of an outdoor classroom being built in the Penticton trails. S. Hopkins reported that the property is owned by the City, not the School District.
- D. Skinner asked about the status of solar installation. S. Hopkins reported that Brooks is complete. Theatre roof is fully loaded. Edgehill and Westview are being developed.

Moved: R. Hill
Seconded: D. Skinner

THAT the Secretary-Treasurer's Report be received as presented.

Status: Carried

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.a) New Trustee Orientation

J. Yule is working with Mr. M. Roberts and preparing a more robust orientation for Trustees.

QUESTION PERIOD

- Ms. I. Loveluck, President of PRDTA thanked D. Skinner for his service and wished him luck in his second retirement.
- All Trustee Candidate Meeting will be hosted at the theatre on October 6. Time to be determined.
- Thank you to board and senior management for library funds – teachers were extremely excited!
- Thank you to senior management for new division at Westview and dealing with overflow at Edgehill and Westview by adding a division at Henderson.
- Very successful teacher orientation – 23 or so attended – extremely well received. Kudos to the District for paying those who attended.
- Asked if PRDTA be sent FESL so it can be shared with the Executive and any interested teachers
- Comment about FSA - more interested in cohort data.
- Thankful for collaboration time.
- I. Loveluck asked how the communication plan communicates with the more vulnerable population and also asked what the cost is for our new logo and what the budget for communications is? S. Hopkins to provide.
- Thank you to all Trustees for their continued work.

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD

- P. Galinski asked for the number of new students in schools. J. Yule indicated it is approximately 250 new students (headcount) – mostly PIE students.
- Also asked was how many new teachers? J. Yule responded that there are approximately 31 new teachers but not necessarily full time.
- Asked about total enrollment number. J. Yule responded – currently 3379. The District is in a growth phase.
- Thanked outgoing Board and wished those running for re-election good luck.
- Thank you to D. Skinner for his service.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved: J. Miller

THAT the Regular Board Meeting be adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Status: Carried



D. Lawson
Chairperson



S. Hopkins
Secretary-Treasurer

SH/ac