

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

Open Meeting  
6:00 pm

Wednesday  
June 12, 2024

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Chair  
B. Dolan, Vice Chair  
F. Peach, Trustee  
K. Dickie, Trustee  
Y. Taylor, Trustee  
M. Theobald, Superintendent  
M. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer  
P. Anderson, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

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

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Dolen called for any addition or changes to Open Agenda. One item was added to Finance – Information:

- Fundraising Plans

One item was removed Finance - Action:

- 2024-2025 Annual Budget Bylaw

R24-028 That the Board of Education accept the Open Agenda as amended.  
CARRIED

F. Peach/B. Dolan

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Dolen called for any errors or omissions to the Open Minutes of April 10. As none were noted, Chair Dolen accepted the minutes as presented.

Chair Dolen called for any error or omissions to the Open Minutes of May 15. As none were noted, Chair Dolen accepted the minutes as presented.

Per Diems Discussion

Per Diems Discussion Assistant Anderson researched and discovered that BSCTA per diem rates were \$67/day (\$15/breakfast, \$20/lunch and \$32/dinner). On the BC Government website the rates showed in grid form consisting of Grids I, II & III, I at \$60.61/day, II at \$63.75/day and III at \$66.75/day, leaving BCSTA in line with Grid III of the on the Government site.

Superintendent Theobald will check the Travel Protocol.

R24-029	<p>Policy 1110 – Responsibilities and Expectations of the Board of Trustees</p> <p>That the Board of Education make the revisions discussed then circulate the policy to stakeholders for 30 days for review and feedback.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	B. Dolan/F. Peach
R24-030	<p>Policy 5210 – Student Behaviour and Discipline</p> <p>That the Board of Education circulate the policy to stakeholders for 30 days for review and feedback.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	B. Dolan/Y. Taylor
R24 – 031	<p>Policy 6340 – Acceptable use of District and Personal Electronic Devices</p> <p>That the Board of Education circulate the policy to stakeholders for 30 days for review and feedback.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	B. Dolan/Y. Taylor
R24 – 032	<p>Policy 6220 – Field Trips</p> <p>That the Board of Education circulate the policy to stakeholders for 30 days for review and feedback.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	Y. Taylor/B. Dolan
R24 – 033	<p>Bus Services Tender</p> <p>That the Board of Education award the Bus Services Tender to Diversified Transportation with stipulations as outlined in the Request for Proposal. The contract will be for a period of five years, with the possibility of an extension for a further two year term.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	Y. Taylor/F. Peach
R24 - 034	<p>Budget Information</p> <p>That the Board of Education file the Budget information.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	K. Dickie/F. Peach
R24 – 035	<p>Education Information Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Principal Report</li> <li>• Principals’ Reports</li> <li>• Mandatory CPR Training in Schools</li> <li>• Safe Access to School Regulation</li> <li>• Strategic Plan Update</li> <li>• Technical Briefing – 2024 Natural Hazard Season</li> </ul> <p>That the Board of Education file the Education – Information Items as received.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	K. Dickie/F. Peach

#### FNSS Office Reno

Secretary-Treasurer Hall spoke about the bid process. When putting the bid out, it included a mandatory meeting at the site. Only WL Construction showed up at the mandatory meeting. It was disappointing that local companies did not attend as it was a good job that did not contain structural work that local companies could have easily completed. After speaking with them, their reasoning was that they had already committed to their summer work. WL is currently working for us on the JSC Daycare project and they have done all our cladding work. We have a positive working relationship with them, they are very fair and great to work with. The bid came in significantly less than the funding we received. We are hopeful that there may be some funds that we can use towards furniture. We are in the process of cleaning out the offices and making decisions on carpets. She has recommended to the Superintendent and the Director of Facilities that when the architect visits for inspections that he take a look at the far side of FNSS and have that entire side gutted, maybe add some new washrooms, a first aid room, a student services room etc. We have been very fortunate with our project approvals; but there is always something else to be done.

