



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: April 24, 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 – joined at 2:00 pm

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

REGRETS: Nil

Called to Order – 1:05 PM

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions: Nil

Deletions: Nil

(2024-04-005)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Schurmann

THAT, the Board of Education of School District No. 59 (Peace River South) approve the April 24, 2024 Regular Meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

1.0 ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

R1.1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2024

The Chair asked for any corrections to the minutes. It was noted that the motion to receive correspondence under item 5.0 Correspondence was moved by Trustee Wards and seconded by Trustee Schurmann.

(2024-04-006)

The Chair declared the minutes of the open meeting March 13, 2024, approved as amended.

R1.2 Excerpts of Closed Board Meeting – March 13, 2024

(2024-04-007)

The Chair declared the excerpts of the closed board meeting March 13, 2024, approved as printed.

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.0 ESSENTIAL ITEMS

4.0 PRESENTATIONS

5.0 CORRESPONDENCE

R5.1 Letter from Ministry of Education and Child Care re: Targeted Indigenous Education Funding – March 26, 2024

(2024-04-008)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Gulick

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

CARRIED

6.0 REPORTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

R6.1 School/Student News

The Superintendent reported school/student news:

- Peace View Elementary has started a weekly newsletter that goes home to parents.
- Little Prairie Elementary students have been working on an Indigenous focused art mural guided by Wayne Lariviere.
- The district has partnered with Exceptional Equine to provide students an opportunity to learn life skills through working with horses. Programs are being offered in Dawson Creek and Chetwynd.
- TRSS Chemistry 12 students are learning about titrations. Students are also actively involved in project K.A.R.T.S where they plan, design, build and race their go kart. Race day is on May 31, 2024 at TRSS.
- Crescent Park students recreated their own eclipse and learned what happens when the moon passes between the sun and earth. Students also created eclipse artwork.

- Crescent Park Elementary held a Battle of the Books competition - teams of students read books then competed in a trivia battle in the gym.
- McLeod Elementary students were excited to have Miss Rodeo Canada visit their school. In celebration, the leadership students were inspired to create a Western Olympics style afternoon of events with games like There's a Snake in my Boot and Chair Calf Roping.
- Ecole Frank Ross students cleaned up the garden in front of the school as part of Earth Day activities. The school also had a visit from a magician that was a real hit with students. Ms. Kurjata has started a student choir group, and a public speaking event was held to showcase oral speaking skills. Primary classes memorized poems and the intermediate classes had a speech competition.
- Six students represented School District No. 59 at the Skills Canada BC Provincial Competition held in Abbotsford on April 17th. Tegan Steckly took 1st place in the high school photography competition and Kelly Amonson and Thor MacLean brought home the gold medal in the junior skills potential energy vehicle competition. Tegan will be off to compete at Nationals in Quebec City on May 30-31, 2024.
- The District will be hosting Truth and Reconciliation Day on April 29th which will feature Jo Chrona, author of Wayi Wah! Indigenous Pedagogies: An Act for Reconciliation and Anti-Racist Education and Denise Augustine, Superintendent of Indigenous Education for the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

R6.2 BCSTA Rural and Remote Network

The Superintendent provided the terms of reference for the BCSTA Rural and Remote Network, a new committee on which she serves. The purpose of the provincial network group is to support rural and remote school districts to explore and gain an understanding of the challenges, opportunities and necessary actions needed for all students to thrive.

R6.3 Strategic Plan Update

An update was provided on the strategic plan process. The Board has reviewed the information gathered through the process (community consultation and environmental scans - SOARs) and identified themes. The themes were then developed into three priorities: Student Success, Communication and Building Capacity. The next step is to create goals under each of the priorities to complete a new strategic plan.

R6.4 Recruitment & Retention Update

The Superintendent reported on the BCPSEA incentives that were announced in the February board meeting. As of April 1st, the District can attach Tier 1 incentives for up to five positions specifically in Chetwynd. The District is prioritizing the positions that are being offered with the incentive.

R6.5 Cell Phone Use: Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct

The Ministry of Education and Child Care has amended the Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order, effective July 1, 2024. The amendment requires all boards of education to include one or more statements restricting student use of personal digital devices (including cell phones) at school.

To align with this order, the District's Policy Committee will be updating Policy & Regulation 4370 District Code of Conduct to implement the new language and give direction to school administrators to update their school code of conduct to include guidelines around use of personal digital devices while at school. The guidelines are to include not only restrictions on use, but also when it is appropriate to use devices such as, for instructional purposes, digital

literacy, accessibility and accommodation needs, and appropriate use to student’s age and development.

