

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

Open Meeting
6:00 pm

Tuesday
November 3, 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
J. Gilbert, FNDTA Liaison

Call to Order

Chair Dolen called the Open meeting to order at 6:01 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 October 20. As no errors or omissions were identified, Chair Dolen accepted the Open Minutes as presented.

Report on Closed

- Trustee Academy
- Draft Policy 5331 – Graduation Policy
- Christmas Plans
- Payroll/Accounting Service Providers
- Toad River water update

Fundraising Plans

Trustee Gilbert asked are these Fundraising Plans in compliance with COVID etiquette? Superintendent Samchuck stated that before this all events have been planned with this in mind.

R20-053	<p>Toad River Fundraising Plan</p> <p>That the Board of Education approve the Toad River PAC Fundraising Plan in the amount of \$3000.00 and authorize the Toad River School to solicit funds.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	Y. Taylor/B. Dolan
R20-054	<p>JS Clark Elementary School Fundraising Plan</p> <p>That the Board of Education approve the JS Clark Elementary School Fundraising Plan in the amount of \$2050.00 and authorize the JS Clark Elementary School to solicit funds.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	Y. Taylor/M. Gilbert
R20-055	<p>JS Clark Elementary School PAC Fundraising Plan</p> <p>That the Board of Education support the JS Clark Elementary School PAC Fundraising Plan in the amount of 5000.00 and authorize the JS Clark Elementary School PAC to solicit funds.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	B. Dolan/Y. Taylor
R20-056	<p>GW Carlson Elementary School Fundraising Plan</p> <p>That the Board of Education approve the GW Carlson School Fundraising Plan in the amount of \$1700.00 and authorize the GW Carlson School to solicit funds.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	Y. Taylor/B. Dolan
R20-057	<p>GW Carlson Elementary School PAC Fundraising Plan</p> <p>That the Board of Education support the GW Carlson Elementary School PAC Fundraising Plan in the amount of \$6850.00 and authorize the GW Carlson Elementary School PAC to solicit funds.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	R. Irwin/Y. Taylor
R20-058	<p>RL Angus Elementary School Fundraising Plan</p> <p>That the Board of Education approve the RL Angus Elementary School Fundraising Plan in the amount of \$2500.00 and authorize the RL Angus Elementary School to solicit funds.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	M. Gilbert/Y. Taylor
R20-059	<p>RL Angus Elementary School PAC Fundraising Plan</p> <p>That the Board of Education support the RL Angus Elementary School PAC Fundraising Plan in the amount of \$5000.00 and authorize RL Angus Elementary School PAC to solicit funds.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	R. Irwin/M. Gilbert

R20-060 Fort Nelson Secondary School Fundraising Plan B. Dolan/R. Irwin

That the Board of Education approve the Fort Nelson Secondary School Fundraising plan in the amount of \$10600.00 and authorize the Fort Nelson Secondary School to solicit funds.

CARRIED

Trustee Taylor asked why we are fundraising for yearbooks? E. Dorosz-Gagne responded by saying that graduates wanted to raise the money so that yearbooks would be free for graduates. Trustee Dolan asked how the snowmobile tickets fundraiser works. E. Dorosz-Gagne said that the Snowmobile Club has grads sell tickets on a snowmobile, the grads receive \$1.00 for each ticket they sell.

R20-061 Long Range Facilities Plan R. Irwin/Y. Taylor

That the Board of Education approve acceptance of the School District Long Range Facilities Plan.

CARRIED

Trustee Gilbert OPPOSED

Secretary Treasurer Hall spoke about the Long Range Facilities Plan. This is a requirement by the Facilities Branch. There is one change she would like to see. An updated picture of the high school should be posted. We have been working hard on this plan. One of the requirements of this plan is to include options. We know this community has suffered significantly over the past few years. We are hoping that we will see some kind of resurgence over time. Although these options are listed, this in no way indicates that we will proceed with any of those options. Our community is very creative on how we can maintain status quo.

Trustee Dolan said he appreciated the blurb that was included with the Long Range Facilities Plan. It gave him a better understanding of what is and what is not. This is a rational approach of our facilities. Trustee Gilbert supports the direction that the plan takes and supports the outcome it is looking for. However, he feels that some of the underlying facts are naïve and does not cast certain sectors in the best lights and is not completely accurate. Although this may be passable, he will not be supporting this Long Range Facilities Plan.

R20-062 Education - Information Items B. Dolan/R. Irwin

- Principals' Reports
- Class Organization Report

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

CARRIED

Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

- Trustee Irwin – Attended the RLA PAC meeting. We have a student teacher there who was a former student of ours. It is very nice to see former students coming back to teach in our District.
- Trustee Dolan – Students in N. Ostopovich’s class raised \$1000 for the Terry Fox run. She did a great job encouraging her students to raise these funds. He was glad to see the class participate in a walk supporting the Truth and Reconciliation Project. He attended a Pro-D meeting; they have lined up J. Carrington to speak. They have a few school based activities planned. It will be interesting to see how much money will be saved on virtual keynotes. He will try and get some notes from A. Dekaneas and post on Board Business.
- Trustee Gilbert – He attended the GWC PAC meeting. The group is an amazing feminine force. What they are able to accomplish while participating in PAC is great. On behalf of the Board he attended the Provincial Council Meeting virtually. This gave him the opportunity to point out the travel required to get to these meetings physically. It takes us away for 3 – 5 days from work, family etc. He felt that the virtual venue gave us more of an advantage as a small district to participate more fairly. The discussion on any topic appeared to be on the floor only, which is how it should be, allowing everyone the opportunity to debate.
- Chair Dolen – She attended the Board Chairs’ meeting. They spoke about advocacy for Boards of Education. They are working to make trustees aware of what is available to them. Chair Dolen extends thanks and appreciation to Superintendent Samchuck for her quick response in dealing with the COVID situation. Well done. BCTS has set up the Trustee Academy this year and has allowed districts to invite staff to access the speakers.
- Superintendent Samchuck – She had two mornings of workshops discussing mental health, gangs, and racism. They were very well done. It is a full time job to keep on top of all the new gangs, new social media sites that students can access anonymously. We continue to receive worrisome behavior reports. She takes part in Deputy Minister’s meeting every Tuesday. The Government is in the caretaker phase and cannot make any decisions until the new Minister is sworn in. He did tell us to be aware that they are looking at childcare being transferred to education. There is much to be in place. At the end of the Erase meeting people from the Vancouver Children’s Hospital will be starting a project that allows access to online counsellors, Dr’s etc. for

substance abuse. This will be available to call in or Zoom. This is a very positive thing for certain places that do not have a lot of MCFD supports.

- Secretary-Treasurer Hall – She has participated in an ethics course over the past two weeks. It was very interesting; the presenter was great. There was a bit of discussion about the Whistleblower Policy that should be in place by December 2021.
- FNDTA President, G. Gough – He expressed that working with Principals from all schools has gone extremely well. Thanks to the staff at the School Board Office. As a rookie there is much he doesn't know, everyone has been so helpful. Things are running very smoothly.
- FNDTA Liaison, J. Gilbert – Nothing to report
- FNDTA Liaison, E. Dorosz-Gagne – November 13 is the last day of term one. Term one was the most academic for most students. Their stress level should be less in term two. Today and tomorrow literacy and numeracy exams are happening.

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Linda Dolen
Chair

Margaret-Anne Hall
Secretary-Treasurer