

Committee of the Whole - Public Meeting

Minutes



Committee of the Whole Meeting

June 5, 2018 at 3:30 PM

District Education Office, 33046 – 4th Avenue, Mission, BC

Members Present:

Chair Tracy Loffler
Trustee Rick McKamey
Trustee Randy Cairns
Trustee Jim Taylor
Trustee Shelley Carter

Staff Present:

Superintendent Angus Wilson
Secretary Treasurer Corien Becker
Assistant Superintendent Larry Jepsen
Principal Jim Pearce
K-12 District Virtual Teacher Librarian Jennifer Lane
Teacher Librarian Megan Ross
Teacher Librarian Kristi Johnston
Indigenous Mentor Teacher Peggy Janicki
Principal Kevin Watrin
Principal Marcello Gabriele
Principal Linda Zieffle
Counsellor Dan Thiessen
Executive Assistant Aleksandra Zwierzchowska (Recorder)

Partner Groups Present:

District Parent Advisory Committee, Principal Vice-Principal Association, Mission Teachers' Union, Canadian Union of Public Employees and Stave Falls Community Association.

Guests:

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm by the Chairperson. The Chair acknowledged the meeting was being held on Stó:lō Territory. There are four First Nation Bands within the boundaries of the Mission School District: Leq:a'mel, Sq'èwlets, Kwantlen, and Matsqui First Nations.

2. Adoption of Agenda

One addition: 7.2 Vending Machines

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. Delegations/Presentations

3.1 International Travel Application: Chile – École Mission Secondary School

MOVED and Seconded that the International Travel Application for Chile be reviewed and forwarded to the June 19, 2018 Public Board meeting for approval.

CARRIED

The Principal of École Mission Secondary School advised the committee that approximately 30 students from grades 11 and 12 will be traveling to Chile for a Global Education Course. The trip will include building a community centre/ learning centre in Puerto Aldea.

Is it being approved in principle? No, it is being forwarded to the June Public Board meeting.

3.2 International Travel Application: China – École Mission Secondary School

MOVED and Seconded that the International Travel Application for China be reviewed and forwarded to the June 19, 2018 Public Board meeting for approval.

CARRIED

The Principal of École Mission Secondary School advised the committee that this opportunity was introduced to the school through the international department. Students will travel to China for reciprocal travel with our international partner. There is no course associated to this trip; educational and athletics elements are included as part of the itinerary.

A request was made to provide the Board with more information about travel insurance, airline carrier names, and travel experience of supervising teachers.

3.3 High Risk Field Trip: Paddle Expo, Rendall Park – École Mission Secondary School

MOVED and Seconded that the High Risk Field Trip for Rendall Park be reviewed and forwarded to the June 19, 2018 Public Board meeting for approval.

CARRIED

The Superintendent advised the committee that this field trip is a new experience to the school district and it is being presented here today to address any questions.

The Indigenous Mentor Teacher reviewed the details outlined on the High Risk Field Trip application form and advised that this field trip is happening in partnership with other school districts. A maximum of 15 students from grades 10-12 will participate on this trip.

4. Curriculum Update – Standing Item

4.1 Monthly Curriculum Update

The Assistant Superintendent announced the Joyful Literacy Project completed last Tuesday. The school district successfully completed all the curriculum initiatives planned for this school year. The Curriculum Planning Team has grown from 3-4 members to 13 members.

The K-12 District Virtual Teacher Librarian introduced Teacher Librarians Kristi Johnston and Megan Ross. The presentation included Curriculum Highlights accomplished at all the district elementary schools throughout the 2017-18 school year. The presentation is available online on the Curriculum website.

4.2 Draft Learning Resources Policy

The draft policy requires additional revising and should be forwarded to another Committee meeting in the fall.

The K-12 District Virtual Teacher Librarian provided an overview on the process for preparing the draft policy. In addition to revising the policy, the school district needs to revise the Challenge Policy.

The new policy was shared with all Teacher Libraries who examined the existing procedure, discussed the new policy, established a guiding vision and worked through selection process of resources with the Educational Resource Acquisition Consortium (ERAC).

This item will be brought back to another Committee meeting in the fall.

