

# 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 Selkirk Secondary School, Kimberley, B.C., **10-10-12**.

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

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 19:05 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: 2010.09.14

**M/S SMAILL/CHRISTENSEN**

**THAT** the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held on 10-09-14 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3.2 Synopsis of In-Camera Meeting: 2010.09.14

Personnel Matters: The Personnel Report – Pending Board Approval was approved as circulated. The Personnel Information Report was received and filed circulated. The Board received an overview of the most recent Labour Relations Committee meeting.

Student Matters: The Board was advised of one student suspension from Golden.

## 4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Selkirk Outdoor Education Program, Safety and Risk Management Collaboration with Secondary Schools: Jenn Meens, Teacher

Mark Wilkins, Principal, introduced Ms. Meens who is a phenomenal outdoor enthusiast and is going to be providing an overview of the school's Outdoor Education and Go Wild Program, which is an exciting first time offering that has been teamed up with the Geography course. A grant has also been secured to work with the other secondary schools in the District on this outdoor education initiative.

Ms. Meens emphasized that the focus of this program is to encourage students to get outdoors and be active. She used a video display to summarize the activities involved in the outdoor education programs which combine outdoor careers and geography. Activities include winter travel, such as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, photography, equipment maintenance, a simulated winter camp, winter survival and avalanche training, and a winter camping trip. The school is fortunate to have a number of experienced volunteers that it draws on for these types of activities.

She then provided information on the geography component where respect and responsibility are the key focus. Activities include navigation, group decision making, map and compass training, earth week, indoor and outdoor climbing, as well as a variety of work experience opportunities including trail building and maintenance, and fire suppression.

Ms. Meens also provided an overview of the Grade 9 component of the course which is nine weeks in duration. She also provided information on the Go Wild initiative which is in its fifth year and is a collaborative program between Wild Sight and the School District. Activities include photography, mapping borders, as well as lessons from skilled guides. The program concludes with a five day hike and peak experience.

Ms. Meens responded to questions from the Board and was commended for her work in promoting the Outdoor Education Program.

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

**6. STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES**

6.1 Policy Development:

6.1.1 Third Reading: NIL

6.1.2 Second Reading: NIL

6.1.3 First Reading:

6.1.3.1 Policy 3900: Energy Use and Conservation: Paul Carriere

Mr. Jackson reported that the draft policy was designed to provide the District with direction on sustainability and meet our commitment to B.C. Hydro in this regard. The policy will be circulated to various interest groups for input after first reading.

**M/S SMAILL/ANDERSON**

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approves Policy No. 3900 – Energy Use and Conservation for first reading as presented.

**7. OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

7.1 September 2010 Budget Utilization Summary: Cameron Dow

Mr. Dow reported that expenditures are 0.22% above the estimated level which is not out of line for this time of year.

7.2 Section 76.3 Organization of Class Size Report: Paul Carriere

Mr. Carriere reminded the Board of the legislative requirements regarding class size and composition. He indicated that the District is in compliance and provided an overview of the information that was included in the reports circulated with the agenda. He stated that the process went relatively smoothly this year compared to the past.

**M/S JENKINSON/CHRISTENSEN**

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain), in accordance with Section 76.3 of the *School Act*, approves the Organization of Class Size Reports as circulated.

CARRIED

7.3 2010-2011 Enrolment Report:

Paul Carriere

Mr. Carriere advised that although the enrolment headcount has decreased by 50 from 2009/10, the FTE count is up by 21.875 FTE's due to the introduction of full-day kindergarten. He then provided a summary by zone which reflected the same results in Golden and Kimberley, while there is a decrease in both headcount and FTE's in Windermere due to the fact that full-day kindergarten will not be implemented in this zone until 2011/12.

7.4 Board Authority Authorized Courses:

7.4.1 Leadership 10

7.4.2 Creative Cuisine 10:

7.4.3 Creative Cuisine 11:

7.4.4 Creative Cuisine 12:

7.4.5 Yearbook 10:

7.4.6 Yearbook 11:

7.4.7 Yearbook 12:

Trustee Soles advised that Leadership 10 was a modification of a course previously offered at Golden Secondary while the other six courses had revisions made to their learning outcomes. The senior courses have a mentorship component as well. The Trustees from Golden recommend approval of all seven of these courses.

**M/S SOLES/CHRISTENSEN**

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve Leadership 10, Creative Cuisine 10, 11, and 12, and Yearbook 10, 11, and 12 all of which are to be offered at Golden Secondary School as Board Authority Authorized Courses for 2010/11.

