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

May 18, 2021, 6:30 pm
Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Board Chair, Tracy Loffler
School Trustee, Randy Cairns
Trustee, Julia Renkema

Members Absent: Vice Chair, Shelley Carter
Trustee, Rick McKamey

Staff Present: Secretary-Treasurer, Corien Becker
Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez
Acting Dist. Principal of Student Services, Beth-Anne Cullen
Executive Assistant, Ilona Schmidt (Recorder)

Others Present: Principal, Rob Clark; MTU President, Ryan McCarty, MTU
Vice-President, Janise Nikolic; CUPE President, Faye
Howell; DPAC Chair, Cheryl Blondin; DPAC Treasurer,
Jacquelyn Wickham; MSS PAC Rep, Dionne Hairsine

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by the Chairperson. The Chair acknowledged that Mission Public Schools is 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.

Trustees Carter and McKamey have sent their regrets for not attending.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED.

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. STAFF REPORTS

5.1 Reporting out from Closed Meeting

At the May 18, 2021, Closed Meeting of the Board of Education of the School District 75, Personnel and Student matters were discussed.

5.1.1 Strategic Plan Update

The Board Chair provided an update on the process of developing the Strategic plan, which will be presented at the June 1, 2021 Committee of the Whole.

5.2 COVID Update

Fraser Health invited SD75 employees to get vaccinated. By now, those who opted to get vaccinated, have received their first dose.

Fraser Health is taking a more conservative, cautious approach and isolates larger groups of people should exposure occur. Examples: Class not having a seating plan got sent home; one confirmed staff got 8 staff members isolated (HES) as staffroom tables were too small. Hoping for no more. This has led to two functional closures to date. Hatzic Elementary School (May 5 - May 14), and Hatzic Middle School (May 13 - May 24). The overall Covid numbers have been decreasing, as we observe reports from CDC.

Many staff shortages at schools were observed, principals end up teaching.

5.3 2021 / 2022 Capital Bylaw

MOVED and Seconded that the following resolutions be approved:

THAT the required three (3) readings for Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-01, a bylaw for the 2021/2022 Capital Plan, be carried out at one meeting.

THAT the first reading of Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-01, a bylaw for the 2021/22 Capital Plan, be approved.

THAT the second reading of Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-01, a bylaw for the 2021/22 Capital Plan, be approved.

THAT the third and final reading of Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-01, a bylaw for the 2021/22 Capital Plan, be approved.

CARRIED

Note was made about p. 12 of the Agenda - Building envelope for Dewdney has been suspended by the Ministry.

The trustees have discussed an email from MLA Pam Alexis, about Government incentives to purchase of an electric bus (cost \$300,000+). The Ministry has allocated 150,000 towards buying the bus. The Secretary-Treasurer and the Director of Facilities attended a meeting re: Electric Bus. Up to \$178,000 in grants may be available. SD75 may still have to spend around \$100,000 to purchase the bus. SD75 can borrow money. The loan could be eventually forgiven (the Secretary-Treasurer can find out more details if the Board is interested in financing etc).

A comment was made that besides cost savings - the price may return over time, and SD75 may send a message to the community about intentions to save the environment.

The trustees are interested to find out what our average fuel consumption is currently.

A question was asked about increase in price of inclusive playgrounds. The price of lumber and installation of playgrounds have gone up. Constructions costs have gone up double and more.

MOVED and Seconded that the board direct staff to present a business case for the feasibility of purchasing the electric bus versus a diesel bus.

CARRIED.

5.4 MSS Project Design Report (PDR)

SD75 has had a consultant working on the project. Once the project plan is approved, the PDR costs will be reimbursed. Geo-technical study supports full MSS replacement but may still take some time.

Plans for replacement are going to accommodate more students with the plans. MLAs are aware of the situation and are communicating with SD75 and at the Government level.

5.5 Hatzic Elementary

MOVED and Seconded that the excess enrolment at Hatzic Elementary be managed as follows:

a. by limiting the number of cross boundary students allowed to attend Hatzic Elementary,

b. by allowing students from the Durieu area to attend Dewdney Elementary as their catchment school, with busing if necessary.

CARRIED

Staff reviewed cross-boundary correspondence. Policy also made it clear that cross-boundary approval is valid for one year only. This is the first

time SD75 may need to deny the cross-boundary applications for future years. Challenge will be if more catchment students show up wanting to attend. Do we agree with the current policy or does Staff need to find another way to deal with this?

The portable is an expensive purchase and a temporary measure. Covid makes things complicated. Hatzic is a growth area, and we really need a new school, but that will not happen for the coming September.

There have been incidences where cross-boundary was denied due to capacity issue. It is distressing to people when they move into an area, live across the road from a school, and cannot attend, because kids from out of catchment attend there. Years ago, there were discussions of building a school that would include population of Deroche, Durieu, and Hatzic.

Allowing Durieu students to attend Dewdney is different than mandating it. \$300,000 of the budget does not seem feasible for a portable.

This is a difficult conversation creating logistical, monetary, and emotional issues. The final decision may trickle down to other schools.

Trustees asked to hear from Beth-Anne Cullen, the Principal of Hatzic Elementary School. Staff are nervous about numbers coming in. 6 people from catchment are on a waitlist, and 5 houses have been sold, which likely also have children. 2 people were cross boundary with siblings. Portable would put some ease into the school to accommodate some siblings. The school has at least 15 new students coming in and may be able to fill the portable.

The Board decided to do Boundary review as a whole thing in the past. The portable would give SD75 some breathing room. The cost of \$20,000 to move a portable is a small price to pay. The Board has been talking about this for a while. Some students may have to move, as painful as it may be.

The Assistant Superintendent noted that even with the portable, we do not open up a lot of spaces. We get rid of composition/class size issue for this year, but boundaries have to be addressed down the road.

MOVED to include an amendment in the resolution:

c. by purchasing and placing a portable to Hatzic elementary site as soon as possible.

FAILED.

As two of the five trustees were not present at the meeting, the option of adding a portable will be considered at the Budget meeting on May 25, 2021.

5.6 Summit

The Board has reviewed survey results on shifting Grade 8 & 9 Summit students to MSS. Most of the parents are in favour of their children being moved to MSS Summit premises.

5.7 Quarterly Financial Report ending March 31, 2021

Financial accountability report was provided to the board for information and has been posted to [MPSD website](#).

5.8 Year-end Financial Position Projection

In June, there will be a formal report for discuss. The Board reviewed projected year-end financial data. Some funds can be put towards special projects in alignment with the Strategic plan. Information can be brought back to the Budget Meeting on May 25, 2021. There is some room for movement.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

7. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

7.1 Board of Education Public Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2021

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education Public meeting minutes dated April 20, 2021 be amended.

CARRIED

AMENDMENT (removing Trustee names):

10. **COMMITTEE MINUTES/LIAISON REPORTS**

Trustees reported on events below:

- March 11 - Canadian School Board Association Indigenous Leaders Panel
- March 31 - Board Chairs zoom with Dr. Gustafson
- April 8 - All candidates meeting for Mission mayoral race
- April 13 - Siwal Si'wes
- April 15-17 - BCSTA AGM (T. Loffler Elected to BCSTA Board of Directors)
- April 20 - BCPSEA update on teacher bargaining
- Trades and Training Advisory Committee (Committee is working on final report to the Board)
- BCSTA Provincial Council

- DPAC event: Ted Leavitt: Understanding the link between brain and behaviour
- Fraser Valley Branch meeting
 - Items were CUPE Seamless Day Childcare
 - Trustee Pro D on Mental Health (Kate Patten)
- Women in Leadership invited through Columbia Institute
- Strategic Plan Meeting
- Anti-Racism Series #3 with Vivian Searwar

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education Public meeting minutes dated April 20, 2021 be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. COMMITTEE MINUTES/LIAISON REPORTS

Trustees reported on the following virtual events:

- Zoom with Mission Community Foundation to make introductions
- Mission Literacy in Motion AGM
- Equity Scan
- Ant-racism Session #4
- May 10: DPAC
- May 11: Siwal Si'wes Advisory Council
- May 13: Anti-racism group
- BCSTA
- May 1: Riverside Open House

10.1 Trades Training Advisory Committee Minutes, April 13, 2021

Tool kits for younger students: Engagement from the community has been high, to enhance fine motor skills.

Students at grade 8 come into a woodworking shop who have never before held a hammer. Final report is coming together.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Committee of the Whole RE: 2021/2022 Budget meeting has been scheduled next week, May 25, 2021 at 10:00 am.

12. QUESTION PERIOD

A question was asked about the 5yr Capital Plan and universally accessible playground - \$125,000 - three schools on the list are from last year: it will be put forward in the future years.

A question was asked if there is a specific process for designing the playground? School principals consult with the PAC. Director of facilities advised staff that to make it a completely accessible playground, separate components had to be added, plus the increased costs of materials.

The Board chair thanked the Principal of Hatzic Elementary, Beth-Anne Cullen for her input.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm

Original signed by T. Loffler

Chair, Board of Education

Original signed by C. Becker

Secretary-Treasurer

The minutes were approved on
June 15, 2021, at the Public Board
of Education meeting.