
Present:

Sharel Warrington, Chair
Ron Polillo, Vice Chair
Betty Bekkering, Trustee
Tim Bennett, Trustee
Milton Mahoney, Trustee
Bob Thompson, Trustee
Rachael Weber, Trustee

Cindy Heitman, Superintendent of Schools
Darleen Patterson, Secretary Treasurer
Lee Karpenko, Assistant Superintendent
Kap Manhas, Assistant Superintendent (Zoom)
Diane Nygaard, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY**

The Board Chair acknowledged that today is International Women's Day. Ms. Warrington provided a moment to think about the people of Ukraine.

The Board Chair provided a formal acknowledgement of the 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 13.3 Correspondence to the Board – M. Briggs and to postpone the Presentation from the Prince George Principals' and Vice Principals' Association to the next regular public meeting.

The agenda was approved as amended.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Daryl Beauregard representing the Prince George District Teachers' Association acknowledged International Women's Day. Mr. Beauregard spoke in support of the March 4, 2022 Ministry announcement regarding the new graduation requirement of 4 credits of a First People focused course. He spoke regarding a shortage of teachers teaching on call related to supports for students.

Suzanne Dallman representing CUPE 3742 congratulated the District Student Advisory Council on the release of their anti-racism videos. Ms. Dallman drew attention to draft childcare policy included in the Policy and Governance Committee report and requested that childcare be provided by CUPE 3742 workers. Ms. Dallman also drew attention to the draft 2023/24 calendar that is included on this evening's agenda and requested that the winter break be revised by moving the winter break to December 18 to December 29, 2022.

Andrea Beckett representing the District Parent Advisory Council acknowledged International Women's Day. Ms. Beckett advised that the Superintendent provided a presentation on the school district's budget process at its last meeting. Ms. Beckett spoke regarding the importance of inclusion and equality in schools.

5. **PRESENTATION**

The presentation from the Prince George Principals' and Vice Principals' Association was postponed to the next regular public meeting.

6. **SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

Trustee Polillo provided positive comments regarding the Drumming Circle at Lac des Bois Elementary on February 25th. In recognition of International Women's Day, Mr. Polillo congratulated and provided an overview of the senior girls' basketball results for CHSS, Duchess Park Secondary and Shaq Ti Kelly Road. He extended best wishes to boys' basketball teams that will be participating in provincials.

Trustee Bekkering provided an overview of the following events:

- Drumming Circle – Lac des Bois Elementary
- Raising the Bar - District Student Advisory Council
- Prince George Olympic Celebration – Meryeta O'Dine

Trustee Warrington provided positive comments regarding the Drumming Circle and Community Breakfast held this morning at Westwood Elementary School. Ms. Warrington noted that members of the Indigenous Education Department lead drumming circles at one of our schools each morning.

7. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

7.1 Regular Public Meeting of February 22, 2022

The minutes of the regular public meeting of February 22, 2022 were adopted as published.

A recess was called at 6:49 p.m. and the meeting was reconvened at 6:53 p.m.

MOVED and SECONDED

That votes in opposition be recorded in the minutes of in camera and public meetings moving forward, and that if practical, past minutes of the in camera and public meetings since January 25, 2022 be amended to include votes in opposition.

CARRIED

7.2 Record of Minutes of Special In Camera Meeting of February 22, 2022 and Regular In Camera Meetings of February 22, 2022.

The report on the items discussed and decisions made at the special in camera meeting of February 22, 2022 and regular in camera meeting of February 22, 2022 were approved.

8. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

8.1 Ad Hoc Language Planning Committee – Terms of Reference

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

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education postpone the motion to approve the Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Language Planning Committee to a future regular public meeting to allow for consultation with the Indigenous Education Leadership Table.

CARRIED

8.2 Aboriginal Report 2016/17 – 2020/21 How Are We Doing? – Follow-Up

The Superintendent shared a PowerPoint presentation providing a detailed review of the Student Learning Survey included in the Aboriginal Report 2016/17 – 2020/21 How Are We Doing? for SD57.

The Superintendent responded to questions from the Trustees.

9. **EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

9.1 Committee Report

Trustee Polillo reviewed the February 2022 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 February 15, 2022 be received.

CARRIED

10. EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE

10.1 Committee Report

Trustee Thompson reviewed the February 2022 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 February 7, 2022 be received.

CARRIED

10.2 Ad Hoc Long Range Facility Use Committee

Trustee Thompson reviewed the recommendation and rationale that was included in the agenda package. Mr. Thompson drew attention to the terms of reference that was also included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education approve the Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Long Range Facility Use Committee as presented.

