



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 47 (POWELL RIVER)
BOARD OF EDUCATION - REGULAR MEETING
4:00 PM., Wednesday, December 21, 2022
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)

Presentation

N/A

Question Period

Ms. I. Loveluck thanked J. Yule for calling a snow day and acknowledged J. Doohar for processing teacher salary increases and retro pay in the month of December.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

"December is always a busy month throughout SD47. This year our students were able to welcome their friends and family to join in some of the festivities like the annual winter wonderland skate sessions and community meals. Students and staff spend countless hours planning, practicing and performing their winter concerts for our enjoyment and theirs, and their efforts are evident.

Some students took the opportunity to showcase their incredible creative talents on stage for the 2022 Fine Arts Reach for the Top (FART) performances, where students offered a variety of entertainment including breakdance, choreography and instruments played solo as well as group acts.

I'm always inspired by the amount of diversity in talent we are so fortunate to experience in our schools and in our community. We know how much hard work and dedication goes into planning, decorating, participating, coordinating and performing. We are grateful for the hard work of many to bring such a variety of opportunities to support and nurture success for our students, in all of its forms.

This December also brings exciting news for SD47. On today's agenda you'll see a renewed commitment to strengthening relationships between the Tla amin Nation, the board, and our schools to better support the success of indigenous learners and build knowledge and understanding of indigenous ways of knowing and being for all of our students.

The signing of the Tla amin Education Agreement (TEA) and the partnership defined therein is a demonstration of our collective commitment to ensuring quality education that is respectful and reflective of local indigenous culture and history. We are excited to move forward together in our renewed commitment to promote Tla amin language and culture and to improve educational outcomes for all of our students.

This December we have much to celebrate as we welcome 2023 together. On behalf of your board of education, I'd like to wish everyone in our schools and community a safe and peaceful holiday season filled with joy, love and happiness."

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved: J. Miller

Seconded: R. Hill

THAT the Regular meeting agenda of December 21, 2022, be adopted as circulated.

Status: Carried

2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved: J. Miller

Seconded: K. Van't Schip

THAT the Regular meeting minutes of November 16, 2022, be adopted as circulated.

Status: Carried

3. **REPORT OF CLOSED MEETINGS**

3.a) November 16, 2022 – The Board met in-camera to discuss items concerning student welfare, personnel and legal matters.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

INCOMING

4.a) **Powell River Festival of Performing Arts to School District 47**

J. Yule reviewed the School District's historical support for the Festival of Performing Arts. D. Lawson asked if we need to support further than their request. J. Yule responded that we do support further however, teachers take this work on within their class. We will do everything we can to help with more participation.

- 4.b) BCSTA to BCSSA
For information.
- 4.c) BCTF to First Nations Leadership Council
Discussion ensued with respect 4.c) and 4.d) with respect to FSAs, administration, and use of data.
- 4.d) First Nations Leadership Council to BCTF
For information.
- 4.e) BCSTA to J. Smith-Windsor, Saskatchewan School Boards Association
For information.
- 4.f) BCSTA to Hon. D. Eby
For information.
- 4.g) C. Zacharuk, Deputy Minister to BCSTA
For information.
- 4.h) BCSTA to Hon. R. Singh (three letters)
Noted - letter with respect to Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.
- 4.i) BCSTA to Human Rights Commissioner
Question asked with respect to the school liaison officer role. J. Yule responded with how our local detachment decides on who is attached to specific schools and further stated that they participate in Violence Prevention Protocol. Other places have offices in schools – our District does not.
- 4.j) BCSTA to Hon. G. Lore
For information.
- 4.k) BCSTA to Hon. J. Whiteside
For information.
- 4.l) BCSTA to K. Chen
For information.
- 4.m) BCSTA to C. Broady
For information.
- 4.n) Tla'amin Nation to School District 47
For information.

Moved: J. Miller
Seconded: R. Hill

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

Status: Carried

5. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

5.a) SD47 to Henderson Students

Question asked as to how \$750.00 provided to Henderson Elementary was determined. S. Hopkins responded that in speaking to the Principal, M. Hull it was decided the total amount of the initiative would be shared equally by the District/School.

5.b) SD47 to Tla'amin Nation

For information.

6. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORT

6.a) Tla'amin Education Agreement

J. Yule was pleased to announce that an agreement with the Tla'amin Nation was attained. Thanks went to S. Call and J. Johnson who worked together diligently to reach this agreement. This agreement is similar to those we have had in place in the past, with the Nation taking the lead in the education of their students. J. Yule was pleased with the collaborative process that took place.

Correspondence has been sent to hegus Hackett asking to meet with respect to having a member of the Nation be part of the Board. This was originally part of the TEA but because it is outside the Board's capability, a meeting will take place to see how we can help.

Brief discussion ensued and Trustees shared positive sentiments with respect to having this in place.

Question asked regarding who operationalizes the agreement. J. Yule responded that once it is signed, groups get together to work on the terms of reference. Important to remember that this agreement is for Nation students. There is another committee which the Nation is committed to participating in which is broader and includes Indigenous Education for all students.

Trustees thanked J. Johnson and S. Call.

