



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 59

11600 – 7TH Street, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4R8

Open Board Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: March 13, 2024 – 1:00 PM

PLACE: School Board Office, Dawson Creek, BC

PRESENT: Trustees:
C. Anderson (Chair)
C. Hillton (Vice-Chair)
R. Gulick
S. Mounsey
A. Schurmann
C. Wards
T. Jones

C. Fennell, Superintendent
K. Morris, Secretary-Treasurer
R. Schwartz, Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Nil

Called to Order – 1:00 PM

The Board Chair acknowledged that we share this territory with the people of Treaty 8.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions: Nil

Deletions: Nil

(2024-03-004)

MOVED/SECONDED – Schurmann/Jones

THAT, the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) approve the March 13, 2024 Regular Meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

1.0 ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

R1.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2024

The Chair asked for any corrections to the minutes.

(2024-03-005)

The Chair declared the minutes of the open meeting February 21, 2024, approved as presented.

R1.2 Excerpts of Closed Board Meeting – February 21, 2024

(2024-03-006)

The Chair declared the excerpts of the closed board meeting February 21, 2024, approved as presented.

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.0 ESSENTIAL ITEMS

4.0 PRESENTATIONS

R4.1 International Field Trip – Dawson Creek Secondary School-South Peace Campus – S. Heily

Ms. Heily made a presentation to the Board to request approval for a student trip to France in May 2025. The trip is specific to French Immersion students in grades 11 and 12 at Dawson Creek Secondary School-South Peace Campus. The students are completing their dual dogwood diploma (English and French designation), and the trip offers them an enriching opportunity to apply their language and skills in an immersive setting. The students would also experience the vibrant culture of France through visits to Paris, Avignon, French Riviera and Milan.

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

R5.1 Letter from District of Tumbler Ridge re: Invitation to Strategic Planning – February 22, 2024

Trustee Gulick removed herself from the board table due to a declared conflict of interest.

(2024-03-007)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Schurmann

THAT, the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) receive the correspondence.

CARRIED

(2024-03-008)

MOVED/SECONDED – Schurmann/Wards

THAT, the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) direct the Board Chair to reply to the Mayor and Council of Tumbler Ridge, thanking them for their February 22, 2024 letter and feedback relative to the Strategic Plan and Budget Consultation session.

DEFEATED – Opposed: Mounsey, Jones, Hillton

Trustee Gulick returned to the board table.

6.0 REPORTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

R6.1 School/Student News

The Superintendent reported school/student news:

- Ecole Frank Ross students are researching famous artists. Students and Parents attended the annual Tombola festival hosted by Canadian Parent for French. The festival is a fundraiser for the group that includes festivities of the French culture, games, and prizes.
- Crescent Park Elementary basketball team had fun playing a game against local firefighters and paramedics – a 17-year tradition at the school.
- Schools participated in Pink Shirt Day – taking a stand against bullying, many activities were focused on treating others with kindness.
- Grade 7 students at Little Prairie Elementary are learning about careers. The students went to the local Northern Lights College Campus to check out the Youth Explore Trades (YETS) program.
- Science is in the air - DCSS-SP Biology 11 students created 3D cells, Central students used candy to create parts of a cell, Canalta students are studying different liquids, CSS students helped create a living plant wall, and many schools had visits from Science World as part of the On The Road program.
- The Central Campus Grade 8 Basketball Team enjoyed a friendly game against local paramedics and firefighters and came up with a win – by 1 point! Central is also hosting a basketball and volleyball fundraiser for a family that had a house fire, some students are off to Europe on an international field trip over Spring Break. Members of the Central Basketball Teams volunteered at the elementary basketball tournament.
- Moberly Lake Elementary School held their 2nd annual Trapper Days – the students had fun participating in many activities including ice fishing, building cabins with pretzel sticks, tracking animals and the popular animal scavenger hunt.
- Windrem Elementary students are having fun learning and celebrating different cultural events. Students are also focusing on social emotional learning and literacy centres.
- Canalta Elementary students are designing rollercoasters that they will then create and learning how to code using Scratch. Students are also learning about First Nations governance - how it was created and evolved over time.
- SD59 staff took part in the Saulteau Career Fair to promote various positions at the District.
- Student helpers in the library at Chetwynd Secondary School helped to create and take care of a living wall.

