

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

Open Meeting
6:00 pm

Tuesday
May 11, 2021

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Chair
M. Gilbert, Trustee
R. Irwin, Trustee
Y. Taylor, Trustee
B. Dolan, Vice-Chair
D. Samchuck, Superintendent
M. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer
P. Anderson, Recording Secretary
G. Gough, FNDTA President
J. Gilbert, FNDTA Liaison

Call to Order

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

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Dolen called for any additions or changes to the Open Agenda.

One item was added:

- Facilities/Services – Action – Capital Bylaw

R21-021 That the Board of Education accept the Open Agenda as amended. B. Dolan/M. Gilbert
CARRIED

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Dolen called for any errors or omissions to the Open Minutes of April 22. One amendment was recognized:

- Trustee Gilbert asked that there be some notation to distinguish between Trustee Gilbert and FNDTA Liaison Gilbert. Suggest including the first initial in reports.

R21-022 That the Board of Education accept the Open Minutes of April 22 as M. Gilbert/B. Dolan
amended.
CARRIED

Presentation – SD #81 (Fort Nelson) 3 Year Technology Plan 2021-24

- D. Johnstone presented the 3 Year Technology Plan for 2021-2024.

Report on Closed Items

- Staff Appreciation
- Parent Inquiry
- Protocols

- Budget update

R21-023	<p>Scholarship Committee</p> <p>That the Board of Education select a Scholarship Committee representative. Trustee Taylor was selected. CARRIED</p>	B. Dolan/R. Irwin
R21-024	<p>Policy 1320 – Framework for Enhancing Student Learning</p> <p>That the Board of Education review and approve for distribution to stakeholders for input. CARRIED</p>	B. Dolan/R. Irwin
R21-025	<p>Capital Bylaw</p> <p>That the Board of Education approve all three readings of the 2021/22 Capital Plan Bylaw No: 2021/22-CPSD81-01. CARRIED</p>	B. Dolan/R. Irwin
R21-026	<p>That the Board of Education adopt the 2021/22 Capital Plan CARRIED</p> <p>Secretary-Treasurer Hall discussed the approvals for the re-cladding of RL Angus as well as the LED replacement lights. Today we received official notice that we have been approved to receive the funding to re-clad all our buildings district wide including the Board Office, Toad River School, Maintenance shop and portables. We are excited for this news. We will be working with staff to decide on color choices. RLA has very little natural light, so as we are replacing the cladding, we are also looking into changing out the windows in the classrooms. We have measured and are waiting for a quote. We are hoping to have enough funds but if not, we will take from AFG We are also looking at replacing some windows at GWC.</p>	M. Gilbert/R. Irwin
R21-027	<p>Education-Information Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paeen Fuentes – Provincial Public Speaking Award • Principal’s Reports <p>That the Board of Education file the Education Information Reports as received. CARRIED</p> <p>Thanks to G. Gough for the letter of congratulations to P. Fuentes on her silver medal award in 2020/21 Skills Canada Public Speaking Provincials. Superintended Samchuck and Vice-Chair Dolan had the pleasure of hearing P. Fuentes speak at the presentations today at FNSS.</p>	Y. Taylor/M. Gilbert

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

CARRIED

Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

- Trustee Taylor – She is zooming the Capstone presentations at FNSS. Quite a different situation from two years ago when everyone gathered in the gym and you could move around from person to person. Will also participate again all day tomorrow.
She participated with Secretary-Treasurer Hall in Administrative Assistants' day, recognizing Board Office staff. It was well received and appreciated.
- Trustee Irwin- He attended the RLA PAC meeting. He took in Secretary-Treasurer Hall's budget presentation. It was detailed and very informative. Thanks to Secretary-Treasurer Hall, this increased the understanding of how budgets work.
He also learned a couple of things that RLA is doing. Because of COVID, there is a concern of kids being unable to share things. PAC has arranged for water bottles for each student at the school. These are good quality bottles, personalized for each individual student.
The school is also looking at doing a bulk purchase for school supplies. This is still in the discussion phase but looks as though they will be moving ahead with this.
He has mentioned in almost every trustee report that their fundraising never ends. One project they had started last fall, using the students' artwork to make greeting cards has finished up. He will go purchase a box of cards and encourage all to do so as well.
K. Reddy did a presentation at RLA on the Value Up program that is coming, this touches on mental health initiatives. She needs funding from each school and is hoping this will go through for next fall.
They are looking at how they can do year end activities safely such as track and field as well as the moose run. It will be nice to have a touch of normalcy.
- Trustee Gilbert – He was unable to attend the last GWC PAC meeting as it was scheduled for the same night as our last Board Meeting. He will attend the next one on May 18. It was brought to his attention that the School District logo is looking somewhat dated. It has a reference to Oil and Gas which no longer applies to us. This might be up for reconsideration.

