

Board of Education Public Meeting
Tuesday March 13, 2018 at 6:30 PM
Windebank Elementary, 33570 11th 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
Executive Assistant Aleksandra Zwierzchowska (Recorder)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm 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

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as presented.
CARRIED

3. Delegations/Presentations

Ms. Condon, Principal of Windebank Elementary, introduced Ms. Smith, one of the teachers at the school. The presentation will include highlights from students about the Spirit Squad initiative, which enhances student's engagement to establish a stronger school culture. Students presented a few points about the Spirit Squad initiative including what they enjoyed most about it.

4. Unfinished Business

4.1 Stave Falls Elementary School, Options for Consideration and Proposed Motion

The Chair stated that the Board has been considering information regarding the Stave Falls School.

A motion was brought forward by Trustee Cairns.

MAIN MOTION

MOVED and Seconded that Stave Falls School be opened as a K-6 Elementary School with an outdoor, forestry, and cultural program of choice focus in September 2019.

AMENDMENT #1

MOVED and Seconded that the school open in 2018.

DEFEATED

AMENDMENT #2

MOVED and Seconded to add the following wording, that a plan to complete the repairs needed to bring the building to a useable condition be developed by April 30, 2018;

AND THAT a budget of \$132,000 funded from the contingency reserve and the local capital reserve for some of the immediate repairs to the building, be approved;

AND THAT the remaining budget of \$802,570 be included in the 2018/2019 budget, including any funding needed to come from the contingency reserve and the local capital reserve.

CARRIED

AMENDED MOTION

MOVED and Seconded that Stave Falls School be opened as a K-6 Elementary School with an outdoor, forestry, and cultural program of choice focus in September 2019;

AND THAT a plan to complete the repairs needed to bring the building to a useable condition be developed by April 30, 2018;

AND THAT a budget of \$132,000 funded from the contingency reserve and the local capital reserve for some of the immediate repairs to the building, be approved;

AND THAT the remaining budget of \$802,570 be included in the 2018/2019 budget, including any funding needed to come from the contingency reserve and the local capital reserve.

CARRIED

Trustee Taylor stated that the additional wording added to the motion is extracted from Option 5, which is outlined on page 2 of the agenda. This amendment provides a more complete description on where the plan is going and gives staff clear direction.

Trustee Cairns expressed concerns about committing to any figures. This is one of the options that was drafted by staff and there is more support for this amendment.

Trustee McKamey stated that opening the school in 2019 allows the necessary time for staff to develop a good and strong plan for reopening the school.

Trustee Carter stated she understands the passion expressed by the public as Dewdney Elementary struggled with similar challenges. She encourages the public to stay in touch with the board and keep the communication channels open.

Trustee Loffler agrees with the points shared tonight. Based on the information outlined in the Stave Falls Elementary School Board Report, if 104 students are enrolled in the school and we factor in the related costs to reopen the school, it would take approximately 35 years to pay back these costs. We have the funds available in the contingency but spending this money means taking away from other resources in the district. Graduation rates are declining including the Aboriginal Education graduation rates. Students are not being designated early enough. How will opening the school affect Silverdale? The school closed with 106 students. The timing is not right; the school district is in need of more resources. As an advocate for the entire school district there are concerns how this will affect programs in the district.

Trustee Taylor supports having a school available in the neighbourhood; this is good for the community. There is a concern with putting a child on the bus for 45 minutes.

MOVED and Seconded to support the success of opening the Stave Falls School and help enrolment reach sufficient numbers to be successful:

1. **THAT the Stave Falls School be opened with a focus on an outdoor/ forestry program of choice; and**
2. **THAT the School District actively search for an early childhood / daycare operator to provide daycare services at Stave Falls School;**

AND THAT to minimize the negative consequences of the decision to open the Stave Falls School on the Silverdale School and to help increase enrolment at Silverdale School,

1. **that the School District develop and promote a program of choice at Silverdale, and**
2. **that the School District search for an early childhood/daycare operator to provide daycare services within the Silverdale School.**

AMENDMENT #1

MOVED and Seconded to add the word cultural after forestry.

CARRIED

AMENDED MOTION

MOVED and Seconded to support the success of opening the Stave Falls School and help enrolment reach sufficient numbers to be successful:

3. **That the Stave Falls School be opened with a focus on an outdoor/ forestry/ cultural program of choice; and**
4. **That The School District actively search for an early childhood / daycare operator to provide daycare services at Stave Falls School;**

AND THAT to minimize the negative consequences of the decision to open the Stave Falls School on the Silverdale School and to help increase enrolment at Silverdale School,

3. **that the School District develop and promote a program of choice at Silverdale, and**
4. **that the School District search for an early childhood/daycare operator to provide daycare services within the Silverdale School.**

CARRIED

This motion is based off information that was presented on page 3 of the agenda report outlined under other considerations. Having a daycare at Dewdney has proven to contribute significantly to the school's enrolment.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 2018/2019 School District Calendar and Distributed Learning Calendar

MOVED and Seconded that the 2018/2019 School District Calendar be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education and implementation for the 2018/2019 school year; and

THAT the 2018/2019 Distributed Learning Calendar be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education and implementation for the 2018/2019 school year.

CARRIED

In accordance with the regulations outlined by the Ministry of Education, a Board must prepare a school calendar for each school calendar year. Following the Board's approval, the 2018/2019 school calendars will be submitted to the Ministry of Education.

The Superintendent stated that bordering school districts are considering changing to a one-week Spring Break.

5.2 Policy #120 – Access to Information and Protection of Privacy and Personal Information

Moved and Seconded that the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy and Personal Information policy be approved;

AND that policy #41 Protection of Confidential Information be rescinded.

CARRIED

The draft policy has been shared at the February 6 and March 6, 2018 Committee of the Whole meetings. No feedback was received from the committee or the public. As such, this is presented to the Board for approval.

5.3 Policy #150 Health and Safety

MOVED and Seconded that the Health and Safety policy be approved.

CARRIED

Staff have been working on H&S program and have recommended a policy as part of the health and safety program. The inclusion of the policy provides clear direction to the organization. The draft policy has been shared at the February 6, 2018 and March 6, 2018 Committee of the Whole meetings. No feedback was received from the committee or the public.

Trustee Cairns would like district staff to receive more training than just e-training. It is important that staff is trained appropriately.

5.4 Budget Priorities

MOVED and Seconded that the 2018/2019 budget be developed with the following priorities:

1. **Continue to advance the technology upgrades within the School District;**
2. **Continue to provide additional resources and support to advance the new Curriculum;**
3. **Ensure resources are available for Student Services that supports the individual educational needs of students;**
4. **Continue to expand the supports for Aboriginal Education, recognizing the unique needs of both on-reserve, and off-reserve Aboriginal students;**
5. **Ensure students are afforded a well-rounded participation and input process;**
6. **Ensure the plan provides options to address the overcrowding at École Mission Secondary School;**
7. **Ensure a plan and funding is available to support students transitioning from Elementary to Middle School, from Middle School to High School, or to a program of studies at Summit, Fraserview, or Riverside College.**

AMENDMENT #1

MOVED and seconded to add bullet number eight (8) to read, ensure that funding is available to open Stave Falls Elementary school in September 2019.

