

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

Open Meeting
6:00 pm

Tuesday
September 22, 2020

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Chair
M. Gilbert, Trustee
R. Irwin, Trustee
Y. Taylor, Trustee
B. Dolan, Trustee
D. Samchuck, Superintendent
M. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer
P. Anderson, Recording Secretary
G. Gough, FNDTA President
E. Dorosz-Gagne, FNDTA Liaison
M. Roque, KMBR Auditor – Via Telephone

Call to Order

Chair Dolen called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Dolen called 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 of June 23, 2020. One error was identified:

- BAA courses that were approved at the last meeting were approved for both FNSS and Toad River School, not just FNSS as the minutes stated.

R20-044

That the Board of Education accept the Open Minutes of June 23, 2020 as amended.
CARRIED

B. Dolan/Y. Taylor

Report on Closed Items

- Letter to D. Johnson
- Policy 5330 – School Graduation Policy & Policy 5331 – School Graduation Fundraising Policy
- Executive Compensation Freeze Policy
- Request for change in Rental Fees – Family Dev. Society

Audit Presentation

Michaela Roque of KMPG LLP presented the details of the Draft Audited Financial Statements.

R20-045	<p>Trustee Assignments</p> <p>That the Board of Education reviewed the Trustee Assignments and confirm that there will be no changes to appointments.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	Y. Taylor/R. Irwin
R20-046	<p>Approval of 2019-2020 Audited Financial Statements</p> <p>That the Board of Education approve the attached 2019/2020 Audited Financial Statements.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>Secretary-Treasurer Hall spoke to M. Roque’s comment that our surplus is greater than anticipated, probably due to COVID. The ministry has not recovered these funds. We have over \$500,000 in surplus, which is a healthy position to be in. Would like to recognize the staff for their hard work. All folks at the Board Office have had some kind of financial responsibility. This result is due to the hard work of everyone.</p>	M. Gilbert/Y. Taylor
R20-047	<p>Education – Information Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Amendments • Principal Reports – RLA & JSC <p>That the Board of Education file the Information Items as received.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>Trustee Dolan asked if students returning in October would be on our books? Superintendent Samchuck responded by saying that yes, the Ministry has made accommodations for these students. We have 17 students in transition. The 1701 is done mostly through MyEd. For this year only they have added an offsite to see how things will work out. We are hoping to get most of the students back.</p>	R. Irwin/M. Gilbert
R20-048	<p>August Monthly Financials</p> <p>That the Board of Education file the August Monthly Financial Reports as received.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trustee Gilbert – He is very impressed with how staff have stepped up and mobilized to execute the plan. He’s heard of and observed in conversation, the degree of professionalism demonstrated despite fears. Kudos to all! It may not get any easier, but employees take care of the kids. He will miss the first GWC PAC meeting as it is taking place right now. 	Y. Taylor/M. Gilbert

- Trustee Irwin – He agreed with Trustee Gilbert’s comments. He has heard how hard staff has worked on scheduling, which was far beyond the norm. Hats off to the staff!
- Trustee Dolan – The year seems to have started out well. He would like to commend G. Gough, FNDTA President, on the message that he sent out to staff, well done! Everyone is on the same page. Our District has done a great job getting out in front of this. This is a big part of why we have such high numbers...Good leadership!
- Trustee Taylor – Everything seems to be going well. Happy to be here in this District instead of other Districts where there seems to be challenges.
- Chair Dolen – Reported out on Zoom meetings weekly. Thanks to all staff.
- Secretary – Treasurer Hall – She would like to acknowledge the Maintenance Department that had so much on their plate. Projects are coming together and will be a wonderful addition to our school. We will soon be past the mess. The Washroom reno has had some glitches. They have had trouble finding employees and it’s been an unfortunate time for them. But if you ask Chad for a tour of the project, he is happy to oblige.
- Superintendent Samchuck – Facebook has been telling us about the short COVID Health Check with the latest Operational Guidelines. We prefer the longer form as it was more focused on COVID. She reached out to the Ministry to ask if we can stick with the longer version. The shorter version has emphasis on fever and temperature. We didn’t want to be providing thermometers to all homes. There is a new outline for the Health & Safety Guidelines. Everything is now under the Northern Health Authority. They will tell us if someone is positive, otherwise we will not hear from them. They will do the contact tracing. This is all outlined in the new District Health & Safety Protocols. There are high degrees of confidentiality. Unless someone tells us that they have COVID we won’t know, they’ll just be sick.
- G. Gough – Nothing to report
- E. Dorosz – Gagne – Thanks to the district. She feels safe and good about being in school. Obviously not an ideal way to return, all went well.

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Linda Dolen
Chair

Margaret-Anne Hall
Secretary-Treasurer