

School District #75 (Mission)

Public Meeting of the Committee of the Whole Minutes

September 10, 2019, 3:30 pm

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

Members Present: Board Chair, Tracy Loffler

Trustee, Shelley Carter

Vice Chair Randy Cairns

Trustee, Julia Renkema

Members Absent: Trustee, Rick McKamey

Staff Present: Superintendent of Schools Angus Wilson

Secretary Treasurer, Corien Becker

Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez

Director of Student Services, Carolyn Schmor

Acting District Principal of Aboriginal Education, Vivian Searwar

Executive Assistant Aleksandra Zwierzchowska (Recorder)

**Others Present: MTU President - Janise Nikolic, MTU VP - Ryan McCarty, CUPE
President - Faye Howell, DPAC – Dionne Hairsine, Principal -
Linda Ziefflie, and Children and Youth in Care Advocate - Jody
Shaw.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 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

Two additions:

- 7.4 - Sprinklers
- 7.5 - Orange Shirt Day

MOVED and Seconded that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

The Board Chair advised that Trustee Rick McKamey sends his regrets as he is dealing with family matters.

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Children and Youth in Care (CYIC)

Jody Shaw is the Children and Youth in Care Advocate for the School District. She provided an overview on the CYIC program and the supports that are being offered to assist children in care with breaking down barriers and setting goals for graduation.

4. CURRICULUM

4.1 Joyful Literacy - Novel Approach

The Assistant Superintendent advised that the Joyful Literacy Program will continue with the 7 schools that participated in the program last year. Two additional schools are being added: Stave Falls Elementary and Edwin S. Richards Elementary.

The Novel Approach to Reading is a project that will provide intermediate support to students in grades 4 to 9 to become more proficient and confident readers.

4.2 Numeracy Pilot Project

The Assistant Superintendent advised that Rebekah Stenner is coordinating a Math Lead for each school. JUMP Math will continue this year.

Thinking Mathematically will be launched this year as a pilot project with a focus on collaborative math problem solving.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.3 Stave Falls Update

MOVED and Seconded that the up to date capital costs for reopening Stave Falls Elementary be presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting October 2019.

CARRIED

The Superintendent provided a brief overview of the well-attended opening ceremony and advised that the school has 47 students enrolled at the school.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Learning Resource Policy

MOVED and Seconded that the Draft Learning Resource Policy be forwarded to the September Board Meeting:

1. to approve the policy in principle;
2. to request comments from partner groups, parents, and the general public;
3. and to direct that the policy with any comments received be returned to the November 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting for further consideration.

CARRIED

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the K-12 Teacher Librarians worked on developing the Learning Resource policy and procedure. The School District has focused on a robust consultation process and Staff feels that the policy is in a position to be brought to the Board for review and consideration.

It was requested that the Learning Resource Policy be emailed to All Staff for additional feedback.

5.2 Strategic Plan

MOVED and Seconded that Final Draft of the Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 be reviewed and forwarded to the September 2019 Board meeting for consideration.

An amendment was brought forward to revise the motion.

AMENDED MOTION

MOVED and Seconded that the Draft Strategic Plan be forwarded to the Public Board meeting on September 17, 2019:

1. to approve the Strategic Plan in principle;
2. to request comments from partner groups, parents, students and the general public;
3. and to direct that the policy with any comments received be returned to the October 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting for further consideration.

CARRIED

The Secretary Treasurer shared a comment that was submitted to Staff regarding one of the values that refers to "Doing the Right Thing." The feedback stated that, "the word right is judgmental and who is defining what is right?" Comments were provided about possible replacements for this value. A discussion ensued regarding doing the right thing and the meaning behind this value. The Board respects and acknowledges the receipt of this feedback and feels comfortable with leaving this value the way it is presented.

It was requested that the ethnicity of one of the male figures for Lifelong Learning and Thinking Beyond Today be changed to another ethnicity. A request was made to change the last page of the plan with another picture, and that the plan be emailed to all staff, shared with Middle and Secondary students in the leadership classes, as well as, shared with all partner groups for final feedback.

