

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

Open Meeting
6:00 pm

Tuesday
January 21, 2020

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Chair
M. Gilbert, Trustee Via telephone
R. Irwin, Trustee
Y. Taylor, Trustee
B. Dolan, Trustee
D. Samchuck, Superintendent
M. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer
P. Anderson, Recording Secretary

Guests:

E. Dorosz-Gagne

Call to Order

Chair Dolen called the Open meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Dolen call for any additions or changes to the Open Agenda.
As no additions or changes were identified, Chair Dolen declared the
Open Agenda accepted as presented.

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Dolen called for any errors or omissions to the Open minutes.
As no errors or omissions were identified, Chair Dolen accepted the
Open minutes as accepted.

Report on Closed

- Local School Calendar
- Janitorial/Security Services
- Financial Audit – Contract Extension

R20-001 Revised Policy 4030

B. Dolan/Y. Taylor

That the Board of Education adopt Policy Tobacco/Vaping/e-
Cigarettes/Cannabis Free Environments Policy.
CARRIED

Upcoming Events & Ongoing Resources

Trustee Taylor is interested in attending the Strategic Planning
Conference in Prince George on February 12. Some of this will be
funded by BCSTA. Secretary-Treasurer Hall will check her availability
dates.

R20-002 GWC Fundraising Plan – Amendment M. Gilbert/B. Dolan

That the Board of Education approve GW Carlson to raise funds for the Humane Society International to help provide help to the animals that have been affected by the devastating wildfires in Australia.

CARRIED

R20-003 2019/2020 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw R. Irwin/M. Gilbert

That the Board of Education authorize all three readings of the 2019/2020 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw.

CARRIED

R20-004 That the Board of Education adopt the 2019/2020 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw M. Gilbert/B. Dolan

CARRIED

Secretary-Treasurer Hall pointed out that the surplus on page 5 is projected to increase. This budget will be closely monitored until the end of June. With regards to funding to put in for Prophet River bussing, we were uncertain if Government was going to subsidise what we requested. It was a gift to have the plan approved.

We weren't sure what our Extended Health costs were and now we know our true costs. Government has given us a Grant to cover some but not all costs. There was a further savings of \$140,000.

Math teacher will require \$30,000 in costs plus another \$35,000 for the Long Range Facilities Plan which totals approximately another \$70,000 in costs to be plugged in. If we continue on this path we should still be in good standing by the end of June. Trustee Gilbert inquired about the Long Range Facilities Plan and if this will make life easier? Secretary-Treasurer Hall said yes it will and explained. Trustee Gilbert asked with respect to funds owed to the District, is this reflected in the budget. Secretary-Treasurer Hall responded no and explained that these funds are reflected in our financial statements in September. At the present time we only have a valid LEA with one of the First Nation bands. The other one has been invited but no response has been received. If a LEA is not in place, we receive the funding. We haven't heard anything on this at this point.

Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

- Chair Dolen – Attended the Toad River Christmas concert in December and as always, it was very well done. Received a letter from the Ministry of Education and has posted it on

Board Business. Will be attending NIB meeting on Friday and Saturday where motions will be drafted for AGM coming up in April. Then following weekend will attend the BCPSEA AGM, then attending the Provincial Council meeting.

- Trustee Irwin – Attended the RLA PAC meeting in January. It's a busy place. There has been some discussion on the upcoming Symposium of Learning. The principal is excited that a former student of this school will be involved. There is also continued discussion on fundraising suggesting Tacos in a Bag, everyone has mixed opinions of this fundraiser. Discussions of extracurricular activities that are happening in all grades such as basketball, cross country skiing, presentations, pink shirt day, upcoming performance at the theatre as well as a musical presentation. Attended the Capstone Presentation at FNSS, this was enjoyable. Students have done a remarkable job on these projects. It was fun to see such a variety and to see teens participate. Some projects seemed to be well thought out and planned over time, others did some hard work over the weekend to complete the project, which reminds us that they come with a range of maturity. Chalo brought their grade 12's in to take in the project, they enjoyed it. Attended a weekend conference for teens called Awake and Rise. This was headlined by hip hop/rap artists. The message was to stand up for rights. Discussions surrounding things you should and shouldn't do. Also touched on topics such as substance abuse and healthy lifestyle. Some staff members from the district also took in this conference.
- Trustee Dolan – Very pleased with the variety and quality of the Capstone projects. There were definitely some weekend projects as well as labors of love. Thanks to Secretary-Treasurer Hall for her tireless work on the washroom project, and for not getting distracted and persevering. This will be a healthy and supportive addition for students.
- Trustee Taylor – Distributed Christmas presents to staff. Attended PAC meeting, Principal J. Arva announced her plans to retire. Discussions surrounding money and how gaming money was used to pay for Monkey Business. They are looking for ways to put their money to good use. Attended the Capstone Project. The gold mining presentation was amazing. All projects were well done.
- Trustee Gilbert – Distributed Christmas presents to staff. Attended GWC PAC meeting. It was relocated from the curling rink back to the school as the Principal wanted to present a plan to students. Will hold the meetings back at the rink going forward. Amendment to the fundraising plan was discussed. This is such a great idea and was initiated by the students to help the animals in Australia. This is so nice

to see that at such an early age. The Regional Municipality is currently involved in a survey that will contribute to a presentation to government to help improve communication across Northern Rockies. Everyone should contribute as government will look at strength of response. This survey is accessible at the NRRM website. Chair Dolen suggests posting this on all staff.

- Superintendent Samchuck – Attended the Capstone project at FNSS. Found this to be very rewarding and students handled themselves very well. Big thanks to Secretary-Treasurer Hall and Administrative Assistant P. Anderson for working so hard on bussing. An incredible amount of time was spent on getting schedules in place.
- Secretary-Treasurer Hall – Attended the Capstone Project as well. Very interesting and well done. Was invited to the FNSS PAC meeting at the beginning of the month to discuss the washroom reno project. The mandatory site meeting was held yesterday. We're very pleased with the number of people that showed up, we had 16 people, 8 of which were subcontractors. Did a walk through for questions. It was so rewarding to see so much interest. A comment was made that this is a good time of year to advertise for projects. The actual tender will close on February 10 but there is a possibility of an extension. That decision will be made in the future. Thanks to Administrative Assistant P. Anderson for all her hard work on bussing, tender, flights etc. it's a busy time.
- FNDA Liaison E. Dorosz – Literacy exams took place yesterday, in class exams today and numeracy exam tomorrow. Students seem to be stressed over the numeracy exam. Passion projects are due at the end of the week.

R20-005

Education – Information Items

B. Dolen/R. Irwin

- Enrollment Audit Letter (February 2020)
- 2020 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education Letter
- AGM 26: January 30-31, 2020
- ShareEdBC Letter

That the Board of Education file the Education – Information reports as received.

CARRIED

R20-006

Staff Amendments

Y. Taylor/Y. Gilbert

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

CARRIED

R20-007 December Monthly Financials

R. Irwin/Y. Taylor

That the Board of Education file the December Monthly Financial Reports as received.

CARRIED

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Linda Dolen
Chair

Margaret-Anne Hall
Secretary-Treasurer