
Present:

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

Rod Allen, Superintendent of Schools
Darleen Patterson, Secretary Treasurer
Diane Nygaard, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The following additions were made to the agenda:

New Business

Northern Opportunities and Shoulder Tappers Program (S. Warrington)

Trustee Reports

BCPSEA Update (B. Bekkering)

Aboriginal Education Committee Report (T. Derrick)

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Cassandra Malfair, parent of a Edgewood Elementary student and a Duchess Park Secondary student, spoke in support of the recommendation that appears on this evening's agenda regarding the Edgewood Elementary School catchment area, September 2019 and subsequent years, grandfathering of sibling transition process from grade 7 to 8.

Ron Davis representing the Yellowhead Rotary presented an award to the school district "Healthier You 2019".

Naelia Mansour and Owen MacDonald representing the District Students Advisory Council provided an overview of the group's goals for the 2020/21 school year.

Joanne Hapke representing the Prince George District Teachers' Association, presented a Christmas wish list on behalf of its members. Items included budget for student resources and support for teacher wellness and a new collective agreement.

Karen Wong representing CUPE 3742 acknowledged the newly negotiated collective agreement. Ms. Wong advised a request for the 2022 collective agreement will include an Early Care and Learning Plan.

Andrea Beckett, President, District Parent Advisory Council provided a written submission. The Board Chair reviewed the submission which included an appreciation of the collaborative relationship with the school district and a heartfelt thank you for Mr. Allen's time as Superintendent of Schools. The submission also included an overview of the recent BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils.

4. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

Trustee Valimohamed acknowledged a recent donation provided from the Rotary to Morfee Elementary School.

Trustee Bekkering reported that she attended the opening of two of six new homes being built on the Lheidli T'enneh Reserve. She commented on the Trustee/Family of Schools meeting held at Beaverly Elementary School on November 13th.

Trustee Derrick provided an overview of the recent Balhats Celebration and recognized the strong relationship with the school district.

Trustee Bennett drew attention to the newly installed Lheidli T'enneh flag in the Boardroom.

Trustee Polillo and Trustee Bennett congratulated student athletes representing the school district in city and provincial competitions.

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

5.1 Regular Public Meeting of October 29, 2019

The minutes of the regular public meeting of October 29, 2019 were adopted as published.

5.2 Inaugural Meeting of November 6, 2019

Housekeeping items were noted.

The minutes of the Inaugural meeting of November 6, 2019 were adopted as amended.

5.3 Record of In Camera Meeting Minutes

The report on the items discussed and decisions made at the regular in camera meeting of October 29, 2019 and the special in camera meetings of October 29, November 6 and 14, 2019 were approved.

6. **PRESENTATION**

6.1 PG Retired Teachers' Education Heritage Committee

Tiiu Noukas and Kris Nellis of the Prince George Retired Teachers' Education Heritage Committee presented the Board of Education with a three-volume collection of news articles detailing local public school education from 1910 to 1946.

Board Chair Bennett expressed gratitude to Mr. Rod Allen for his service to the school district as Acting Superintendent.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

8. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

8.1 Trustee Committee and Liaison Appointments

The Board Chair reviewed the recommendation and rationale that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That Bylaw 1, 2.9 be waived and the December 2018 Trustee Committee and Liaison Appointments remain in effect until the completion of the school district's policy review and adoption of a revised policy manual.

CARRIED

8.2 Catchment, Capacity and Programs – September 2019-2020 and Subsequent Years – Grandfathering of Siblings

8.2.1 Spruceland Elementary School

Trustee Warrington reviewed the recommendation and rationale that was included in the agenda package. Ms. Warrington drew attention to Policy 5119 School Catchment Areas, Registration and Student Transfers that was also included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the transition process, beginning September 2020 for grade 7 students currently attending Spruceland Traditional Elementary School, entitles students, who at the time of transition have siblings enrolled in grades 8 – 12 in the regular program at Duchess Park Secondary School, to transition to the regular program offered at Duchess Park Secondary School.

The Secretary Treasurer responded to questions from the Trustees.

The motion generated significant discussion and debate.

The original motion was amended as follows:

MOVED and SECONDED

That the transition process, for the 2020/21 school year for grade 7 students currently attending Spruceland Traditional Elementary School, entitles students, who at the time of transition have siblings enrolled in grades 8 – 12 in the regular program at Duchess Park Secondary School, to transition to the regular program offered at Duchess Park Secondary School.

DEFEATED

The discussion returned to the original motion and it was carried.

8.2.2 Edgewood Elementary School

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

The Secretary Treasurer responded to questions from the Trustees. Ms. Patterson noted that the transportation for students grandfathered to Duchess Park Secondary School will require review in the future.

The motion generated significant discussion and debate.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the transition process, beginning September 2020 for grade 7 students currently attending Edgewood Elementary School, entitles students, who at the time of transition have siblings enrolled in grades 8 – 12 in the regular program at Duchess Park Secondary School to transition to the regular program offered at Duchess Park Secondary School.

CARRIED

9. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

9.1 Committee Report

Trustee Warrington reviewed the November 2019 Management and Finance Committee that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report of the Management and Finance Committee meeting held on November 18, 2019 be received.

CARRIED

Trustee Derrick requested that the Board send a letter regarding Bill 41.

