

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

**MERRITT SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018, 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	G. Ellingsen B. Jepsen T. Kroeker D. Rainer G. Swan L. Ward
	Student Trustees	C. Davey T. Thomson
	Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Superintendent	J. Aziz
	Secretary Treasurer	K. Black
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Lutter
	Executive Assistant	S. Blonde

AGENDA

18/009 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES

18/010 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held December 6, 2017, be adopted as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Presentation: Merritt Secondary School Sexual Orientation Gender Identity (SOGI) Action

Merritt Secondary School Pride Club presentation requesting the Board’s support and approval to paint a rainbow crosswalk on one of the streets surrounding the secondary school.

18/11

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Board supports the Merritt Secondary School Pride Club; The Board will require further discussions with and approval from the City of Merritt.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Presentation: After School Sports and Arts Initiative (ASSAI) Update

Team Lead, Debbie Morton, presented a slide show updating the Board on 2017/2018 funding and future goals.

2018/2019 Draft Calendar

The Superintendent discussed that the 2018/2019 draft calendar needs to be brought forward for consultation to the public at the February 14, 2018 Board meeting for one month before March 2018 approval.

2017/2018 Calendar Correction

The Superintendent circulated a briefing note explaining an amendment of the current calendar requires a non-instructional day and non-instructional period totalling 5 hours be implemented. Date to be confirmed by board, union, public and presented to the Minister of Education for approval.

18/12

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the 2017/2018 calendar amendment be approved and to notify the public.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Field Trips

18/013

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Diamond Vale Elementary Grades 4 to 7 cross-country ski and snowshoe field trips to Stake Lake (Lac Le Jeune), BC, on January 24 and 31, 2018 be approved;

Merritt Bench Elementary Grade 4 ski field trip to Harper Mountain, BC, on February 2, 2018 be approved;

Merritt Bench Elementary Grades 2 to 7 cross-country ski and snowshoe field trips to Stake Lake (Lac Le Jeune), BC, on February 6, 7 and 8, 2018 be approved; and Princeton Secondary School band students cultural tour from Princeton, BC to Calgary, AB via Highway 3 on April 25, 2018 to April 30, 2018 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent reported on the following activities happening in the district:

- New Release from the Ministry of Education regarding positive completion rates;
- Graduation Program Forum for Principals and Vice-Principals with an overview of the new curriculum;
- Battle of the Books Preparation;
- Science Fair Activities;
- Literacy 20/21 and Joyful Literacy;
- Adolescent Learning Network Meeting;
- Chiefs' visit to Merritt Secondary School;
- Colletville students upcoming field trip to Quebec;
- First Nations drumming celebration on January 26, 2018;
- Vermillion Forks successful grant application;
- Secretary Treasurer attended a two-day mental health and first aid program;
- Grade 7 Robotics

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**Presentation: Solar Power Review**

The Manager of Operations presented on and discussed the start-up costs, benefits and disadvantages of purchasing and installing solar panels through Terratek for the roofs of Merritt Secondary School and Princeton Secondary School.

AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Appointment of Auditors

The Secretary Treasurer recommended the appointment for McConnell Voelkl as auditors for the 2017/2018 school year.

18/014 It was moved and seconded:

THAT McConnell Voelkl be appointed as the District's auditors for the 2017/2018 school year.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2017/2018 Funding Update

The Secretary Treasurer provided an overview of the estimated operating grant funding in May 2017 compared to the interim operating grant funding in December 2017. He noted that the overall dollar figures are down slightly from the estimated in March. The main reason for the change is due to the audited file review actuals.

Investment

The Secretary Treasurer noted that the District investment of one million dollars has recently matured. He noted the normal process has been to obtain quotes and provide a recommendation at a board meeting. He advised that today the Bank of Canada rates have increased a quarter percentage point and would like to wait and see what happens to the investment opportunities. He recommended that the District reinvest the one million dollars and requested that approval be granted to the Audit and Finance Committee to oversee this approval and a reporting out would take place at the next board meeting.

18/015 It was moved and seconded:

THAT the Audit and Finance Committee oversee the approval of the District's investment.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

POLICY COMMITTEE

Policy Removals Third and Final Reading:

18/016

It was moved and seconded:

THAT the following policies be read a third time, final passed and adopted.

- 402.1 – Recruitment / Hiring Practice – Teachers
- 404.5 – Student Laboratory Assistants
- 406.3 – Accidents
- 501.1 – Student Attendance
- 905.1 – Teacherage Rentals
- 1004.3 – Resource Centre Services to the Public
- 1006 – School Planning Councils

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TRUSTEE REPORTS

The following Trustees reported on recent PAC meetings:

Trustee Jepsen for Diamond Vale and Merritt Central Elementary Schools, Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary School and Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Rainer for John Allison Elementary School, Trustee Kroeker for Collettsville Elementary School and SCIDES, Trustee Ellingsen for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, Trustee Ward for Princeton Secondary School, and Trustee Comeau for Vermilion Forks Elementary School meeting.

Student Trustee Report

Student Trustee Davey reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. The basketball teams are all doing very well. The new curling team is headed to regional competition.

Student Trustee Thomson reported on recent events at Merritt Secondary School. The Graduation Theme will be Red Carpet and the Dry Grad will be held at Jubilee Camp. Fundraising for Dry Grad is successful. New murals have been hung in the art wing of the school and the response has been well received.

Other Reports

Trustee Ward reminded the Board of the BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch Executive Meeting in Kelowna on February 23-24, 2018.

BCPSEA Update

The Chairman, Superintendent, Secretary Treasurer and Trustee Jepsen will be attending the BCPSEA Annual General Meeting on January 25, 2018 in Vancouver.

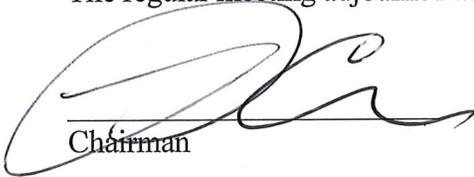
CORRESPONDENCE

ArtStarts in School – 2018 Funding

The Artists in Education application submitted by the Assistant Superintendent has been approved in the amount of \$7,000.00. The funding will support performing arts in schools throughout the District.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary Treasurer