



**The Board of Education of
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)**

MINUTES - REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

**May 12, 2020, 2:15 p.m.
Meeting via Zoom**

Present: Chairperson Lento
Trustee Ayling
Trustee Bellina
Trustee Damstrom
Trustee Johns
Trustee Kitt
Trustee McPhee
Trustee Turner
Trustee Whalen

Staff Present Superintendent, S. Yardley
Secretary Treasurer, A. Rice
Director of Instruction/Human Resources, B. Reimer
Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal Education, J. Tichauer
Director of Instruction/Student Learning and Innovation, D. Casault
District Principal/Student Services, D. Verbeurgt
District Principal/Transformative Learning, J. Roberts
Executive Assistant, (recorder) Sandy Gronlund

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

1.1 Call to Order

Chairperson Lento called the May 12, 2020 regular public meeting of the Board of Education to order at 2:45 p.m. and acknowledged that we have gathered here in the Homelands of the Ktunaxa people.

The Chairpersons opening remarks included:

Another Covid-19 game plan for our district. So we are faced with a difficult and complicated task. It must meet our students and employees needs first, then our parents and then the political and economical needs of the Province. We are fortunate to have our Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer ask “How can we?” and “How can we do this better?”

1.2 Consideration and Approval of Agenda

Additions: 2.4 Staff Reimbursement for Travel Kilometers
3.0 Trustee Representative Reports:
3.1 BCSTA/Provincial Council
3.2 Communications/Media Committee

- 3.3 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement
- 3.4 Key City Theatre
- 3.5 Legacy of Learning
- 3.6 Trustee Reports
- 6.3 Select Standing Committee

MOTION-R-20-70

M/S that the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of May 12, 2020 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

1.3 Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the Public meeting of the Board of Education of April 14, 2020.

MOTION-R-20-71

M/S that the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of April 14, 2020 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

1.4 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings

MOTION-R-20-72

M/S to accept the closed records of the in-camera meeting of the Board of Education of April 14, 2020 and the special in-camera meeting of April 16, 2020.

CARRIED

1.5 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

1.5.1 Recruitment and Retention

Moved to the June Board meeting.

1.6 Receiving of Delegations/Presentations

Nil.

2. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

2.1 Ministry Guiding Principle No. 1

(Ensure a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees)

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported that there have been updates to the safety protocols from the last Board meeting as required. With moving into stage 3 (gradual return to classrooms) in the next two weeks and accommodating more students and staff in the buildings, we will be looking to add even more safety protocols. The Ministry of Education will be sharing information on this soon.

The plan to move safely to stage 3 will be shared with the Board once it is in place and approved by WorksafeBC.

Discussion:

- ❖ Chair Lento stated that we are in a difficult situation right now and is confident that our district management team and staff will come up with a plan for stage 3.

- ❖ We may need to look at putting funding aside in order to assist with upcoming costs due to covid-19.
- ❖ Trustee McPhee reminded us of the different challenges we have faced in different eras.
- ❖ Is asymptomatic testing for staff and students being looked into?

2.2 Budget Update

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported that the budget session with the Trustees held last week went well. Another session is planned for May 21st and he noted that we are on target to submit the 2020/21 approved budget by the June 30, 2020 ministry deadline.

2.3 Finance Report

Secretary Treasurer Rice reviewed the attached finance report with the Board and mentioned that we will see cost savings this school year. The surplus will be reviewed by the Board and may be used for supports due to Covid-19.

2.4 Staff Reimbursement for Travel Kilometers

In conjunction with the changes to the travel reimbursement rate in the Teacher Collective Agreement, which was ratified on May 1, 2020, Secretary Treasurer Rice asked for the following motion to be approved by the Board.

MOTION-R-20-73

M/S that the Board approve the travel kilometre rate for district employees of .56 c/km effective May1, 2020 and .57 c/km effective July 1, 2020.

CARRIED

MOTION-R-20-74

M/S that the May 12, 2020 Secretary Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

3. TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

3.1 BCSTA Provincial Council

Trustee Bellina shared her report with the Board.

MOTION-R-20-75

M/S to accept the report of the BCSTA/Provincial Council.

CARRIED

3.2 Communications/Media Committee

Trustee Ayling reported no updates at this time.

3.3 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee (MBSS)

Trustee Johns noted that he will be meeting with Secretary Treasurer Rice and Operation Manager, Joe Tank on May 20th to develop a framework around the MBSS Assessment report completed by Stantec and report back at the next Board meeting.

3.4 Key City Theatre

Trustee McPhee reported no updates at this time.

3.5 Legacy of Learning

Trustee Johns reported that Keith Powell, retired publisher at Koocanusa Publications, is proposing to produce a quarterly magazine on the history of the Columbia Basin using information from the historical collection of the Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History. This venture, if successful, should be a great improvement to the Institutes bottom line. The Legacy of Learning is looking to obtain funding in order to focus more on community, schools and educators. The partnership with School District 5 and 6 is on hold for now due to their focus on Covid-19.

MOTION-R-20-76

M/S to accept the Legacy of Learning report.

CARRIED

3.6 Trustee Reports

No reports.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Superintendent Yardley shared a recent conference call she was on with the Ministry. She reported that over the next 12 to 18 months the Ministry is referring to how the schools will look as a sliding scale. We are currently in stage 4 with remote learning for most students and are now working towards stage 3 with part-time in-class learning for grades k to 5 and in-class learning as needed for grades 6 to 12 with remote and online learning continuing for students. It is optional for parents to send their children to school and remote learning will remain available.