A point of order was raised by a Trustee stating that the letter is not related to the motion on the floor. Chair Bennett postponed the discussion of the point of order to follow the Management and Finance agenda items.

9.2 2019 – 2020 Budget Consultation – Expanded Committee of the Whole

Trustee Warrington reviewed the recommendation and rationale that was included in the agenda package and responded to questions from the Trustees.

Ms. Warrington reviewed the draft Terms of Reference and the suggested timeline and proposed agendas that were also included in the agenda package.

Trustees requested that the suggested meeting of April 2, 2020 be extended to 6:00 p.m.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Terms of Reference of the Budget Consultation Expanded Committee of the Whole, and suggested meeting timelines and proposed agendas, be confirmed for the 2020-2021 Annual Budget process as amended.

CARRIED

The Board Chair returned to the point of order, Mr. Bennett ruled that due to the expressed time constraints that the motion regarding Bill 41 be added under New Business as item 14.3.

A recess was called at 8:17 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 8:27 p.m.

10. EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

10.1 Committee Report

Trustee Polillo reviewed the November 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 November 4, 2019 be received.

CARRIED

10.2 2019-2020 Student Enrolment Numbers

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

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education approves the publication of the 2019-2020 student enrolment numbers by school on the school district's website.

CARRIED

10.3 Catchment and Capacity Review Stakeholder Advisory Committee

10.3.1 Terms of Reference

Trustee Polillo reviewed the recommendation and rationale that was included in the agenda package. Mr. Polillo drew attention to the Terms of Reference that was also included in the agenda package and reviewed the scope of the advisory committee.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the revised Terms of Reference for the Expanded Committee of the Whole Catchment and Capacity Review Stakeholder Advisory Committee be approved as presented.

CARRIED

11. EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

11.1 Committee Report

Trustee Derrick reviewed the November 2019 Education Programs and Planning Committee Report that was included in the agenda package.

Trustee Derrick advised the committee also received a PowerPoint presentation on the 2018-2019 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. The committee was advised that the Framework is in transition and that further updates will be provided to the committee in January 2020.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report of the Education Program and Planning Committee meeting held on November 19, 2019 be received.

CARRIED

12. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

12.1 Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2018/19 6-Year Completion Rates.

Mr. Allen reported that school district has launched the new [MyEdBC Family Portal](#). An overview of the portal was provided.

Mr. Allen advised that Anita Richardson, newly appointed Superintendent will be commencing her work in the school district on December 18th and will officially assume the role of Superintendent effective January 1, 2020. Mr. Allen spoke in appreciation of his time working in the school district as the Acting Superintendent of Schools.

13. TRUSTEE REPORTS

13.1 BC School Trustees' Association

Trustee Polillo drew attention to the report included in the agenda package.

The Board Chair provided an overview of the BCSTA Board of Directors meeting held in Vancouver on November 28th in Vancouver. Mr. Bennett also provided an overview of the Trustee Academy held in Vancouver on November 28 to 30, 2020.

13.2 District Parent Advisory Council

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

13.3 District Student Advisory Council

Trustee Polillo reviewed the District Student Advisory Council report that was included in the agenda package.

13.4 BCPSEA Update

Trustee Bekkering review a recent British Columbia Public School Employers' Association report.

13.5 Liaison Updates

Trustee Derrick provided an overview of the Aboriginal Education Committee meeting held on December 2, 2019.

13.5.1 Trustee Bennett

Trustee Bennett drew attention to the Trustee Liaison update that was included in the agenda package.

13.5.2 Trustee Polillo

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

13.5.3 Trustee Valimohamed

Trustee Valimohamed reviewed the Trustee Liaison update that was included in the agenda package.

14. **NEW BUSINESS**

14.1 Northern Opportunities and Shoulder Tappers Program

Trustee Warrington brought forward the following motions in response to a letter dated November 4, 2019 from the Northern Development Initiative Trust addressed to the Minister of Education and copied to the Board of Education. The letter is a request for the Ministry of Education to commit to funding the Shoulder Tappers Program on a continual basis beginning with the 2020/21 school year.

Ms. Warrington noted that this program provided a unique solution to supporting career development for Northern BC youth and addresses the significant gap in skilled trades needed in the northern region.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the following motion be submitted to the BCPSEA Annual General Meeting: *Be it resolved that the BCPSEA Representative Assembly strongly urge the BCPSEA Board of Directors to request the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Finance to commit to funding the Northern Opportunities and Shoulder Tappers Program in BC school districts on a continual basis beginning with the 2020/21 school year.*

CARRIED

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education write a letter to the Minister of Education and Minister of Finance in support of the Northern Development Initiative Trust's request to urge the Minister of Education to commit to funding the Shoulder Tappers Program/Northern Opportunities on a continual basis beginning with the 2020/21 school year.

CARRIED

14.2 Bill 41, 2019: Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

Trustee Derrick brought forward the following motion:

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education write letters to Minister of Finance and the Minister of Education to establish funding outside of the regular Ministry of Education funding to meet the financial commitments arising from Bill 41, 2019: Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

CARRIED

15. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Trustee Bennett drew the Board's attention to the following letter that was included in the agenda package:

- Letter of Support dated November 14, 2019 to Carrier Sekani Family Services regarding the First Nations Child and Youth Advocacy Centre

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer