
Present:

Sharel Warrington, Chair
Ron Polillo, Vice Chair
Betty Bekkering, Trustee
Tim Bennett, Trustee
Bob Thompson, Trustee

Cindy Heitman, Acting Superintendent of Schools
Darleen Patterson, Secretary Treasurer
Diane Nygaard, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY**

The Board Chair provided a formal acknowledgement of the unceded ancestral lands, culture and people of the Lheidli T'enneh Nation, McLeod Lake Indian Band and Simpcw First Nation.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was amended to include an addition under New Business as item 11.2 Flag Protocol.

A correction was noted under item 14.4 to indicate that Trustee Warrington will be providing the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee report at this evening's meeting.

The agenda was approved as amended.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Karen Wong representing CUPE 3742 stated that safety is the most pressing issue for its members related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Ms. Wong requested that the Board go over and above the minimum cleaning requirements in schools set by the Public Health Officer and requested the Board provide funding for additional custodial daytime staffing. She also drew attention to item 2d) of the Policy and Governance Committee report that was included in the agenda package regarding the Board's requirement to develop a child care policy and asked the Board to consider CUPE 3742 members first when establishing child care programs.

Daryl Beauregard representing the Prince George District Teachers' Association spoke regarding the COVID-19 protocols in schools and the ongoing shortage of teachers and teachers teaching on call. Mr. Beauregard also spoke regarding the findings of the Special Advisors' report dated June 24, 2021 related to supports for students. He requested that the Board ask its managerial staff to find bold and aggressive ways to recruit teachers within the school district.

Andrea Beckett representing the District Parent Advisory Council provided an overview of its work over the last month. Ms. Beckett formally requested a meeting with the Board including Senior Administration, and if appropriate the Ministry Special Advisors, to develop a concrete plan for re-working Bylaw 4 and developing a meaningful bylaw to support advocacy in all its forms in our district. She also formally requested that the Board officially reach out and invite BCCPAC and John Gaipman to assist the district in this work.

Harsh Dhaliwal representing the District Student Advisory Council, with Vice Principal Katie Marren in attendance provided an update regarding the group's anti-racism video that is expected to be complete by the end of October. The learning series consists of four 8 to 10 minute videos with the following themes:

- Experience
- Impact of Racism and Advice
- Hope and Allyship
- Things Students want Educators to know

Vice Principal Katie Marren provided an overview of the Learning Forward conferences that the students had been invited to. The students had been asked to present their work related to the anti-racism video over the past summer along with invitations to participate at future conferences. Ms. Marren spoke of the importance of the students' voice and agency.

5. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

Trustee Bekkering provided an overview of the following events:

- Spirit Day at DP Todd Secondary School
- September 24th – Day of Learning with Indigenous Focus
- Opening of the Smoke House at Prince George Secondary School

Trustee Polillo spoke positively regarding the Open House held at Shaḡ Ti Kelly Road Secondary School on September 23, 2021.

Trustee Warrington provided an overview of the September 22nd visit to the McLeod Lake Indian Band community and Mackenzie Secondary School with Acting Superintendent Cindy Heitman and Special Advisors Rod Allen and Catherine McGregor.

Ms. Warrington reported that the Board has started their work on the work plan in response to the Special Advisors' report dated June 24, 2021 and noted that the Board wishes to engage others and are committed to transparency related to that work.

Trustee Bennett commented positively on his recent opportunities to engage with parents and teachers through social media on the many events within the school district.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 Special Public Meeting of June 21, 2021

The minutes of the special public meeting of June 21, 2021 were adopted as published.

6.2 Regular Public Meeting of June 22, 2021

The minutes of the regular public meeting of June 22, 2021 were adopted as published.

6.3 Record of the Minutes of the Regular In Camera Meeting of May 25, 2021, Special In Camera Meetings of May 25, June 8, 11 and 14, 2021

The report on the items discussed and decisions made at the regular in camera meeting of June 21, 2021 and special in camera meetings of June 21, July 13, August 24 at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., September 10, September 13 at 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. and September 16, 2021 were approved.

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

8. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

8.1 Committee Report

Trustee Bennett reviewed the September 2021 Management and Finance Committee of the Whole report that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report of the Management and Finance Committee of the Whole meeting held on September 20, 2021 be received.

CARRIED

Trustee Bennett drew attention to the school district's submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services dated August 24, 2021 that was included in the agenda package under correspondence.

8.2 2021-21 Financial Statements

Trustee Bennett drew attention to the companion document titled "Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis for the Year Ended June 30, 2021 that was included in the agenda package.

Corey Naphtali, KPMG partner reported that the Independent Auditors' Report on the School District No. 57 (Prince George) financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2021 was presented to the Management and Finance Committee of the Whole on September 20, 2020. Mr. Naphtali provided an overview of the Auditor's responsibility and the Independent Auditors Report of the financial statements.

Darleen Patterson, Secretary Treasurer presented a PowerPoint presentation which provided an overview of the 2020-2021 financial statements that were included in the agenda package.

Ms. Patterson also reviewed the 2020-2021 appropriated operating surplus document that was included in the agenda package.

The Secretary Treasurer responded to questions from the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2021, be approved.

CARRIED

8.3 Appointment of Election Official for By-Election

Trustee Bennett advised that due to the September 13th resignations of Trustees Derrick and Valimohamed, the Board is required to hold a by-election. Mr. Bennett noted that the *School Act* states that the Board must appoint a Chief Election Officer within 30 days after a vacancy occurs. He advised that the Secretary Treasurer will bring forward a recommendation for the appointment of a Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officer at a future meeting.

9. POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

9.1 Committee Report

Trustee Bekkering reviewed the September 2021 Policy and Governance Committee report that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report of the Policy and Governance Committee meeting held on September 14, 2021 be received.

CARRIED

10. EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

10.1 Committee Report

Trustee Polillo reviewed the September 2021 Education Programs and Planning Committee report that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the report of the Education Programs and Planning Committee meeting held on September 21, 2021 be received.

CARRIED

A recess was called at 7:48 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

11. NEW BUSINESS

**11.1 Expanded Committee of the Whole – Catchment and Capacity Review
Rightsholder and Stakeholder Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference**

Trustee Bennett reviewed the recommendation that was included in the agenda package.

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the draft Terms of Reference that was included in the agenda package and responded to questions from the Trustees.

The Trustees requested that the timeline of the meetings be revised to read that the committee will meet as required between November 1 and January 15.

MOVED and SECONDED

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

CARRIED

11.2 Flag Protocol

The Board Chair reviewed the following motion in recognition of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

MOVED and SECONDED

That in accordance with Policy 6115, regulation 7.1.3 that the flags at SD57 schools and facilities be lowered to half-mast beginning September 29 for the remainder of the school week in recognition of the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

CARRIED

12. **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**

12.1 Acting Superintendent of Schools

The Acting Superintendent provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the following:

- 2021 Enrolment Data as at September 28, 2021
- Other Enrolment Data
- Foundation Skills Assessment (Data and Participation Rates)
- Student Learning Survey
- Strategic Plan Engagement

The Acting Superintendent responded to questions from the Trustees.

13. **REPORT FROM THE BOARD CHAIR**

The Board Chair commented regarding the September 13th resignation of Trustees Derrick and Valimohamed and spoke positively to their commitment to the school district.

Trustee Warrington acknowledged the receipt of the Special Advisors' report dated June 24, 2021. Ms. Warrington advised that the Board is working on its work plan in response to the report that is to be submitted by October 29, 2021.

14. TRUSTEE REPORTS

14.1 BC School Trustees' Association

Trustee Polillo reviewed the highlights of the report included in the agenda package.

14.2 BC Public School Employers' Association

Trustee Warrington reviewed the BCPSEA summary of highlights dated September 2021 that was provided to the Trustees as a handout.

14.3 District Parent Advisory Council

Trustee Bekkering provided an overview of the District Parent Advisory Council meeting held on September 13, 2021. Ms. Bekkering stated that the theme of the meeting was "advocacy". Trustee Bekkering asked DPAC to brainstorm and bring forward ideas to establish a Parent Advisory Council at Nusdeh Yoh Elementary School.

14.4 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Trustee Warrington provided an overview of the Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting held on September 20, 2021.

Agenda items included:

- Nomination of Chair and Committee Selections,
- Decolonizing and Indigenizing for Inclusive and Productive Meetings, Committee Reports,
- Terms of Reference
- Budget Input – Identify Priorities

14.5 Various Trustee Reports

14.5.1 Trustee Polillo

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

14.5.2 Other Trustees

None.

15. **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- o Letter dated June 23, 2021 from Lheidli T'enneh Chief Logan regarding a formal request to declare June 21, 2022 be declared an official school holiday
- o Letter of Response dated July 16, 2021 to Lheidli T'enneh Chief Logan regarding a formal request to declare June 21, 2022 be declared an official school holiday
- o Submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services dated August 24, 2021

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer