

School District #75 (Mission)
Public Meeting of the Board of Education Minutes

February 18, 2020, 6:30 pm
West Heights Elementary
32065 Van Velzen Avenue, Mission, BC

Members Present: Board Chair, Tracy Loffler
Trustee, Shelley Carter
Vice Chair, Randy Cairns
Trustee, Rick McKamey
Trustee, Julia Renkema

Staff Present: Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson
Secretary Treasurer, Corien Becker
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez
Executive Assistant, Aleksandra Zwierzchowska (Recorder)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 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

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The School Principal provided a presentation on school fund raising efforts for a welcome sign, and an inclusive playground and garden.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Policies to be rescinded

THAT the following policies be rescinded:

Policy 9 – Board Representatives

Policy 10 – Policy Development

CARRIED

The Board approved reformatted Policy 9 and 10 at the Public Board meeting on January 21, 2020, as such the policies should have been rescinded at that time.

5. STAFF REPORTS

5.1 Amended Budget 2019-20

THAT the following resolutions be approved:

MOVED and Seconded that the required three (3) readings and adoption of School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2019/2020 be carried out in one meeting.

MOVED and Seconded School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2019/2020 be approved as read a first time.

MOVED and Seconded School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2019/2020 be approved as read a second time.

MOVED and Seconded School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2019/2020 be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.

CARRIED

The 2019/2020 Amended Budget was presented for consideration. The budget was reviewed extensively at several Special and Regular Committee of the Whole meetings with partner groups. The budget framework underwent some changes. The changes will assist in preparing more detailed reports for future budgets.

5.2 Month End Financial Summary - January 31, 2020

The summary of financial information was presented as of January 31, 2020. Financial information will be provided monthly until June 2020.

5.3 Reporting out from Closed Meeting

Personnel, property, and student matters were discussed during the Closed meeting of the Board of Education.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Budget Savings

MOVED and Seconded that the Board direct Staff to continue to look for cost savings and restrict spending throughout the remainder of the 2019/2020 budget year.

CARRIED

The Board Chair advised that this item was brought forward from the Committee of the Whole, however, the resolution was drafted by the Chair.

All conference requests and out of district meetings are being reviewed for approval by the Secretary Treasurer and the Superintendent.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.1 Board of Education Public Meeting Minutes, January 21, 2020

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education Public meeting minutes dated January 21, 2020, be approved.

CARRIED

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Albert McMahan Sewage Lift Station Update

The Superintendent stated that following a few days of heavy rainfall, the walls surrounding the sewage lift station collapsed. Subsequently, Albert McMahan school needed to be closed for a few days for the repairs to take place. A claim has been submitted to the BC Schools Protection Program.

10. COMMITTEE MINUTES/LIAISON REPORTS

Trustees reported on:

Preparing for the BCSTA Indigenous Education Committee meeting, meetings with various chiefs and councils, BCSTA Leadership Series on Strategic Planning, Fraser Valley Branch meeting, two meetings regarding Women Helping Women: Career Fair April 22, Trades Training Advisory Committee, Butterflies in Spirit at HMS honouring and educating students on the murdered and missing women, Joint Meeting with Mayor & Council, District Pro D on February 14, 2020, Celebration of Life for Elder, Florence Louie, SD Equity Scan workshop, Riot of Reading at Mission Central Elementary, Siwal Si'wes Council meeting, BCSTA Working Group on Trustee Conduct, and March MMIWG at Hatzic Middle school.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

11.1 The Secret Pocket

The Board acknowledged and thanked the Mission Teachers' Union for funding the Secret Pocket initiative for the 2019-20 graduating class. During convocation, students will be presented with a stole with a secret pocket. Inside the pocket of the stole will be the story behind The Secret Pocket.

12. **QUESTION PERIOD**

A question was asked about the repair of the Sewage Lift Station at Albert McMahan. It was noted that the repairs were being funded by the Annual Facilities Grant.

A question was asked about how the budget is being looked at differently?

The Board has revised their decision-making process. Each item includes a review of impacts on the budget and the Strategic Plan.

Is this change related to the Ministry mandating that School Districts have a framework for financial governance practices?

The province came out with some guidelines two years ago. The School District started this process. One example is to build transparency into agenda reports. Also, the Strategic Plan ties into the Ministry's vision for Student Success.

A question was asked about the measures that the Board will consider to strengthen the budget.

The Board will continue to communicate to the Ministry that School Districts are underfunded. When looking at options, the Board will consider options that have minimal impact on student learning. Also, the Board will need to make considerations on how to increase the SD contingency.

What are some examples of measures that would be considered by the Board?

These considerations are discussions that would be reviewed at the Committee of the Whole meetings and in consultation with students.

In light of this experience is there something that the Board would have done differently?

The Board continues to be conservative with enrolment projections. There are various entities that provide this data and there a huge variance among each entity. The Board had some difficult decisions to make. That doesn't mean that difficult decisions are bad decisions, but they all require a review process.

Are international students included in operational funding?

This would be a good question to bring forward at a budget meeting.

A question was asked about the Operating Revenue Changes that are listed in brackets.

The Secretary Treasurer explained that this is revenue that has increased from the original budget to the amended budget.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Chair, Board of Education

Secretary Treasurer

The minutes were approved on March 10, 2020.