

SCHOOL DISTRICT #81 (FORT NELSON)  
FORT NELSON SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Open Meeting  
5:00 pm

Tuesday  
November 25, 2019

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Trustee via telephone  
M. Gilbert, Trustee  
R. Irwin, Trustee  
Y. Taylor, Trustee  
B. Dolan, Trustee  
D. Samchuck, Superintendent  
M. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer  
P. Anderson, Recording Secretary  
S. Smith, FNDTA President

Call to Order

Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Gilbert called for any additions or changes to the Open Agenda. One item to be removed from Education – Action

- Enhancing Student Learning Plan – FNSS.

This item has been deferred until the next meeting on December 10, 2019.

R19-073 That the Board of Education accept the agenda as amended  
CARRIED B. Dolan/Y. Taylor

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Gilbert called for any errors or omissions to the Open Minutes of November 5, 2019. As no errors or omissions were identified, Chair Gilbert accepted the minutes as presented.

R19-074 Provision of Menstrual Products to Students Policy L. Dolen/R. Irwin

That the Board of Education adopt the Provision of Menstrual Products to Students Policy.  
CARRIED

Trustee Irwin asked when this policy should be in effect. Secretary – Treasurer Hall stated that the Ministry would like the items to be in place by December 31, so the policy would be the same.

## Review of Chair and Vice Chair

Discussions took place to review the Board Chair and Vice Chair positions. It was determined that L. Dolen will remain as Chair and M. Gilbert will remain as Vice Chair.

R19-075 Education – Information

L. Dolen/Y. Taylor

That the Board of Education file the following Education Information items:

- Balance & Connection in Northeast: The Health & Well-being of our youth
- Enrollment report

CARRIED

R19-076 Staff Amendments

Y. Taylor/R. Irwin

That the Board of Education file the Staff Amendments report as received.

CARRIED

## Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

- Trustee Irwin – Attended the RLA PAC meeting. It's a very busy PAC. They are finetuning fundraising and specific activities for the year. There has been some discussion on the vaping concern. There is much excitement with the order of hoodies. There has been some discussion with maintenance on getting the rink up and running now that winter has arrived. Fundraising activities were discussed, hoping to have a conversation with D. Sutherland to see if students can make some of the items needed for fundraising.
- Trustee Dolan – Attended the FNSS PAC meeting. There was significant parent concern regarding the new washroom plans. Secretary – Treasurer Hall responded well to the concerns. Some discussion on the Principal and Vice Principal teaching and how it impacts the leading of the school. It's been an eye opener parents to see the turnover and the staffing challenges. Several parents are expressing concerns about extended and reoccurring staff absences. Principal Theobald did a great job at explaining the bigger picture. Parents now have a better understanding of recruitment issues. Parents are frustrated that the turnover cycle continues. Vaping was discussed, the general consensus is that they are expecting the government to step up.
- Trustee Taylor – Attended the JSC PAC meeting. P. Burt is the acting principal in J. Arva's absence. The PAC inquired

about policies. They have not been receiving them. P. Anderson sends out the policies to all staff including Administrative Assistants with a request to forward to PAC members as she doesn't have email addresses for them. The pumpkin patch was great success. Christmas concerts and activities are well under way.

- Trustee Dolen – Added the Aboriginal Education committee with Trustee Irwin and Trustee Dolan. Attended the BCPSEA Representative Council meeting on November 8.
- Trustee Gilbert – Attended the GWC PAC meeting. Will be bypassing the meeting this month. Continue to meet at the REC Centre as this seems to work best for parents. There will be discussion in January to look at specific things at the school. A brief discussion was had regarding the vaping policy as well as the fundraising plans. There is a general satisfaction with the way things are going. Attended the community Remembrance Day Ceremony. D. Johnstone and the band was a very important part of this ceremony. This comment was echoed by Trustee Irwin and Trustee Dolan.
- Superintendent Samchuck – Attended the Aboriginal Education Steering Committee meeting. NRAS and PRFN were supposed to attend, however, they did not. It's always nice to have the children show up as they are entertaining. Attended the BCSTA Fall Conference last week in Vancouver. While there, celebrated her mom's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Had dinner with former Superintendent, Ann Cooper.
- Secretary – Treasurer Hall – Attended the Aboriginal Education Steering Committee meeting as well. We've spent lots of time on bussing, people seem to appreciate the addition of the 4<sup>th</sup> bus.
- FNDTA President, S. Smith – Attended meetings, ratification vote was held.

Adjournment

Chair Gilbert declared the meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

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Mike Gilbert  
Chair

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Margaret-Anne Hall  
Secretary-Treasurer