

# SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)

**MINUTES** of the **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held at Marysville Elementary School, Kimberley, B.C., **09-10-13**.

|            |                              |                           |
|------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Present:   | Roberta Hall                 | Chair                     |
|            | Sandra Smaill                | Vice-Chair                |
|            | Dan Soles                    | Vice-Chair                |
|            | Greg Anderson                | Trustee                   |
|            | Betty Lou Barrett            | Trustee                   |
|            | Ron Christensen              | Trustee                   |
|            | Rhonda Smith                 | Trustee                   |
|            | Bendina Miller               | Superintendent of Schools |
|            | Cameron Dow                  | Secretary Treasurer       |
| Apologies: | Shannon Hood                 | Trustee                   |
|            | Jim Jenkinson                | Trustee                   |
|            | Members of Senior Management |                           |
|            | General Public               |                           |

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**M/S SMAILL/ANDERSON**

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

## 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETINGS

3.1 Regular Meeting: 2009.09.08

**M/S SMAILL/ANDERSON**

**THAT** the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held on 09-09-08 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3.2 Synopsis of In-Camera Meeting: 2009.09.08

Property Matters: The Board received an update on discussions with the Regional District of East Kootenay regarding the Wasa Elementary School site.

Personnel Matters: The Personnel Report – Pending Board Approval was approved as circulated. The Personnel Information Report was received and filed circulated. The Board approved two recommendations regarding Labour Market Adjustments for exempt staff. The Board was updated on the status of the RMTA contract, staffing for the current school year, the recent class size/composition arbitration ruling, and the crossing guard at McKim Middle School.

Student Matters: The Board was advised of on student suspension from the Golden zone.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

4.1 Marysville Student Performance – “Bye Bye Bully”: Ms. Hale’s and Ms. Kinsey’s Students

Mrs. Miller expressed her appreciation to Mr. Bibby, Principal, and his staff for hosting this evening’s meeting. The school has a strong music program and the presentation by the students this evening is evidence of that fact. She welcomed Mr. Bibby, Ms. Hale, Ms. Kinsey and their students who were in attendance to sing a song called “Bye Bye Bully”. The song goes along with the Marysville Elementary School “B’s” – be respectful, be responsible, be kind and be healthy. The school has a “No Putdown Program” which is helping to teach students about how not to do actions or say putdowns that hurt others. It is also teaching how to respond to these kinds of behaviors. The group then performed the song “Bye Bye Bully”. After the performance the Board Chair expressed her appreciation to the students and staff for their presentation.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** Nil

**6. STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES**

6.1 Policy Development: Nil

**7. OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

7.1 September 2009 Budget Utilization Summary: Cameron Dow

Mr. Dow advised that expenditures are 0.22% above the estimate but are 0.79% below the prior year’s figure.

7.2 Bill 33 Report to the Board: Bendina Miller

Mrs. Miller reminded the Board of the requirement for consultation on classes in grades 8-12 with more than 30 students enrolled and classes with more than 3 students having identified special needs. She then drew the Board’s attention to the report and second document dealing with the rationale for classes of greater than 30 students.

**M/S BARRETT/SOLES**

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the Bill 33: Class Size and Composition Report for 2009-2010 as presented.

CARRIED

7.3 2009-2010 Enrolment Report Bendina Miller

Mrs. Miller provided an overview of the September 30<sup>th</sup> enrolment figures which reflected a decline of 40.25 FTE’s from 2008-2009 or 1.27%. She also broke the figures down by zone as well.

7.4 Transportation Funding: Rhonda Smith

Trustee Smith expressed concern that transportation funding has remained unchanged for the past seven years. Current costs are far in excess of the funding, particularly in light of escalating fuel costs. However, declining enrolment has counteracted this situation to some degree. Trustee Smith felt that it was time for the Board to lobby for more funding in this area, but other members felt that this might be best accomplished through the B.C. School Trustees Association.

**M/S SMITH/SMALL**

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) submit a motion requesting a review to transportation funding to the BCSTA for consideration at their Annual General Meeting.

CARRIED

**8. REPORTS**

8.1 Learning Leadership Update:

Barbara Morris

Ms. Morris reported that this year the staff development committee will support 16 school/group grants of up to \$1,250. The purpose of these grants is to improve learning for students. There is the expectation that groups/teams receiving this grant would share the knowledge gained from the work these funds supported, and a report must be submitted by the 11th of June. This work can be aligned with the action research project a school is doing as part of the Network of Performance Based Schools.

As well, this year the committee is welcoming proposals for interschool curriculum meetings. These meetings could support the implementation of new curriculum; support a gathering of teachers of a similar grade level, subjects ( e.g. Grade 3 teachers sharing sequences in Language Arts, alternate school teachers working on courses); or support other like-groups of teachers(e.g. new intermediate teachers). The District will support TOC costs and travel. Because the interschool cohort size could vary considerably, a limit has not been set for the grants. The amount available will depend on the number of proposals submitted as the total initial allocation is \$18,000.

