

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

Open Meeting
6:00 pm

Tuesday
February 8, 2022

In Attendance VIA Zoom:

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

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 agenda, one item was added by Superintendent Samchuck under Presentation

- Open Parachute

R22-001 That the Board of Education accept the Open Agenda as amended.
CARRIED

R. Irwin/B. Dolan

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Dolen called for any errors or omissions to the Open Minutes of December 7, 2021. As None were identified, Chair Dolen accepted the minutes as presented.

Open Parachute Presentation – Due to technical issues the presentation could not be viewed. Superintendent Samchuck spoke about Open Parachute and its benefits.

Report on Closed:

- Local Bargaining Ratification

R22-002 2022/2023 Local Calendar

M. Gilbert/Y. Taylor

That the Board of Education approve Option 1 Local Calendar for our intown schools for 2022/2023.
CARRIED

Vice-Chair Dolan has concerns and would like to avoid any potential for misunderstanding or future disappointment. He would like the

wording to clearly state that our employee groups and other stakeholders are being consulted but understand that this is not a vote so that people are not disappointed if their choice is not selected. It is the Board's responsibility to decide while considering all options. Trustee Irwin reviewed the reasoning behind the choices. Maybe there are different perspectives listed that he had not considered.
Discussion ensued.

R22-003 2022/2023 Toad River Calendar M. Gilbert/D. Dolan

That the Board of Education approve Option 1 Toad River Calendar for 2022/2023
CARRIED

R22-004 2021/2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw M. Gilbert/B. Dolan

That the Board of Education unanimously approve all three readings of the 2021/2022 Annual Amended Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$12,573,155.00.
CARRIED

R22-005 That the Board of Education adopt the 2021/2022 Annual Amended Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$12,573,155.00
CARRIED Y. Taylor/M. Gilbert

Secretary-Treasurer Hall said that after finalizing budgets we have anticipated a surplus of \$37454. in addition to the \$303,929. surplus we identified in the Financial Statements in June. We were able to balance the budget without using any additional funds this year. If all expense lines hold until June 30, we will have a cushion and this puts us in a favorable position when we start preparing our budget for next year. Discussion ensued.

FNDTA President Gough sends apologies as he was unable to make the meeting this evening.

R22-006 Education Information Items: Y. Taylor/B. Dolan

- The Story of Local School Names
- Principal Reports

That the Board of Education file the Education Information items as received.
CARRIED

R22-006 That the Board of Education frame the information surrounding school names and display them in the individual schools.
CARRIED Y. Taylor/B. Dolan

Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

Chair Dolen – She was supposed to attend the NIB Meeting in Prince George, however the in-person meeting was switched to virtual but could not make it. Chad from Dawson Creek District is the new President, Helen from FSJ District is the new Chair. BCPSEA AGM was also virtual, the report has been shared on Board Business. She has been a part of pursuing the Superintendent's position as well as the Local Bargaining committee.

Vice-Chair Dolan – It has been interesting being back in HR conducting reference checks again. We must do the best we can to find a suitable replacement for this position. The Board has been relying on Superintendent Samchuck throughout this process and appreciates her help and leadership.

Once again, he commends the hard work of the Pro-D committee. The FNDTA has a standing offer to co-plan with BCGEU support staff, this speaks volumes. It is incredible that these two unions work together for professional development.

Trustee Gilbert – He attended the GW Carlson PAC meeting. It is business as usual. Their activity is reflected in their principal's report. He will be attending, virtually, the Provincial Council meeting this upcoming weekend.

Trustee Irwin – There was a functional school closure at Chalo School last week for three days. On Tuesday afternoon employees started reporting illness and before the end of the day about 40% of staff were out and it was decided that the school would shut down for a few days.

He attended the RL Angus PAC meeting. The principal spoke about Open Parachute stating that it has been very well received by staff. We are looking forward to taking part in this and pleased that staff is embracing this program. She also mentioned that due to local illness they had to put an EA in as a teacher, unfortunately the sub list isn't as long as it once was.

One of the parents on the PAC had mentioned that parents and students had asked if the school would be having their Symposium of Learning this year. The principal reported that the staff is working on it and trying to work out different configurations because of COVID restrictions. They will likely aim to have as much as possible outside.

Trustee Taylor – She participated in the HR reference checks for the Superintendent's position with Chair Dolen and Vice-Chair Dolan. She attended the JS Clark PAC meeting they spoke about hot lunch program and Lori Woodworth spoke about a new See-Saw program instead of the My Blueprint program which seems to be an easy program to use. They are talking about getting involved with the

community garden next to the school; the students are quite excited to be a part of this.

Superintendent Samchuck – Spoke about COVID in schools. We have been managing quite well. She is required to send daily attendance to the Ministry, today was the first day that there was no sickness at RL Angus or Toad River School. Mrs. Martin always sends the student sickness report from FNSS as well, there are 17 away today, 10 for sickness and the remaining 7 away for other reasons.

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Linda Dolen
Chair

Margaret-Anne Hall
Secretary-Treasurer