The news that was released in terms was confusing the levels of communication regarding COVID data; what was said to be available versus what was made available. This may be a lesson for all levels of Government the importance of transparency with the public.

- Vice-Chair Dolan – He signed in for the Capstone presentations at FNSS. There was a wide range of topics and presentations. It was an interesting experience. Will attend the FNSS PAC Meeting tomorrow. Secretary-Treasurer Hall is on the agenda with her budget presentation. We are in a bit of lull with the School District Pro-D Committee which is a well earned rest. Most of the work being done now is the Chair helping the people get their last approvals completed for their Professional Development applications. The keynote speaker, Shelly Moore, is booked for next year. Next year's Pro-D will be a blend of virtual and in person depending on COVID.
- Chair Dolen – She did not have any meetings, just passed along the notes from colleagues across the province.
- Superintendent Samchuck – She is thrilled to hear that Shelly Moore is coming up here next year. The District as well as the Pro-D Committee has tried for the past 5 years to get her here.

With regards to the logo that Trustee Gilbert mentioned, maybe it is a good time for another contest to obtain a new logo.

There are a lot of zoom meetings right now. She did a recruiting and retention call for rural and remote districts. It was a good session. Some of the post secondary institutions are more focused on rural and remote but there are no promises. ACHOTE is expanding to include Dawson Creek again but still not including Fort Nelson. Nothing new on the student loan front. Always a good discussion but never seems to lead to anything. The Deputy Minister called just to check in. All he would say about September is that he is trying to be optimistic.

She sat in on a Framework for Enhancing Student Learning with the Ministry. The final Mind Up staff training has been completed and we are hoping that this will go into effect for the fall.

She also attended the Capstone presentations. She was impressed with the students' use of core competencies and how they finished their presentations explaining how they had to use them and what they had to do for each section.

- Secretary-Treasurer Hall – She will be continuing the Budget presentations. She appreciated the union representation. She will be at FNSS tomorrow, JSC on Thursday and GWC next week. When L. MacNeil goes to Toad River School, she

will zoom with them as well.

She mentioned the transition to PowerSchool. She would like to acknowledge hard work of the staff here at the Board Office. It has been quite the process, at least three hours training daily and when those are training other staff are covering for them. It has been a huge workload but feels we will be happy with the new system.

Our causal staff member has started with the Maintenance Department. We were required to spend our Federal and Provincial COVID funds by June 30. We are just about finished with installation of the new touchless taps district wide. We are currently working on the upgrade to the ventilation which also needs to be completed.

- FNDTA Liaison, J. Gilbert – RLA is hoping to move forward with the year end activities while maintaining the integrity of our cohort system. We will focus on COVID guidelines. After speaking with some of the FNDTA members, he would like to extend a thank you to Superintendent Samchuck and everyone who worked on extending the Professional Development deadline. With COVID, it has been harder to find suitable Pro-D opportunities, so this was appreciated by staff.
- FNDTA President G. Gough – Apologies for being late to the meeting. Thank you to Secretary-Treasurer Hall for the Budget presentation. For him, it was a huge learning curve to see how the process works.
The last general meeting confirmed him as President for the next year.
We are busy confirming details for our AGM next week. We are trying to make it as social as possible. We will be meeting by zoom but looking at ways to make it a social event for teachers.
FNDTA just changed their logo. We have talented people in this district; it should be fun to have a new logo created.

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Linda Dolen
Chair

Margaret-Anne Hall
Secretary-Treasurer