We are not sure what September will look like as yet. We are waiting for some guidelines from WorksafeBC and they will approve our plan for stage 3 before our students come back. There will be an announcement coming to parents. A stage 3 working team will be formed that includes district management, operations manager, union representatives, DPAC, two principals from secondary schools and two principals from elementary schools who will work on a plan for the gradual return of students to school. The Ministry is advising districts to take their time and not rush to come up with the best plan for their district.

We are continuing to support the children of essential workers.

4.1 Ministry Guiding Principle No. 2

(Provide the services needed to support children of our essential workers)

Director Casault reported on the weekly attendance for children of essential workers our 9 available schools.

April 14th – 12 students

April 21st – 30 students

April 28th – 20 students

We have received requests from parents who are going back to work after the May long weekend asking for child care. No daycare facilities in our district are currently taking new children. The childcare facilities first mandate is the care of essential workers children.

4.2 Ministry Guiding Principle No. 3

(Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance)

Superintendent Yardley shared that we have some vulnerable students in grade 2 and grade 12. She will be hearing back from the secondary schools on the number of vulnerable students they currently have.

To support the vulnerable grade 2 students with their reading, Carol Johns, Lindsay Knight and Cindy Gleb have organized "Rocking Readers". They shared some learning strategies from grade 2 teachers with approximately 70 teachers and staff that have offered to read to grade 2 students.

District Principal Verbeurgt delivered an update on the different food supports they have in place for families.

The School District now has their own Facebook webpage with great information highlighting students and some of their unique learning adventures.

4.3 Ministry Guiding Principle No. 4

(Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students)

Director Tichauer discussed reporting assessment.

- ❖ Grades 10-12 to have demonstrated sufficient learning in order to move to the next level.
- ❖ Report cards will have marks unless the continuation of a course was not possible in which a standing granted could be issued.
- ❖ Grades 7-9 are the same except socials and science.
- ❖ K-6 continuity of instruction.
- ❖ There is currently no date for numeracy.

Discussion included:

- ❖ A concern was mentioned that with some students coming back to class in stage 3 for June 1st it could be difficult for teachers to continue the online learning.
- ❖ A suggestion to bring in an "I" grade (for in progress) on report cards and allow courses to be completed next school year.
- ❖ Director Tichauer reported a possibility of summer school offered through (DL) Distributed Learning.

Staff contact K-12 students every week. The Principals are keeping a record of students they are contacting and which ones are accessing our current educational plan.

4.4 BCPSEA/BCTF Update (Local and Provincial)

Nil.

MOTION-R-20-77

M/S that the May 12, 2020 Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5. **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chair Lento acknowledged the great leadership from Superintendent Yardley and Secretary Treasurer Rice during these trying and challenging times. He thanked all employees for their contributions during these extra ordinary educational circumstances.

We are now expected to provide education, the epicentre of our social fabric in a climate of a new and poorly understood health risks to our society. This health risk has generated ever changing protocols, principle guidelines, directions, and orders that have created anxiety, fear and uncertainty among students, employees and families in our communities.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

6.1 **Business Arising from Delegations**

Nil

6.2 **Aboriginal Education Department Logo**

Marissa Phillips was commissioned to create a logo for School District 5 to use in the SD5 Aboriginal Education department. This logo has been vetted through the appropriate approval processes and now in front of the Board for final approval in the process.

Faye O'Neil, SD5 Aboriginal Education Coordinator, shared the black and white version of the new logo representing indigenous departments. Joe Pierre, SD5 Aboriginal Education Coordinator, shared the symbology of each of the art pieces in the logo. The coloured version of the logo has blues and greens within it.

MOTION-R-20-78

M/S that the Board approved the new logo for the use by the School District 5 (Southeast Kootenay) in the Aboriginal Education Department.

CARRIED

Director Tichauer suggested bringing Marissa Phillips to a Board meeting once the Board is able to meet in person again.

6.3 **Select Standing Committee Presentation**

Trustee Johns will meet with Secretary Treasurer Rice and District Principal Verbeurgt to formulate a presentation to present at the Select Standing Committee Budget 2021 Consultation Public Hearing in June 2020.

He will present on the following three items:

1. Funding for facility requirements to accommodate increased enrollment in Fernie
2. Funding for repairs to the music and drama rooms at Mount Baker Secondary School
3. Inadequacy of Special Education funding

7. TRUSTEE BOUQUETS

- ❖ Trustee Bellina for Superintendent Yardley and Secretary Treasurer Rice along with the staff, students and parents for their adaption during these difficult times.
- ❖ Trustee Kitt attended virtual PAC meetings for RMES and ESS. The students are managing fine and she is pleased with the amount of virtual contact the administrators have with the students.
- ❖ Trustee Damstrom reported that the community and school seem to be doing well. Some families have reported that the one positive that has come out of this difficult period is more family time.
- ❖ Trustee Turner for DPAC continuing their meetings virtually. Also, out to all of the partners for their cohesive effort in forming a plan and making it work.
- ❖ Trustee Johns for our district leadership and the CFTA Presidents and the CUPE President for their support.
- ❖ Trustee McPhee challenged district staff and fellow trustees to make the effort to socialize safely and say hello to people (at a safe distance).
- ❖ Trustee Whalen agreed with Trustee McPhee and to acknowledge each other in a safe matter. She was able to join the Steeples and Laurie school PAC meetings online. Parents seemed very positive at both schools. She appreciates all of the extra work staff are putting in and is impressed with the new SD5 Facebook webpage that is kept up to-date and current.
- ❖ Trustee Ayling echoed what the other trustees have said. More people attended the virtual PAC meeting for TM Roberts School than when we were attending in person. Everyone seems very encouraging.

8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

Nil.

10. LATE ITEMS

Nil.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION-R-20-79

M/S that the May 12, 2020 regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 4:09 p.m. and reconvene the in-camera meeting.

CARRIED

Frank Lento, Chairperson

Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer