

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

**November 16, 2021, 6:30 pm
Zoom Meeting**

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

Members Absent Trustee, Rick McKamey

Staff Present: Secretary-Treasurer, Corien Becker
Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez
Executive Assistant, Ilona Schmidt (Recorder)
MTU President, Ryan McCarty, Principal, Angela Condon,
DPAC Chair, Cheryl Blondin, guest: Esra

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'ewlets, Kwantlen, and Matsqui First Nations.

Trustee McKamey sent his regrets for not attending due to inclement weather.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Indigenous Liaison

MOVED and Seconded that the Board appoint a Trustee liaison (Rick McKamey and Randy Cairns as alternate) to the local First Nations Communities of Leq:amel, Sq'ewlets, Kwantlen, and Matsqui.

CARRIED

The Board decided to appoint Trustee McKamey as the first Liaison, and Trustee Cairns as an alternate. Having an Indigenous Board member with knowledge of the First Nation communities, Treaties, and protocol is an

asset and Trustee McKamey has already been doing this liaison work. In the future, this position will have a placeholder, no matter who gets elected.

4.2 SD69 Letter to Minister Whiteside RE: Bus Replacement Funding for Electric Buses

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education send correspondence to Minister Whiteside requesting that going forward, the Ministry of Education fund school bus replacements at the full cost of electric school buses.

CARRIED

The Board discussed writing to the Ministry of Education for funding of the cost of electric buses in the future or providing incentives. The government should help the procurement and support the electric no-emission option.

A question was asked about the status of our bus order from June. Will there be issues with batteries? The bus order status will be provided. We need to refer to the carbon-neutral program, as the electric bus helps the province achieve their goals.

4.3 Trades Training Advisory Committee

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education approves the Trades Training Advisory Committee updated draft of Terms of Reference and THAT the Trades Training Advisory Committee mandate be extended to June 30, 2022

Motion to amend the resolution

MOVED and Seconded to remove “and THAT the Trades Training Advisory Committee mandate be extended to June 30, 2022”.

CARRIED.

New Motion

MOVED and Seconded to amend the Terms of Reference. One Board member is to be a Chair, and one Board member is to be a Vice-Chair.

CARRIED.

Motion as Amended

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education approves the Trades Training Advisory Committee updated Terms of Reference, as amended.

CARRIED.

The Committee Chair Renkema and Vice-Chair Cairns have updated the Trades Training Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and provided their report to the Board from 2020/2021 as provided in May 2021 for background information. Anyone can attend meetings of the committee. Item 6 – as an advisory committee, recommendations should be by consensus.

5. STAFF REPORTS

5.1 Reporting out from Closed Meeting

At October 26, 2021, Special Closed Meeting of the Board of Education of SD75, Covid-19 Vaccine mandate was discussed.

At November 9, 2021, Special Closed Meeting of the Board of Education of SD75: Covid-19 Vaccine Mandate decision was discussed. Trustee Loffler removed herself from the discussion, as she is in conflict with having a sibling employed by the district.

At November 16, 2021, Closed Meeting of the Board of Education of SD75: Personnel matters were discussed.

5.2 COVID Update

The Superintendent provided an update on the current COVID situation throughout SD75. Recent exposures seem to be small children. Some classes had to isolate recently (CME, Dewdney). There is a community outbreak in Deroche, and Fraser Health had a response team attend.

5.3 Quarterly Report - September 30, 2021

The Board reviewed the Quarterly Report from SD75 departments. We are up by approximately 100 students, compared to the original budgeted number. We will receive more funding for regular students, as compared to distance students last year.

A question was asked about the number of new bus drivers. Information will be provided.

5.4 Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-02

**MOVED and Seconded that the following resolutions be approved:
THAT the required three (3) readings for Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-02, a bylaw for the amended 2021/2022 Capital Plan, be carried out at one meeting.**

CARRIED

MOVED and Seconded that the first reading of Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-02, a bylaw for the amended 2021/22 Capital Plan, be approved.

CARRIED

MOVED and Seconded that the second reading of Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-02, a bylaw for the amended 2021/22 Capital Plan, be approved.

CARRIED

MOVED and Seconded that the third and final reading of Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD75-02, a bylaw for the amended 2021/22 Capital Plan, be approved.

CARRIED

Original Bylaw needed amending to include an electric charging station for the electric bus.

A question was asked if the wishlist is exhaustive if we can we ask for more? The listed items were approved by the Ministry, and we were limited by what we can ask for. We only put forward the top requested items.

A question was asked about the charging station. Is it fast charging? Information will be provided.

5.5 District Class Size Averages

The Superintendent provided the Class Size averages for the School District based on October 2021 1701 data for information. Staff will review a comparison of 5 years and provide a summary to be included in the Quarterly report. Final report will be uploaded to the MPSD website.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Child Care Policy

MOVED and Seconded that the draft Child Care Facilities Policy be approved in principle and the formal public engagement in the review of the draft policy be initiated.

CARRIED

SD75 would like to engage directly with the providers for input. There is a lot of discussion about affordable childcare. Quebec has a combination of for-profit and non-profit childcare services. In 2016, only 18.6 childcare spaces per 100 children were available. We need more childcare. Vice-Chair Cairns requested to record that he prefers non-profit providers. By 2023, childcare will be under our purview, and we need help from the Province.

6.2 Student Clothing Policy

MOVED and Seconded that the revised draft Student Clothing Policy be approved in principle and the formal public engagement in the review of the draft policy be initiated.

A suggestion was made for section 4.1 that examples would provide clarity. A suggestion was made to create a District-wide policy to be adopted by every school, which should be shared in Student handbooks. Guidelines can be incorporated in the Procedure and can be distributed at a later date.

A suggestion was made to add language to ensure students do not lose out on learning time.

MOVED and Seconded to amend the draft Student Clothing Policy policy and add “or loss of learning time” to Guideline 4, after “shame for the student”.

CARRIED.

Amended Motion

MOVED and Seconded that the revised draft Student Clothing Policy as amended be approved in principle and the formal public engagement in the review of the draft policy be initiated.

CARRIED.

6.3 Employee Service Recognition Policy

MOVED and Seconded that the draft Employee Service Recognition Policy be approved in principle and the formal public engagement in the review of the draft policy be initiated.

CARRIED

This year, there will be a larger cost, as we are including 5 years at once. Appreciation for employees goes a long way, creating loyalty. Estimate of the cost was based on all employee anniversaries.

6.4 Financial Planning, Financial Progress & Performance Reporting Policy

MOVED and Seconded that the draft Financial Planning, Progress, and Performance Reporting Policy be approved in principle and the formal public engagement in the review of the draft policy be initiated.

CARRIED

Budget and reporting are becoming more transparent and provide clarity. It was noted that multi-year planning will be more work and will require more staff.

6.5 FSA - Letter to Parents

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education send a letter to parents outlining the benefits of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) from the perspective of First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), for data to support Indigenous students.

CARRIED

FNESC needs data for Grade 4 and Grade 7 and is a big supporter of the FSA, which is a valuable system-wide measurement from FNESC's perspective. There was literature sent by the Mission Teachers' Union (MTU), encouraging parents NOT to let children take the FSA. The Board discussed writing a letter to parents asking them to let their children take the FSA. FNESC needs about 80% participation to get some meaningful data. FNESC indicated that it is extremely important to have data on how the children are doing. Fraser Institute uses FSA the wrong way, rating Mission schools based on the FSA.

SD75 rate for FSAs is quite low, around 50%, which is not a satisfactory sample. We need to improve information gathering. FSA is not the only data, it needs to be used in conjunction with other information. It may be used to identify the need for help.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.1 Board of Education Public Meeting Minutes, October 19, 2021

MOVED and Seconded that the draft Board of Education Public meeting minutes dated October 19, 2021, be amended to remove the last sentence in 5.1 "mandate not recommended".

CARRIED.

MOVED and Seconded that the Board of Education Public meeting minutes dated October 19, 2021, be approved as amended.

CARRIED

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Board of Education Vaccine Mandate Statement, November 10, 2021

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. COMMITTEE MINUTES/LIAISON REPORTS

Trustees provided a list of activities/events they attended last month:

- BCSTA Professional Learning meetings
- BCSTA Provincial Council
- FESL meetings
- DPAC
- Fraser Valley Branch Meeting
- Vaccine mandate decision
- Info regarding Mission Community Foundation Fund Facts
- Riverside Soup Sales
- Kevin Lamoureux presentation

- Nov 1st: Anti-racism Workshop with Bakau Consulting
- Nov 9th: Siwal Si'wes
- Nov 11th: Remembrance day
- Meeting with BCSTA Board of Directors
- BCSTA Branch Presidents meeting
- 2-day BCPSEA Symposium
 - Outside commitments:
 - Mission Community Foundation meeting
 - Mission District Heritage Commission meeting
- Nov 10th: Transit Committee
 - 10.1 Transit Committee Liaison Report

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. QUESTION PERIOD

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Original signed by T. Loffer
Chair, Board of Education

Original signed by C. Becker
Secretary-Treasurer

The minutes were approved on
December 14, 2021 at the Public
Board of Education meeting.