Other staff development opportunities this year include:

**Secondary Conference** – Damian Cooper, October 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. In order to sustain the changes which have begun in assessment practices, particularly in assessment for learning, and to facilitate conversations around assessment, we will also be supporting zone follow-up sessions after the Damian Cooper conference.

**Universal Design Learning Rounds for Intermediate/Secondary** – Leyton Schnellert, January 29 & April 16. Prior to the Leyton Schnellert Learning Rounds on Universal Design, we will facilitate zone pre-sessions using his newest resource which was co-authored by Faye Brownlee.

**English Language Learners after school sessions** in Golden and Kimberley with Duncan McLeod, plus a full day District session on October 23.

**SMARTLearning Sharing Sessions:** A team of four teachers, a principal and Ms. Morris attended the annual SMARTLearning Conference last Friday and Saturday. All attendees are prepared to facilitate sharing sessions for others who wish to come together to discuss the latest brain research on learning and the implementation of this approach.

**Learning Coach Sharing Sessions:** There will be a couple of sessions this year.

**Purchase of Staff Development DVDs** will be available for distribution.

8.2 District Technology Update:

Paul Carriere

Mr. Carriere reported on the following items:

1. A workshop for new and pending SmartBoard users was held at the District Administration Office on September 21. Raydene Good-May, DRC/Tech Support Teacher organized the event. The facilitator was Collin Midwood from Sharp's Audio-Visual in Kelowna.
2. The Network Systems specialists will be improving the wireless infrastructure throughout the District over the next year through the implementation of wireless controllers. These devices allow central control of wireless access points, and the transmitters have improved range and quality of signal than the previous system. Because of the issues with wireless connectivity at Selkirk Secondary, this solution has already been implemented there, and will be expanded to the remaining schools in Kimberley as well as all our other sites in the 2010/11 year.
3. The Technology staff are exploring the possibility of server-driven labs. Currently we have three labs which we refer to as "carbon-neutral" because the labs operate on 4 robust computers which share the available RAM. The option being studied is about running a lab or even several from a single server. It would be

more costly than the traditional approach, at least initially, but offers a number of advantages in terms of maintaining our labs.

4. Martyn Bampton has been working on a number of projects, including:
- assisting with the set up for our District Health and Safety website;
  - improving the District Assessment Database such that we are now able to track student data by cohort group;
  - designing an online Leave of Absence form and process; and
  - continuing improvements to the District website.

8.3 B.C. School Trustees' Association: Roberta Hall

Trustee Hall reported that Trustee Jenkinson will attend the next Provincial Council meeting in Vancouver, October 23 & 24. Trustees have already received BCSTA bulletins about the possibility of viewing the Saturday business portion of this meeting on-line. The agenda has a number of emergent issues for delegates to discuss including the recent funding cuts and the planned implementation of full-day Kindergarten.

The December Academy conference materials and registration forms will be made available shortly. Some of the Pro-D workshops planned for the Vancouver conference will subsequently be made available through a number of Illuminate sessions. BCSTA has recently sent out an electronic bulletin about that on-line registration process.

8.4 B.C. School Trustees' Association, Kootenay-Boundary Branch: Roberta Hall

Trustee Hall referred to the written report provided by Trustee Jenkinson on the recent Branch meeting which included an overview of the Pro-D sessions as well as the business portion of the meeting. She congratulated Trustee Jenkinson on his re-election as the Branch's Education Representative to the BCSTA.

8.5 B.C. Public School Employers' Association: Sandra Smaill

Trustee Smaill advised that Silas White of School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast) was the successful candidate in the recent by-election for Director. She indicated that she will not be attending the bargaining symposium at the end of this month.

## 9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1 Correspondence:

9.1.1 Kimberley Library Request:

Ms. Morris provided some additional information regarding the tutor.com program. The Board was still unclear as to what was being requested and would like additional information before making a decision on this matter. Ms. Morris will follow up with the Kimberley Library prior to the November Board meeting.

9.2 Calendar of School Board Meetings: Circulated.

9.3 District Learning Leadership Calendar: Circulated.

## 10. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2009.10.23-24 B.C. School Trustees Association Provincial Council Meeting, Vancouver

2009.10.26 Windermere Zone Trustees' Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

2009.10.26 Golden Zone Trustees' Meeting, 12:00 p.m.

2009.10.26 Policy Committee Teleconference, 4:00 p.m.

- 2009.11.10 Board of Education In-Camera Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Electronic – Golden, Kimberley and Windermere Zone Offices
- 2009.11.10 Board of Education Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Electronic – Golden, Kimberley and Windermere Zone Offices

**11. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Trustee Barrett took this opportunity to commend Mr. Bibby, his staff, the parents, Mr. Jackson and the operations personnel for their efforts in dealing with health and safety concerns at Marysville Elementary School that have arisen over the past few weeks. Mr. Bibby expressed his appreciation for the positive attitude maintained by all involved during this very stressful time.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S CHRISTENSEN/SOLES**  
**THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 19:58 hours.

CARRIED

---

Chair

---

Secretary Treasurer