Noted by J. Miller that the Children in Care section was not amended.

6.b) Brooks' Field Trip Permission Form – Ontario Quebec

First time for this age group; District supportive of this field trip.

Discussion ensued on whether the affordability fund could be used to help with cost. It was stated that students start fundraising as soon as they receive approval and with the sale of food cards from local grocery stores, one could fundraise the entire amount of their trip.

6.c) Suspension, Exclusion, and Seclusion Report – September 6, 2022, to November 30, 2022

For information.

Moved: R. Hill
Seconded: M. Mason

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

Status: Carried

7. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

7.a) Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report

For information. Legislated requirement.

Question asked with respect to staff expense amounts. S. Hopkins responded indicating that expenses include mileage, travel expenses etc. and that they could be higher if one was required to visit a number of various locations.

S. Hopkins answered several questions with respect to the SOFI report and the various vendor amounts.

7.b) Month End Financial Report as at November 30, 2022

S. Hopkins reviewed the report included with the agenda.

Moved: R. Hill
Seconded: K. Van't Schip

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

Status: Carried

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Moved: J. Miller
Seconded: K. Van't Schip

THAT the Tla'amin Education Agreement, as presented, be signed and put into effect as of January first of the coming year.

Status: Carried

Moved: K. Van't Schip
Seconded: M. Mason

THAT the Powell River Board of Education changes its name to better reflect the cultural diversity and geographic area of our District.

Trustee Hill read the following to those present:

"In April of this year we were asked by the Nation, via hegus Hackett, to change the name of our district. At the time, we committed to the discussion but pushed it down the road mainly because of the upcoming summer break and a local election in October. With a new board, we have a renewed opportunity to make changes that reflect a strengthened relationship with the Nation

Change can be uncomfortable. But these feelings don't mean we shouldn't engage in discussion, and ergo, change.

Districts around the province have been engaging in renaming of schools (or districts) to better reflect Indigenous names (or culturally relevant names). We have SD50 Haida Gwaii (changed in 2009) and SD92 Nisga'a. We see it across Vancouver island (Pacific Rim school district for example), in Vancouver, and in other towns and cities across the province. We also see this movement Canada wide - Ontario is a great example where districts are renaming schools.

Prince George recently noted they would engage in a district renaming. It's unfortunate that a very close vote decided to put it on the back burner. Kootenay Lake is engaging with policy that would prohibit any new facilities to be named after people, living or dead.

A change in the district name is reconciliation and diversity in action. It's a transformative act. This is a long time coming. I believe that deep community consultation with teachers, students, families and other stakeholders can happen at the school level. We have administrators letting us know that their school wants a rebrand. Change needs to start at the top, with us, and I believe that all stakeholders would be in favour of rebranding.

BC journalist Tracy Sherlock noted that we never know what the outcomes of our actions will be. She notes that maybe planting the seed of a name change will lead to even bigger change and opportunities for reconciliation down the road. Change can be uncomfortable.... But it can also make us proud.

Let's see a district name change as the seed. How we choose to water it matters. I say we get to work. What happens next is up to us."

J. Miller clarified that with respect to the motion duly moved and seconded, that all stakeholders will be involved in the process and that the name will be chosen that best reflects our cultural diversity and geographical area.

Status: Carried

Moved: J. Miller

Seconded: K. Van't Schip

THAT the remuneration for Trustees be increased by 4% for the 2023 calendar year.

Questions/comments with respect to the calculation of the percent recommended. S. Hopkins referred to the Board Policy which outlines the process to be followed each year.

Status: Carried

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**
N/A

QUESTION PERIOD

Ms. I. Loveluck, PRDTA President asked for the date of the last raise for Trustees. S. Hopkins responded that he believed it was 2019 but that he would need to check.

Ms. Loveluck asked if Trustees were aware that teachers received a 3.75% increase? S. Hopkins responded that other provisions also need to be factored in, in addition to the base wage increase.

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD

P. Galinski, PR Peak Reporter asked whether the Tla'amin Education Agreement was a District Initiative or a Tla'amin Initiative. J. Yule responded that it was a collaborative process. Took a little longer because of Treaty and change in government, however the Nation has been wonderful putting people in administrative positions to work together. The process started three years ago.

P. Galinski noted it is an extensive document and wondered if there was a template? J. Yule responded that FNEESC provided a template which was available to any District or Nation.

P. Galinski asked if the SOFI report will be available on our website? S. Hopkins responded that it will be publicly available.

P. Galinski asked about the District change of name and confirmed that the District will initiate discussions and have consultation with the Nation.

ADJOURNMENT

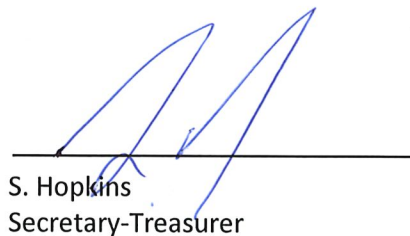
Moved: J. Miller

THAT the Regular Board Meeting be adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Status: Carried



D. Lawson
Chairperson



S. Hopkins
Secretary-Treasurer

SH/ac