7.0 REPORTS FROM THE SECRETARY TREASURER

R7.1 Monthly Finance Report – March 2024

The Secretary Treasurer presented the monthly finance report as of March 31, 2024.

R7.2 2024-2025 Capital Plan Response Letter/Bylaw

The Secretary Treasurer announced Ministry approval of the following 2024/25 minor capital and bus projects:

	Project:	Funding:
Tumbler Ridge Elementary	SEP – HVAC Upgrades	\$600,000
Devereaux Elementary	SEP - Electrical Upgrades	\$150,000
Ecole Frank Ross	CNCP – Exterior Wall Systems Upgrades	\$250,000
Canalta Elementary	FIP – Kitchen Equipment and Upgrade	\$30,000
Tremblay Elementary	FIP – Delivery Vehicle	\$50,000
Bus Fleet	1 - C(64-69) with 0 Wheelchair Space	TBD

Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD59-01 was presented to the Board for approval.

(2024-04-009)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Hillton

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD59-01 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated March 15, 2024 be read a first time.

CARRIED

(2024-04-010)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Schurmann

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD59-01 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated March 15, 2024 be read a second time.

CARRIED

(2024-04-011)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Hillton

THAT, the Board allows the third reading of Capital Project Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD59-01 to occur in the April 24, 2024 meeting.

CARRIED

(2024-04-012)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Schurmann

THAT, the Capital Project Bylaw No. 2024/25-CP59-01 of the Board approved by the Minister as outlined in the letter received from the Capital Management Branch dated March 15, 2024 be read a first time, passed and adopted.

CARRIED

R7.3 Lead in Water Testing Results

School districts must complete lead content testing on all critical drinking water fixtures across all school facilities once every three years. Accordingly, a minimum of 1/3 or 33% of the school facilities in a school district's inventory must be tested each year.

The district conducted water testing at eight sites in February, 2024; a total of 205 samples were obtained in accordance with Ministry guidelines. Results were submitted to AGAT Laboratories for analysis and twelve deficiencies were reported, of those, all but one fixture at Tremblay Elementary School passed post purge tests and have signage posted in accordance with Northern Health requirements.

R7.4 2024-2025 Budget-Draft 3

The Secretary Treasurer presented the third draft of the 2024-2025 annual budget.

Trustee Jones entered the meeting at 2:00 pm.

(2024-04-013)

MOVED/SECONDED – Wards/Gulick

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 \$67,771,879 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year be read a second time.

CARRIED

The feedback period for the budget is April 24 to May 7, with the final reading of the annual budget to be completed in a special open meeting on May 8, 2024 via zoom at 9:00 am. Information about the special open meeting will be posted on the district website.

R7.2 Secretary Treasurer Report – April 2024

The Secretary Treasurer's report for April was provided for information.

8.0 TRUSTEE ITEMS

R8.1 BCSTA Update – R. Gulick

Trustee Gulick presented the latest news and events from the BCSTA.

BCSTA AGM was held from April 18-21, 2024. The motions and outcomes are available for viewing in the BCSTA portal available to Trustees. The BCSTA Leadership Series is tentatively scheduled for October in Prince George.

9.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

R9.1 Indigenous Education Councils

The Indigenous Councils heard updates about the planning for the District's Truth and Reconciliation focused professional learning day to be held on April 29th and the Zoom Around the District to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day.

The Indigenous Council in Dawson Creek also had a presentation from Northern Lights College to learn about the student programs and services offered at their campuses.

R9.2 Policy Committee

The Policy Committee brought forward the following policies and regulations:

(2024-04-014)

MOVED/SECONDED – Gulick/Schurmann

THAT, the Board adopt Policy and Regulation 2150 Trustee Code of Conduct as presented.

CARRIED

A revised regulation 2250 Policy Development was presented to the Board of Education for information.

Policy and Regulation 5190 Use of School Facilities is under review by the Policy Committee.

The Policy Committee will be developing a policy to address use of digital devices by students as per the ministry guidelines that were issued to school districts.

10.0 DIARY

11.0 QUESTION PERIOD

A question and answer period was provided.

12.0 FUTURE BUSINESS

R12.1 – Special Open Meeting – May 8, 2024 (via zoom)

R12.2 - Regular Board Meeting – May 15, 2024 (Tumbler Ridge)

ADJOURNMENT

(2024-04-015)

MOVED/SECONDED – Hillton/Gulick

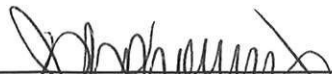
THAT, the Regular Meeting of April 24, 2024 be adjourned. (3:00 PM)

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



C. Anderson, Board Chair



K. Morris, Secretary Treasurer