The Trustees discussed how to incorporate the consultation with the Indigenous Education Leadership Table into the terms of reference.

The Superintendent advised that the school district committee structures will be discussed with the Indigenous Education Leadership Table.

The Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer responded to questions from the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education postpone the motion to approve the Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Long Range Facility Use Committee to a future regular public meeting to allow for consultation with the Indigenous Education Leadership Table and potential inclusion of the Metis Nation.

CARRIED

Trustee Bennett voted in opposition of the motion.

11. POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

11.1 Committee Report

Trustee Bekkering reviewed the February 2022 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 February 8, 2022 be received.

CARRIED

11.2 Draft Policy 1120 Access to the Board

Trustee Bekkering reviewed the recommendation and rationale that was included in the agenda package. Ms. Bekkering drew attention to the draft policy that was also included in the agenda package.

The Trustees requested that the draft policy be amended to include Takla Nation as a member of the Rightsholder and Stakeholder groups.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Board of Education approve draft Policy 1120 Access to the Board as amended.

CARRIED

11.3 Draft Policy Anti-Racism – Terms of Reference

Trustee Bekkering reviewed the recommendation and background that was included in the agenda package.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the Terms of Reference for the Anti-Racism, Anti-Discrimination Policy Development Group be received.

Trustee Bekkering responded to questions from the Trustees.

MOVED and SECONDED

That this item be referred back to the Policy and Governance Committee for clarification.

CARRIED

Trustee Bennett voted in opposition to this motion.

12. **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

13. **NEW BUSINESS**

13.1 Draft 2022-23 Calendar

Trustee Bennett reviewed the recommendation included in the agenda package.

Assistant Superintendent Karpenko reviewed the background and rationale that was included in the agenda package and responded to questions from the Trustees.

Trustees Bennett and Polillo provided their input as the Calendar Committee Trustee representatives.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the proposed local school calendar for 2022-2023 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

13.2 Draft 2023-24 Calendar

Trustee Polillo reviewed the recommendation included in the agenda package.

Assistant Superintendent Karpenko drew attention to the background and rationale that was included in the agenda package.

Trustees Bennett and Polillo provided their input as the Calendar Committee Trustee representatives.

MOVED and SECONDED

That the proposed local school calendar for 2023-2024 be approved as presented.

The Trustees discussed the request made during this evening's public input from CUPE 3742 to revise the 2023-2024 school calendar by moving the winter break to be December 18 to December 29, 2022.

The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Karpenko responded to questions from the Trustees.

The motion was amended as follows:

MOVED and SECONDED

That the proposed local school calendar for 2022-2023 be approved as amended to move the Christmas Break to be from December 18th to December 29th with the return to school on January 2nd following the statutory holiday.

CARRIED

13.3 Correspondence from Monica Briggs

The Superintendent stated that a letter has been received from an individual in our community expressing concerns related to supports for students. Ms. Heitman indicated that a meeting has been scheduled to discuss the concerns early next week. A copy of the letter was provided as a handout.

14. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

14.1 Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent provided a PowerPoint presentation which included information on the March 4, 2022 Ministry announcement regarding the new graduation requirement of 4 credits of a First People focused course and an update related to the 2022 Strategic Implementation Plan-Continuous Improvement Cycle.

The Superintendent responded to questions from the Trustees.

15. TRUSTEE REPORTS

15.1 BC School Trustees' Association

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

15.2 BC Public School Employers' Association

Trustee Bekkering provided an overview of the information received from BCPSEA related to the COVID-19 rapid testing program.

15.3 District Parent Advisory Council

The Board Chair drew attention to the report of the District Parent Advisory Council meeting held on February 7, 2022 that was included in the agenda package.

Trustee Polillo reported on the District Parent Advisory Council meeting held on March 7, 2022. Mr. Polillo advised that the Superintendent provided an overview of the school district's budget process and responded to questions.

15.4 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

The Board Chair drew attention to the report that was included in the agenda package.

15.5 Various Trustee Reports

15.5.1 Trustee Bekkering

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

15.5.2 Trustee Polillo

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

15.5.3 Trustee Warrington

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

15.5.4 Other Trustees

None.

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- o Letter of Support dated January 25, 2022 to the First People's Cultural Council
- o Letter dated January 26, 2022 from the National Defence, Rocky Mountain Rangers
- o Letter to Minister Whiteside dated March 3, 2022 regarding an invitation to visit the school district

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer