



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
4:00 pm, Wednesday, September 20, 2023
School Board Office

MINUTES

Present: Dale Lawson, Rob Hill, Maureen Mason, Jaclyn Miller, Kirsten Van't Schip

Also in attendance: Jay Yule (Superintendent), Steve Hopkins (Secretary-Treasurer)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lawson at 4:04 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

“Wrapping up the warm, long days of the summer months always feels a little difficult to let go of, but the revitalized energy and enthusiasm of September helps to make this month one of my favorites of the school year.

Students and parents are getting back into their routines, planning for meals, preparing supplies and coordinating their households easing into the transition to fall as smoothly as possible.

Every school is a place where all students deserve to be welcomed, included and respected in a safe environment. Each school in our district is as unique and diverse as the students they serve but one thing they all have in common at this time of the year is the contagious excitement for new beginnings and opportunities. Staff have worked hard over the summer to ensure our schools and classrooms were ready to receive students and we're ready for an exciting year.

Bringing people together, connecting and celebrating differences and similarities always feels more natural to me when there's food involved. It was my pleasure to attend a Meet the Teacher BBQ at Henderson last week. Mr. Hull was happily flipping burgers while chatting with students and staff, the volunteer sign-up sheets were out on a table with pens ready. Staff engaged with parents and students while helping to serve food. The lineup for BBQ was a little long at times but nobody seemed to mind as they joyfully connected with one another.

September includes our district wide professional development day. As part of our District's commitment toward indigenous education and reconciliation, our Indigenous Education department is leading a blanket exercise for all CUPE staff. Many staff have participated in this interactive educational activity designed to help people understand the historical and ongoing impact of colonization on Indigenous communities. Professional development activities such as these provide opportunities to explore meaningful ways to learn more about our shared history.

This community that we share is one of the best. As we start this school year, we know that we need to continue to lean into one another, inspire each other and lift each other up. We know that learning is

best rooted in relationships that are built in safe, caring, and nurturing environments and that each of us have a role to play in that.

On behalf of your board of education, 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!"

PRESENTATION: Cory Vanderhorst, Graham Roberts MNP – Audited Financial Statements

C. Vanderhorst and G. Roberts presented the audited financial statements to the board. They reported that they are providing a clean audit opinion, which has been prepared in accordance with appropriate provincial regulations. The auditors reviewed the Statement of Financial Operations, the Statement of Operations. Materiality for the purpose of the audit was set at 1.9 million. The audit firm reported that there are no concerns or items to bring to board attention.

QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: M. Mason

THAT the Regular meeting agenda of September 20, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

STATUS: CARRIED.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: K. Van't Schip

THAT the Regular meeting minutes of June 21, 2023, be adopted as circulated.

STATUS: CARRIED.

3. REPORT OF CLOSED MEETINGS

3.a) June 21, 2023 – The Board met in-camera to discuss items which include personnel and legal.

4. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

4.a) Chilliwack School District to Minister Singh

4.b) Pacific Rim School District to Minister Singh

4.c) Minister Singh to Pacific Rim School District

4.d) BCSTA to Minister Singh and Minister Dean

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: K. Van't Schip

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

STATUS: CARRIED.

5. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

5.a) N/A

6. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORT

6.a) 2022/2023 Framework for Enhanced Student Learning Report (FESL)

J. Yule shared the Enhanced Student Learning Report, a ministry requirement due by the end of September. The report provides feedback on the standards outlined in the board's strategic plan. Data used for this report covers the entirety of the previous school year.

During the discussion, R. Hill drew attention to discrepancies in language used in specific data sets, particularly the term "reserve" in reference to students' residences. A request was made to instead use the term "indigenous students residing on Nation land". J. Yule acknowledged that a similar request had been previously made to the ministry regarding this dataset and assured that it would be emphasized once again.

Additionally, trustees requested that staff include hyperlinks to the data sources on the Trustee Portal, accompanied by a schedule indicating when the data will be accessible to the district.

6.b) School Growth Plans

School growth plans were included in the agenda package for information. J. Yule pointed out that schools are encouraged to align their growth plans with both the board's overarching priorities and their own specific school-based objectives. A work plan will be developed to outline the objectives and measurable outcomes.