5.4 Revised Five Year Capital Plan 2020-2021

MOVED and Seconded that the 2020-2021 Five Year Capital Plan dated September 2019 be reviewed and forwarded to the September 17, 2019 Board meeting for consideration.

CARRIED

The School District received feedback from the Province advising that the Capital Plan includes too many "To Be Determined (TBD)" items. If this information is not updated, the Province will not consider funding projects listed as TBD. The Secretary Treasurer revised the plan over the summer.

Staff are putting together a request for quotes to hire a Project Management consultant to assist with the Project Design Request (PDR) for Mission Senior Secondary that was requested by the Province.

It was noted that a PDR will also be required for Hatzic Elementary sometime in the future. The SD would like to get indication from the Province that they support the preparation of a PDR for Hatzic Elementary as a priority item before proceeding.

6. **STAFF REPORTS**

6.1 School Opening Report

The Superintendent provided an overview on enrolment numbers for all schools in the School District.

6.2 Summer Learning Program

The Superintendent provided an overview of the second year of the Summer Learning Program. It was mentioned that there was a request to bring back English 9 for next year's program.

A recommendation was brought forward by Mrs. Hennessy to move the program to another building. Staff will consider possible site options for next year.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Respectful Schools and Workplaces Policy - Anti-Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination

MOVED and Seconded that the Respectful Schools and Workplaces Policy - Anti-Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination, be reviewed and forwarded to the September Board meeting for approval.

CARRIED

The Secretary Treasurer explained that the School District received an order from Worksafe to revise the Respectful Schools and Workplaces policy. As such, the policy has been updated to include the recommendations from Worksafe BC. The SD is soliciting feedback from all the Joint Occupational H&S Committees. The policy can be amended, however, until the Board approves the policy, the SD has an open order with Worksafe.

A request was made to include the definition for a poisoned work environment in the procedure and that elected officials should be added in the policy as one of the members which the policy applies to. Page 2 of the procedure under the examples section needs to include social media channels and on-line. Bullet two under definitions has the word "age" listed twice.

7.2 Board Communications

A discussion ensued regarding possible options for engaging the public and building a positive public image. Suggestions include publishing information in the newspaper on a monthly basis, organizing an outlet for students to submit a short snippet of a positive moment and sharing with the community on-line or via social media. It was mentioned that following today's discussion, the Board will refer this item to a Closed meeting for further discussion.

7.3 Minister of Education Rob Fleming

MOVED and Seconded that Minister Rob Fleming be invited to visit Mission Public Schools.

DEFEATED

The Board discussed postponing the invitation until the Spring.

7.4 Sprinklers

The Ministry released news that all schools will be required to install sprinklers. It was mentioned that it will be a costly retrofit. The School District will wait for more information to be released by the Province.

7.5 Orange Shirt Day

This item is being brought forward with an inquiry as to why all students do not attend Orange Shirt Day. Some considerations are transportation, budget, and other site logistics such as bathrooms. The Acting District Principal for Aboriginal Education shared that the first year of the ceremony approximately 300 students attended the event. Over the past four years, the commemoration has grown to 1200 students and that the ceremony has grown tremendously.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

8.1 Special Committee of the Whole Minutes, May 14, 2019

MOVED and Seconded that the Special Committee of the Whole minutes dated May 14, 2019 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

Change the word "an" to "as" on page 4 under item 3.2 (last sentence).

8.2 Regular Committee of the Whole Minutes, June 4, 2019

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole minutes dated June 4, 2019 be approved as amended.

CARRIED

Change "Mr. and Mrs. Riest" to Mr. Riest and Mrs. Riest under item 4.2 on page 2. Correct the spelling for portals to portables and remove the number of portables listed under item 6.2 as the listed number is not accurate.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Chair, Board of Education

Secretary Treasurer