R24 – 36

#### Fundraising Reconciliations

That the Board of Education file the Fundraising Reconciliations.  
CARRIED

F. Peach/Y. Taylor

#### Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

- Trustee Taylor attended that IEC meeting, she attended the PAC meeting in April but did not have quorum, she attended the Administrative Professionals Day lunch at the SBO in April and she attended the Scholarship Committee meeting this morning.
- Trustee Peach was unable to attend the April PAC meeting at GWC, no meeting this month, however Shirley gave a quick rundown on what was happening. PAC organized the hot lunch for the fun day, planned the picnic in the park, which happened today, the yearbooks will be delayed this year until September. The first installment of restitution is due at the end of June. He attended the egg drop this year, he will attend their year end assembly tomorrow afternoon.
- Trustee Dickie attended two IEC meetings, she feels they are breaking new ground, she attended the RLA PAC meeting in May where she shared the Strategic Plan. The topic of forest fires came up, parents indicating the need to teach the kids about forest fire safety. There is another PAC meeting this week where they will discuss year end and fundraising. She attended a presentation at JSC on Friday May 10.
- Vice Chair Dolan attended the AGM, the AGM motions were interesting. Non-voting student delegates passed, but

barely. He attended the FNSS PAC meeting, the cafeteria is still a source of frustration. He attended the Staff Appreciation event, went very well.

- Chair Dolen attended the AGM as well, she attended the Staff Appreciation Event, attended various Rural and Remote zoom calls, they are reviewing the terms of reference. The ministry reached out to her while we were on evacuation and offered her sympathies. She attended a couple board chairs calls. She also attended IEC meetings and a meeting with PRFN.

- Superintendent Theobald attended the JCAM meeting in Vancouver with Leah Asher, there was a lot of information covered. We've got the Terms of Reference for the IEC, still waiting on those, but this will set out things such as membership, voting rights for members. A big focus for the day was a distinctions based approach which means priority is given to the territory in which the district operates. This has an impact on how districts will interact with indigenous communities as we move forward.

He attended the Deputy Minister's meeting, this is also the day we were evacuated, so he has to go back and look at his notes from this meeting as he doesn't recall much from that meeting. In terms of the evacuation, he has had a debrief from his administrators so far in terms of things that worked but also considerations for the future. It was helpful to talk with Jameel Aziz, Superintendent of School District 57, he has past experience of disasters (Superintendent of Yellowknife last year when evacuated due to wildfires) (Assistant Superintendent of Merritt when evacuated due to floods). He commends the administrators for the amount of work they put in.

We are moving into year end; we are all feeling the crunch trying to catch up on 20 day worth of work.

- Secretary-Treasurer Hall – It is amazing how quickly time goes by, she attended fun days, so well organized by staff and so many happy kids and happy staff members, kids cannot help but be happy with the smiles on the faces on the staff members. It is amazing the amount of work that staff puts in for the children in our district and she is still so proud to be associated with it.  
Her most wonderful memory is the scholarship committee. She attended the meeting today with Trustee Taylor, she didn't think she would get to be a part of that committee again, but she got to be part of it again this year. It is always so amazing to hear what our kids are doing.  
If people think that students aren't motivated these days, they should attend a scholarship meeting. We have some amazing young people; they are going places and they have

been guided on their journey by our wonderful staff members.

- FNDTA President Gough it has been a fantastic year! He has enjoyed working together with Superintendent Theobald, having conversations and getting things done. He feels that the relationship between FNDTA and the School Board and administrators is second to none!  
He is happy to report that he will be continuing in his role as FNDTA President next year.

As far as the evacuation is concerned, he thought it was spectacular. You can't help but have chaos. He feels we've done a good job planning for this and it was handled well.

- Chair Dolen received an email from Ellie regarding who will do graduation speech, she would like trustees to think about this for next year. If you have someone significant graduating next year please consider.

She also wanted to mention the orderliness of people leaving town during evacuation was phenomenal. People were so focused on being kind, getting our staff down there and hearing how the Petrucci's jumped in to help out our people, how the communities of FSJ, Dawson Creek, Prince George and Chetwynd stepped up to help out was truly amazing. No one in the province has had to move their board office, it was amazing, we found a place to make things happen. The system worked!

#### Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

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Linda Dolen  
Chair

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Margaret-Anne Hall  
Secretary-Treasurer