6.c) Anticipated School Enrolment

The report on anticipated school enrolment was presented for informational purposes. A request was made for more detailed information regarding the movement of students between schools. J. Yule explained that although the district does not currently track this information, it could potentially be made available with some further investigation.

6.d) SOGI Report (oral)

J. Yule reported that a communication was sent to families on the day preceding the board meeting in anticipation of potential protests. This letter provided information about the curriculum content related to SOGI in schools and included links to relevant resources and SOGI initiatives.

6.e) Accessible BC Act – [District Implementation](#)

J. Yule stated that T. Gaudreau is spearheading the implementation of an accessibility plan as mandated by the Accessible BC Act. The district aims to have a finalized plan ready for presentation to the board by the end of the year.

6.f) Suspension, Exclusion, and Seclusion Report – September 6, 2022, to June 30, 2023

The report was presented as written. J. Yule pointed out that it encompasses data for the previous school year and highlighted that the total number of suspensions recorded was generally low.

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: K. Van't Schip

THAT the Framework for Enhanced Student Learning Report for the 2022/2023 School Year be received.

STATUS: CARRIED.

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: M. Mason

THAT the School Growth plans for the 2023/2024 School Year be received.

STATUS: CARRIED.

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: K. Van't Schip

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

STATUS: CARRIED.

7. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

7.a) 2024/2025 Capital Plan Overview

S. Hopkins reported that the capital plan is generally adopted in two parts, with major capital projects adopted in June and minor capital projects adopted in September. The 2024/25 minor capital plan includes mechanical and ventilation upgrades at Henderson Elementary (SEP), lighting upgrades at Westview and Henderson Elementary (CNCP), and one additional school bus (BUS).

7.b) 2023/2024 Capital Plan response Letter Amendment

S. Hopkins reported that the ministry has now approved funding to improve kitchen equipment at several school, in the amount of \$31,600

MOVED: K. Van't Schip

SECONDED: J. Miller

THAT the 2024/2025 Minor Projects be approved as presented.

STATUS: CARRIED.

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: K. Van't Schip

THAT the Secretary Treasurer's report be received as presented.

STATUS: CARRIED.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.a) Committee of the Whole Report for September 13, 2023

8.a.i) Strategic Plan (Amended)

S. Hopkins indicated that the plan had been updated to incorporate the feedback received during the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Trustees shared their thoughts on the newly developed plan. They expressed pride in the plan, commending the collaborative process and celebrating its student-centered approach and objectives. Additionally, they emphasized the importance of maintaining focus and ensuring that the operational plan is aligned with and drives the goals forward.

8.a.ii) FSD&A

The Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis report was provided as written.

8.a.iii) Financial Statements

The Financial Statements were provided as written.

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: K. Van't Schip

THAT the 2023 – 2028 Strategic Plan Framework be adopted as presented.

STATUS: CARRIED.

MOVED: K. Van't Schip

SECONDED: J. Miller

TO approve the Operating surplus restriction of \$935,065 and the Local Capital restriction of \$537,195 as detailed in NOTE 18 of the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023.

STATUS: CARRIED.

MOVED: J. Miller

SECONDED: K. Van't Schip

THAT the Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2023, be approved as presented.

STATUS: CARRIED.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.a) N/A

QUESTION PERIOD

A representative of the PRDTA asked when the association could expect a response to their letter. D. Lawson indicated that a response was forthcoming.

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD

A member of the media asked where to find the board's new strategic plan. D. Lawson indicated that a draft was included in the agenda package and the final document would be published soon.

ADJOURNMENT

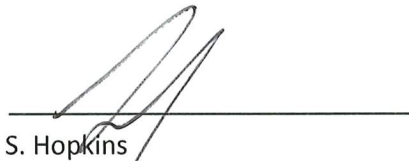
MOVED: J. Miller

THAT the Regular Board Meeting be adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

STATUS: CARRIED.



D. Lawson
Chairperson



S. Hopkins
Secretary-Treasurer

SH/ac