

**School District #75 (Mission)
Public Meeting of the Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**October 1, 2019, 3:30 pm
District Education Office, 33046 4th Avenue, Mission, BC**

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

Members Absent: Trustee, Rick McKamey

District Staff Present: Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson
Secretary Treasurer, Corien Becker
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez
Director of Student Services,Carolynn Schmor
Acting Vice-Principals Aboriginal Education, Vivian Searwar
Executive Assistant, Aleksandra Zwierzchowska (Recorder)

Others Present: Rotary AM - Janet Chalmers, District Principal of Innovation - Colleen Hannah, Manager of International Department - Holly Mayo, MTU President – Janise Nikolic, MTU Vice President – Ryan McCarty, and Principal - Linda Ziefflie.

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:

1. Item 6.4 - Catchment Areas, Cross Boundary, Schools of Choice, and Programs of Choice Policy
2. Item 9.2 - Women helping Women: Power of Mentorship

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Pathways to Employment, Sheri Montgomery and Students

Carolynn Schmor provided a brief overview of the Pathways to Employment program and acknowledged Sheri Montgomery for bringing the program to Mission. The program is a partnership with Douglas College. A student that participated in the program provided a presentation on his experience and goals of becoming an automotive shop helper.

3.2 Starfish Pack Program, Janet Chalmers

Janet Chalmers provided information about the Starfish Backpack Program in Mission. In 2018/19 the program supplied food for 60 children for the entire year. The Rotary Club fundraises throughout the year to support this initiative, as well as, many others that benefit students in the district.

The Superintendent left the meeting at 3:45 pm.

4. CURRICULUM

4.1 Early Learning Updates

The Assistant Superintendent informed that the School District is in the process of interviewing for two early learning positions which will be funded with the Early Years Grant.

4.2 Literacy Updates

The first session of the Novel Approach to Reading happened last week. It was well attended with approximately 75 attendees. Joyful Literacy started today (October 1, 2019) with approximately 80 participants in attendance.

4.3 Information Technology Update

The Secretary Treasurer advised that the School District has initiated a district wide password reset day. Other updates include re-imaging district computers and iPads, and improving workstations used by staff and students.

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Medical Services Plan & International Students

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education write a letter to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Minister of Finance, and the MLAs that outlines the cost implications related to MSP health fees of international students.

CARRIED

The Manager for the International Program provided an overview on the medical insurance changes affecting all International Programs province wide. As of August 2019, International Programs are required to insure international students under MSP.

A request was made that International Program provide a report to the Board with cost implications to the budget by October 8, 2019.

6.2 **Stave Falls Elementary Reopening Costs**

Clarification was requested about the salary for the principal for 2018-19. Comments were provided that principals are often requested to participate in the interviews at the district office. Since the school site was closed for most of the year, the principal was able to participate in interviews and offer coverage at other schools.

A request was made for information on the items that are included in the Site General category under Capital costs.

The report does not include actual teacher costs as this information was unavailable at the time the report was produced. There are a total of three teachers and two EAs working at the school.

6.3 **Musical Instrument Update**

Majority of the musical instruments have been purchased by the fundraising of School PACs.

A request was presented for an updated list of musical instruments for all schools and that staff provide some recommendations on supplying instruments to the schools in need.

6.4 **Catchment Areas, Cross Boundary, Schools of Choice, and Programs of Choice Policy**

MOVED and Seconded that the Catchment Areas, Cross Boundary, Schools of Choice, and Programs of Choice Policy be reviewed and forwarded to the Public Board meeting on October 15, 2019.

CARRIED

The policy has been revised to include the French Immersion and Middle School catchment for Stave Falls Elementary School. A conversation ensued regarding schools that offer a special focus versus a program of choice.

It was noted that Windebank offers the Intensive Core French Program. The policy will be amended to include the catchment for this school as well. This update will be made for review at the Public Meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 School District Hiring Practice for Women in Trades

MOVED and Seconded that the following motion be forwarded to the Public Board meeting on October 15, 2019;

THAT Staff look at School District policies and hiring practices for gender neutral language;

and that Staff provide some recommendations on policies for hiring practices for Women in Trade within School District.

CARRIED

A conversation ensued regarding opportunities for hiring practices within the School District for women in trades.

The MTU offers a scholarship for students pursuing a career in trades and each year they need applicants.

7.2 British Columbia School Trustee Association Membership

That the following motion be forwarded to the Public Board meeting on October 15, 2019 for consideration:

THAT the Mission Board of Education not renew membership with the British Columbia School Trustee Association.

FAILED

The motion was moved but not seconded. The motion will be referred to the Public Board meeting on October 15, 2019.

8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

8.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, September 10, 2019

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole minutes dated September 10, 2019 be approved.

CARRIED

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1 Special Committee of the Whole re: Boundary Review

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole minutes dated September 10, 2019 be approved.

CARRIED

9.2 Women Helping Women - Power of Mentorship

This event is taking place on Saturday November 16, 2019 at the Heritage Park Cafetorium. The forum will feature a key note speaker and a panel of five women. It is a free interactive event and pre-registration is required as spots are limited. Tickets are available through eventbrite.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Chair, Board of Education

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Secretary Treasurer