5. Unfinished Business

5.1 BAA – Self Efficacy

Principal Watrin shared a copy of the Personal Development Passport which is used by the students as a guide to complete the Self Efficacy course. The course was reviewed and discussed at several school-staff meetings. It is intended to be self-paced. The teacher leads the course and the principal assists the students with making connections to course lessons.

Counsellor Dan Thiessen advised that one of the course assignments is to define Self Efficacy and describe how it can apply to life. This assignment is intended to be a strength-based approach where students acknowledge their own skills.

Q: Is this course available to students in grades 11 and 12?

R: There are three (3) levels to the course. Only the grade 10 course needs to be approved to the Ministry's format. The core of the Personal Development Passport would be used for all three levels.

5.2 Student Safety

Trustee Loffler has brought this item forward as the community has expressed concerns with student safety specifically at École Mission Secondary School. This is an opportunity to look at this item more closely.

The Superintendent shared a conversation with the RCMP Liaison of École Mission Secondary School, who reported that the school district is experiencing common issues.

Suspension Stats at École Mission Secondary School

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Out of School Suspensions	78	58	190	161	80	81
In School Suspensions	18	34	58	65	60	56

The following comments were provided to the Committee with regards to views about student safety:

Principal Ziefflie of Heritage Park Middle School advised that staff have done a good job with building relationships with students. There are students who are battling with mental health issues and addictions. The students are coming to administrators and requesting help. The data may be higher, but the data does not provide you with particulars. There is a concern with the marijuana edibles. We need more counselling support. A suggestion was made to have a police unit at the leisure centre.

Principal Gabrielle of Hatzic Middle School explained that data is a good tool to establish a benchmark, but he is hesitant that data tells the true story. Data can be skewed by discipline versus suspension. The staff at our school like to work with the families. There are times where a student needs to be removed from the building, however, that is not the case for every situation. The Principal is more concerned with the social media element. This issue is on the rise. Schools are safe. Staff like to take an effective approach: work together, work with our staff, and work with our counsellors.

Principal Pearce of École Mission Secondary School invites all members of the community to stop by the school for a personal tour. Staff focus on offering a safe learning environment. There is an orderly nature present at the school. The focus for administrators is attendance. Once a student is present, school staff can engage them.

President Nikolic of the Mission Teachers' Union commented on the reconfiguration of the three high schools. The reconfiguration has allowed for social development and extra opportunities. Students at the middle school level have a sense of belonging. Prior to the reconfiguration, middle school students struggled to fit in at the high schools, now they can be the leaders of their schools.

Q: Can DPAC offer the schools any assistance with this issue?

R: Advise parents to contact the school principal directly and take a proactive approach. Posting things on social media does not address the issue. Be an advocate for the school district.

Trustees have informed the public to email principals or district staff with their concerns. It was noted that no emails have been received about this item. The Board is pleased with how the school district is handling issues and further discussion is unnecessary.

5.3 Growth and Capacity

Deeper analysis on this item can be presented at the September meeting. A boundary review is necessary. This item may overlap with the outgoing Board and the new Board. Nothing is being postponed as the students are not moving catchments until September 2019. The Board is not making a decision right away. There is a great deal to complete with the enrolment projections at the elementary school level.

MOVED and Seconded to extend the meeting for 10 minutes.

CARRIED

The Committee agreed that the following items will be forwarded to the meeting on June 12, 2018:

- Worksafe Update
- Installation of Cameras at Riverside College
- 2018-2019 Board Meeting Schedule
- Motion to BCSTA Provincial Council
- Vending Machines

6. **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes dated May 1, 2018 be approved.

CARRIED

MOVED and Seconded that the Special Committee of the Whole meeting minutes dated May 8, 2018 be approved.

CARRIED

7. **Information Items**

The attachments supplied in this section of the agenda are presented as information items. The Board Chair advised the Committee that a Special meeting is being held on June 12, 2018.

- 9.1 District Parent Advisory Council, Annual General Minutes dated May 14, 2018
- 9.2 Independent Review Panel – Report out on What We Heard from School Districts
- 9.3 Special Committee of the Whole, June 12, 2018

Minutes



8. Adjournment

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Chair, Board of Education

September 18, 2019

Date

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Secretary Treasurer

September 18, 2019

Date

Secretary Treasurer