

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

Open Meeting
6:00 pm

Wednesday
September 25, 2025

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Chair
B. Dolan, Vice-Chair
Y. Taylor, Trustee
K. Dickie, Trustee
F. Peach, Trustee
M. Theobald, Superintendent
D. Osmond, Secretary-Treasurer
P. Anderson, Recording Secretary
Guest:
M. Roque, KPMG

Call to order

Chair Dolen called the Open Meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Dolen called for any additions or changes to the agenda. One item was added to the agenda:

- Finance – Action: Minor Capital

R25-056	That the Board of Education and Childcare accept the agenda as amended. CARRIED	B. Dolan/Y. Taylor
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Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Dolen called for any omissions or errors in the Open Minutes of June 18, 2025. As none were noted, Chair Dolen accepted the minutes as presented.

2024-2025 Audit Presentation

M. Roque of KPMG joined the meeting at 6:05 pm and presented the Audit findings and Financial Statements. She left the meeting at 6:13 pm.

R25-057	That the Board of Education and Childcare approve the 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements. CARRIED	F. Peach/K. Dickie
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R25-058	District Framework for Enhancing Student Learning That the Board of Education and Childcare approved the District Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Report. CARRIED	K. Dickie/B. Dolan
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Trustee Assignments

The Board reviewed the Trustee Assignments and made the necessary updates.

R25-059	2026-2024 Minor Capital Submission That the Board of Education and Childcare approve the Minor Capital Plan Submission for \$171,500 for Boiler and Furnace upgrade at GW Carlson School, portable and clubhouse. CARRIED	F. Peach/Y. Taylor
R25-060	That the Board of Education and Childcare approve the Minor Capital Plan Submission for \$190,000 for phone system and camera upgrades throughout the district. CARRIED	B. Dolan/F. Peach
R25-061	Fuel and Propane Contract Approval That the Board of Education and Childcare approve the awarding of the fuel contract to Fort Nelson Bulk Sales for gas at a rate of \$0.07/litre off rack price and for diesel fuel at a rate of \$0.10/litre off rack price. CARRIED	Y. Taylor/K. Dickie
R25-062	That the Board of Education and Childcare approve the awarding of the Propane contract to Avenir Energy at a rate of \$0.47/litre. CARRIED	F. Peach/K. Dickie
R25-063	Education – Information Items • Superintendent’s Report • Principals’ Report • Measles Information Update That the Board of Education and Childcare accept the Education – Information Items as received. CARRIED	B. Dolan/F. Peach
R25-064	Staff Amendments That the Board of Education and Childcare accept the Staff Amendment Report as received. CARRIED	K. Dickie/F. Peach
R25-065	Finance – Information Items • Financial Analysis Report • Secretary-Treasurer’s Report That the Board of Education accept the Finance – Information Items as received. CARRIED	K. Dickie/B. Dolan

Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

Chair Dolen requested an updated list of events where trustee attendance is expected. The Superintendent noted that this Friday is the grand opening of the JS Clark Daycare. The ribbon-cutting ceremony and the Superintendent's speech will take place at 10:00 AM. A trustee representative is required to speak on behalf of the Board. Trustee Taylor has agreed to fulfill this role.

The Mug 'n' Muffin event at JS Clark will begin at 8:30 AM, followed by the Orange Shirt Day assembly at 9:00 AM. The Board is invited to attend both events.

GW Carlson will be hosting a Community and Culture Day on October 24. A variety of activities will take place throughout the day, and lunch will be provided. The Board is invited to attend.

The District Indigenous In-Service will take place on September 29, with some updated details. The day will begin at 8:30 AM at FNSS with coffee and snacks. At 9:00 AM, a guest speaker will address District staff, followed by a community Truth and Reconciliation walk alongside Chalo School students, staff, and families.

After the walk, participants will travel by bus to Chalo School for lunch and an afternoon of cultural learning activities.

- Chair Dolen attended several meetings, IEC, Toad River PAC meeting, LEA meeting, Rural and Remote, as well as a Board Chairs' call.
- Trustee Peach attended the GW Carlson PAC meeting. Three executive members have stepped down. Current enrollment stands at 126. The roles and PAC responsibilities were also discussed.
- Trustee Dickie attended the Prophet River graduation day, describing it as an amazing event that truly honored the graduates. She also participated in the IEC meeting, which was a very positive and productive day with Denise Augustine in attendance. Unfortunately, she was unable to attend the first RL Angus PAC meeting due to a scheduling conflict; Trustee Taylor attended on her behalf.
- Trustee Taylor attended the Pro-D meeting, new committee members were selected. The keynote speaker has been booked for the February Pro-D dates. There has been some discussion regarding teachers' Pro-D funds. She attended the RLA PAC meeting, where some executive members were selected. They do not have a hot lunch coordinator at the moment, she suggested that they share the FNSS cafeteria. Parent teacher interviews have

been scheduled for the evening of Thursday, October 9 and Friday, October 10.

- Vice-Chair Dolan attended the FNSS PAC meeting where the executive members were selected.
An upcoming presentation with MADD is planned. This impactful session will be delivered to students and will be funded by the PAC.
Local EMS, Fire Department and RCMP have requested access to our students to review the appropriate use of 911.
Approximately 60 students are expected to graduate this year. As there is no grad sponsor, the principal will take on that role. There is a very small student executive in place, and a higher level of parental involvement is anticipated.
There is much excitement about the opening of the cafeteria, which is hoped to have a positive effect on student attendance. A new bell system has been acquired. While there were a few initial glitches, adjustments have been made. A demonstration could not be provided as it would trigger a RCMP response.
He raised a question about the status of the district logo.
Superintendent Theobald advised that a survey would go out to parents and students requesting feedback.
- Superintendent Theobald advised that the focus will not be on requesting design elements, but rather on identifying the key themes or messages are important for the logo to represent.
He extended his appreciation to Secretary-Treasurer Osmond for her significant efforts in getting the cafeteria up and running. She is to be commended for her hard work.
He also wanted to commend all staff on a successful startup, noticing the positive energy throughout the schools. It was a pleasure visiting the schools over the past few weeks, hearing about and feeling the positive energy surrounding school startup.
Trustee Dolan gave special acknowledgement to the teachers who attended the math in-service prior to the official startup. Their decision to show up for a day of in-service a week early is a strong statement of commitment and professionalism. This marks a significant 'all for one and one for all' step forward and reflects exceptionally well on our group of educators. Maybe a letter of recognition can be sent to each of them.
- Secretary-Treasurer Osmond attended the Prophet River graduation; it was amazing!
She attended her first LEA meeting.
She attended the IEC meeting at FNAFS
She acknowledged D. Unruh for her first year-end. She worked hard and learned a lot.
The cafeteria startup came with some challenges as it was new to all involved; however, it has been a successful startup, and the feedback has been good. The contractors keep in close contact with her.

- FNDTA President Gough echoes the words of the superintendent.
It has been a great startup.

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Linda Dolen
Chair

Darlene Osmond
Secretary-Treasurer