R6.2 Field Trips

Further to Ms. Heily's presentation under agenda item 4.1, the Board reviewed the request from Dawson Creek Secondary School-South Peace Campus to proceed with planning an international field trip to France in the spring of 2025. The trip is specific to French Immersion students in grades 11 and 12 and includes travel to Paris, Avignon, French Riviera and Milan.

(2024-03-009)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Gulick

THAT, the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) grant approval, in principle, to Dawson Creek Secondary School – South Peace Campus to proceed with planning the May 2025 French Immersion international field trip to France.

CARRIED

Dawson Creek Secondary School-Central Campus requested final approval to proceed with the French Immersion trip to Quebec from May 28-June 6, 2024.

(2024-03-008)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Wards

THAT, the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) grant final approval to Dawson Creek Secondary School – Central Campus to proceed with June 2024 French Immersion field trip to Quebec.

CARRIED

R6.3 2023 Adolescent Health Survey

The district received the 2023 Adolescent Health Survey results for School District No. 59. The survey is administered province wide to students in grades 7-12 and provides data relative to youth health trends, emerging issues, and risk and protective factors for healthy development of youth. A provincial report is available at [Home | McCreary Centre Society \(mcs.bc.ca\)](https://www.mcs.bc.ca).

R6.4 2024-2025 School Calendar

The 2024-2025 School Calendar was brought back to the Board for adoption. In total, feedback was received from four people. The feedback focused on the scheduling of the non-instructional days (NIDs). In addition, the Peace River South Teachers' Association did a survey of its members asking for feedback on the scheduling of early dismissal days and non-instructional days. After reviewing the feedback, no revisions were made to the draft calendar.

(2024-03-009)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Hillton

THAT, the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) adopt the 2024-25 School Calendar as presented.

CARRIED

7.0 REPORTS FROM THE SECRETARY TREASURER

R7.1 2024-2025 Budget-Draft 2

The Secretary Treasurer presented the second draft of the 2024-2025 annual budget and recommended the first of three readings of the bylaw. The Secretary Treasurer will continue to develop the budget in consultation with district staff and the Board, with the balanced budget and staff recommendations to be presented in the April 24th board meeting. In its deliberations, the Board will take into account the January 24th strategic plan and budget consultation information, the opportunities for focus presentation by staff, the enhancing student learning report and other district data to align financial resource allocations with SD59's learning and strategic plan goals and priorities.

(2024-03-010)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Jones

THAT, the School District No. 59 (Peace River South) Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2024-2025 showing the estimated revenues and expenditures and the total budget bylaw amount of \$68,328,840 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year be read a first time.

CARRIED

R7.2 Secretary Treasurer Report – March 2024

The Secretary Treasurer’s report for March was provided for information.

8.0 TRUSTEE ITEMS

R8.1 BCSTA Update – R. Gulick

Trustee Gulick presented the latest news and events from BCSTA. The annual AGM will be held in Vancouver from April 18-21, 2024.

The BCSTA Provincial Council meeting was held virtually on February 24, 2024.

9.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

R9.1 Indigenous Education Councils

The Dawson Creek Indigenous Council met on March 5th and reviewed the “How are we are doing report?” and graduation data. Council heard about the stories of students that didn’t graduate and an update was provided on the planning for the District’s Truth and Reconciliation focused professional learning day to be held on April 29, 2024.

R9.2 Policy Committee

The Policy Committee informed the Board they received late feedback on Policy 2150 Trustee Code of Conduct that was out for circulation. The Committee did not have time to meet and discuss the feedback. Therefore, the committee will review the feedback and bring the policy back to the April board meeting.

The Policy Committee is also reviewing Policy 5190 Use of School Facilities.

10.0 DIARY

11.0 QUESTION PERIOD

A question and answer period was provided.

12.0 FUTURE BUSINESS

R12.1 - Regular Board Meeting – April 24, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

(2024-03-011)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Gulick

THAT, the Regular Meeting be adjourned. (3:16 PM)

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



C. Anderson, Board Chair



K. Morris, Secretary Treasurer