

Board of Education Meeting - Public
January 23, 2019 at 6:30pm
Edwin S Richards Elementary, 33419 Cherry Avenue, Mission, BC

Members Present:

Chair Tracy Loffler
Trustee Rick McKamey
Trustee Jim Taylor

Staff Present:

Superintendent Angus Wilson
Secretary Treasurer Corien Becker
Assistant Superintendent Larry Jepsen
Executive Assistant Aleksandra Zwierzchowska (Recorder)

Absent:

Trustee Shelley Carter
Trustee Randy Cairns

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 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

The Board Chair thanked Principal, Sharon Widdows, for hosting the Board meeting and presented the school with a cheque for their library.

A few students of the school Chime Choir introduced themselves and shared how long they have been playing the chimes and the students began to play the chimes.

4. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was presented.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 Amended Budget 2017 / 2018

THAT the following resolutions be approved:

MOVED and Seconded that the required three (3) readings and adoption of School District No. 75 (Mission) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2017/2018 be carried out in one meeting.

MOVED and Seconded that School District No. 75 (Mission) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2017/2018 be approved as read a first time.

MOVED and Seconded that School District No. 75 (Mission) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2017/2018 be approved as read a second time.

MOVED and Seconded that School District No. 75 (Mission) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2017/2018 be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.

CARRIED

The Secretary Treasurer noted that the report summarized the amendments that were discussed at two previous Committee of the Whole meetings on December 12, 2017 and January 16, 2018. A reconciliation of the surplus was added to the report and is summarized on page five (5) of the agenda package.

5.2 Reporting out from the Closed Board Meeting

The Superintendent reported that personnel matters were discussed during the Closed meeting. Also, there was a discussion on the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA).

6. **New Business**

6.1 Liaison Appointment

MOVED and Seconded that the 2018 Trustee Committee and Liaison Appointments be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Each year the Board of Education reviews the committee and school liaison appointments. The Board Chair provided recommended appointments at the January 16, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting, and an email was sent to all Trustees for preferences on liaison appointments. This year, the Board added an appointment for International Education.

6.2 Board Support for Rural Schools

MOVED and Seconded that the Mission Board of Education recognizes that rural elementary schools play a central role in their communities. Besides providing for basic, high quality education, they also served as a cultural center in the community. Youth groups, athletics, dance, music and other social activities conducted in rural school buildings play a vital part in maintaining a strong and healthy community. Wherever feasible, the Mission Board of Education believes that children living in rural communities should receive their elementary education within their own community.

CARRIED

The Board Chair read the recommendation attached to the agenda and noted that it was originally introduced at the January 16, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting. The following comments were noted:

- The purpose of this resolution is to make the philosophical base to stand on;
- Does not bind the Board to anything;
- There is no alternative motive with this recommendation;
- There is support for rural schools but education needs to be fair and equitable for all students in the school district;

For consideration:

- Rural means any school that is 5km away from another school; not to be confused with rural enhancement fund;
- What is community? All of mission or a particular area?

The school Board needs to determine the meaning of rural and community; there is a place for rural schools including models for rural schools.

6.3 Board Meeting Procedures Policy #50 Amendment

MOVED and Seconded that the following amendments to Policy #50: *Board Meeting Procedures* be approved:

1.2 Organizational

1.2.1 The organizational meeting of the Board will be open to the public and be held at the Regular Board meeting in **September December** other than in an election year.

2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

2.1 At its inaugural meeting following a general local election, and for each organizational meeting in **September December** of the following three years, the Board will elect one of its members to serve as Board Chair and one of its members to serve as Vice-Chair for the following year.

CARRIED

The Board Chair clarified that a suggestion was brought forward to change the date of the organizational meeting to September to align with the start of the school year. In an election year, there is no organizational meeting, the Chair and Vice-Chair would be elected at the inaugural meeting in November. The following comments were noted:

- This recommendation was previously presented to a previous Board but it was defeated. In the past, having the election in December presented continuity.
- Is there a policy that speaks to a Board shutting down one month prior to election? If not, this might be something for the Board to consider.

7. Minutes of Previous Meetings

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes dated December 19, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8. Information Items

The Board Chair referred to the letter (item 8.1) submitted by SD #67 (Okanagan Skaha) to the Ministry of Education requesting two changes with the Rural Education Enhancement Funding (REEF). Both motions were submitted to Provincial Council for further attention.

9. Correspondence

No correspondence items were presented.

10. Liaison Reports

Trustees reported on the following:

- Smokey Valley Drum at Hatzic Elementary,
- Siwal Si'wes Aboriginal Education Council meeting,
- The Board thanked facilities staff for all the work that went into fixing the landscape of our schools from the damage of ice storm.

Minutes



11. Announcements

The Board Chair announced that there are two Special Committee of the Whole meetings scheduled this month:

- 1) Wednesday January 24, 2018, regarding the data on the preliminary registration for Stave Falls Elementary School at Albert McMahan
- 2) Tuesday January 30, 2018, regarding the possible expansion of Riverside College held on campus.

12. Question Period

Q: With respect to the amended budget, is there money set aside that may be used for the re-opening of Stave Falls Elementary.

R: Yes

Q: Can we get some clarification on the Riverside College expansion plans?

R: There are some funds earmarked for possible expansion, however, a further conversation is taking place on options for expansion.

Q: Is there still an intent to move the electrical program?

R: This decision has been put on hold until more discussions take place at the Special Committee of the Whole meetings.

Q: With respect to the amended budget, it appears some of the changes have been implemented prior to approving the budget.

R: Yes, that is correct. An example is hiring more teachers. Another example is IT upgrades. Such items needed to happen sooner, however, preliminary discussions always take place at the Committee of the Whole meetings.

Q: In the future, are you able to hire more staff if needed?

R: Such a decision depends on the budget and needs.

13. Adjournment

**Moved and Seconded to adjourn the meeting.
CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler
Chair, Board of Education

Original Signed by Corien Becker
Secretary Treasurer

February 20, 2018
Date

February 20, 2018
Date