CARRIED

AMENDED MOTION

MOVED and Seconded that the 2018/2019 budget be developed with the following priorities:

1. **Continue to advance the technology upgrades within the School District;**
2. **Continue to provide additional resources and support to advance the new Curriculum;**
3. **Ensure resources are available for Student Services that supports the individual educational needs of students;**
4. **Continue to expand the supports for Aboriginal Education, recognizing the unique needs of both on-reserve, and off-reserve Aboriginal students;**
5. **Ensure students are afforded a well-rounded participation and input process;**
6. **Ensure the plan provides options to address the overcrowding at École Mission Secondary School;**
7. **Ensure a plan and funding is available to support students transitioning from Elementary to Middle School, from Middle School to High School, or to a program of studies at Summit, Fraserview, or Riverside College.**
8. **Ensure that funding is available to open Stave Falls Elementary school in September 2019.**

CARRIED

The budget will be developed and presented over the next two months. The listed priorities are based on comments received at the March 6, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting. In addition to the strategic plan, the listed priorities will help guide the development of the budget.

Trustee Taylor stated the amendment is a housekeeping item. Stave Falls Elementary School was not included in the list as the motion to reopen the school was passed at this meeting and item should be included as a priority.

Trustee Loffler is pleased to see bullets for dealing with overcrowding at schools, as well as, transitioning students from Elementary to Middle School, and Middle School to High School.

5.5 Reporting Out from February 20th and March 13th Closed Meetings

The Superintendent reported out on two Closed meetings:

- 1) February 20, 2018 meeting - personnel and governance items were discussed; and
- 2) March 13, 2018 meeting - governance, personnel, and student matters were discussed.

6. New Business

No new business presented.

7. Minutes of Previous Meetings

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education Public meeting minutes dated February 20, 2018 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8. Information Items

The following items are shared as information:

1. Item 8.1 - Enrolment data for Mission Public Schools from February 2012 to February 2018

2. Item 8.2 – Employer Health Tax (EHT)

The 2018/2019 British Columbia Budget introduces the elimination of Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums by January 1, 2020, replacing the premiums with an Employer Health Tax (EHT). As the Mission Public School District has payroll greater than \$1.5 million (2017/2018 - \$49+ million) MPSD will be required to pay 1.95% on total payroll effective January 1, 2019. The change from MPS premiums to a payroll tax will increase the benefit costs for the school district by \$203,000 a year.

The Secretary Treasurer stated that school districts did not receive correspondence from the Ministry that they will increase funding. Therefore, the increased cost will come from the regular budget.

3. Ministry of Education – Budget 2018 Overview, February 2018

9. Correspondence

9.1 Letter from the Victoria School District to Ministry of Education regarding surveys

The letter emailed to Minister Rob Fleming addresses concerns about surveys issued to School Boards by the Ministry.

10. Community Minutes / Liaison Reports

No community minutes presented.

Trustees reported on the following:

- Attending the Special Committee of the Whole re: Stave Falls Elementary
- Meeting with the District of Mission
- Attending First Nations meeting which included discussion about enhance agreements
- Attending Ms. Gibson going away at Hatzic Middle School
- Attending the funeral for Mr. Schmor, a former teacher
- Attending the SOGI presentation at MSS

11. Announcements

The Chair reminded everyone that Spring Break is three days away.

12. Questions

1. What does the Board foresee for the future with children going without services/ resources due to the lack in funding?

As this item was not discussed during the meeting, the Chair recommended that this question be redirected to DPAC.

2. How would the daycare operate at Stave Falls Elementary?

At Dewdney Elementary, a daycare provider rents a space from the school district; we have no control over their business model.

3. How is the board going to promote the reopening school?

Minutes



By opening the school in 2019 versus 2018, staff will have more time to revisit catchments and to hire the appropriate staff.

- 4. What will the school district put in place to ensure the school is promoted?

Staff has a lot of work to complete. It is in staff's best interest to put together a concrete plan. We cannot be specific as a plan needs to be developed.

Staff will be meeting this Thursday to start the planning conversation.

- 5. Once you pass a motion, can the motion be reversed?

Staff will be acting on the direction, however, the Board is a political body, political bodies change and the direction can change. Staff will be moving forward with the direction outlined the approved motions.

13. Adjournment

MOVED and Seconded to adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Chair, Board of Education

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Secretary Treasurer

April 17, 2018

Date

April 17, 2018

Date