CARRIED

**8. REPORTS**

8.1 Learning Leadership Report:

Paul Carriere

Mr. Carriere referred to the report prepared by Ms. Dyer and commented on the work she is doing with the Staff Development Committee as well as the Principals and Vice-Principals group.

8.2 B.C. School Trustees' Association:

Jim Jenkinson

Trustee Jenkinson advised that three days of meetings are scheduled for later this month. On October 21<sup>st</sup> the Education Committee will finalize plans for the December 9-11 Academy entitled "Success for All". The program will focus on "tailoring public education to 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning circumstances and individual student needs". Registration for the Academy will open October 13, an electronic copy of the program is available online. There will be 2 pre-conference sessions that will fill up fast – "Board Leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning"; and "21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning – Can it succeed in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Structures?" BCPSEA will present the latter, which will have a human resources focus. The conference will also provide Trustees with an opportunity to informally meet with CUPE and BCTF executives. The Education Committee will also have a joint meeting with the Aboriginal Education Committee.

On October 22<sup>nd</sup> Board Chairs, Provincial Council Representatives, and Branch Presidents have been invited to meet with Ministry staff. Once again this meeting is timely because the government has already begun “the process of developing a vision related to personalized learning that may bring significant changes to the provision and management of education in BC.” Chairperson Roberta Hall and Trustee Jenkinson will attend this meeting.

The following day Provincial Council will meet to discuss the meeting with Ministry staff and to consider several motions that were forwarded to Trustees last week, including one pertaining to BCeSIS. Trustee Jenkinson welcomed Trustee input on these motions.

Recent BCSTA electronic publications have notified Trustees that the UBCM & BCSTA both agree that terms of office should remain at three years, and as a result the government will introduce new legislation next spring to reverse the four year term already approved by legislation. The new legislation will also shift municipal elections to October from November, beginning with the October 2014 election. This change will affect the timelines for our inaugural meetings.

8.3 B.C. School Trustees’ Association, Kootenay-Boundary Branch: Jim Jenkinson

The Branch AGM was held on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> in Cranbrook following the very successful conference on Saturday. Highlights of the AGM included the election of a new Branch president, Bev Bellina (SD5), and Trustee Jenkinson’s replacement on the BCSTA Education Committee, Carol Bell (SD10). The district fee structure will remain the same this year. The newly elected executive will meet via Elluminate on Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> with Rob Goodall at BCSTA moderating and Trustee Hood participating as our representative. One of the main agenda items will be to discuss proposed changes to the Branch Constitution. An electronic copy of the draft document was sent to Trustees by the BCSTA last week. Please forward any comments or suggestions to Trustee Hood, Trustee Jenkinson, or Bev Bellina.

There will be a Branch meeting at the December Academy at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 10th. Trustee Jenkinson again reminded the Board that he will not continue as Provincial Councilor, or the Board’s representative on the Branch Executive, beyond December 1.

8.4 B.C. Public School Employers’ Association: Sandra Smail

Trustee Smail informed the Board that Eve Flynn from School District 69 (Qualicum) was the successful by-election winner.

## 9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1 Correspondence:

9.1.1 Sept. 22, 2010 Cat Gibbs, President Golden Parents for French Chapter:

9.1.2 Oct. 5, 2010 Board Response to Cat Gibbs, President Golden Parents for French Chapter:

9.1.3 Heart and Stroke Foundation Award:

9.2 Calendar of School Board Meetings: Circulated.

9.3 District Learning Leadership Calendar: Circulated.

## 10. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2010.10.22-23 BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting, Vancouver

2010.10.25 Policy Committee Teleconference, 3:00 p.m.

2010.10.27 Windermere Zone Trustees’ Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

2010.11.02 Golden Zone Trustees’ Meeting, 12:15 p.m.

- 2010.11.09 Board of Education In-Camera Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Electronic – Kimberley, Golden, Invermere Zone Offices
- 2010.11.09 Board of Education Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Electronic – Kimberley, Golden, Invermere Zone Offices

**11. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Craig Hillman, President of the Kimberley Teachers’ Association, commented that the process used for addressing issues when finalizing the Organization of Class Size Report. He felt the process went very smooth primarily due to the fact that the level of discussions were raised in that the rationale for specific decisions became the focus in an effort to determine why the proposed class size/configuration is workable. He asked if there would be an opportunity to continue this process in the future since it seemed to work so well. Mr. Carriere that there is a need for meaningful dialogue and hoped that this would become the norm as there was substance to the discussions which is very important.

Yves Richard, parent, stated that he realizes the Board is not reversing their decision regarding the removal of French Immersion at the primary grades but needs to understand how they came to that decision. There is a core group of parents who believe an injustice was done and Mr. Richard would like to work with the Board to understand how they came to their decision. He asked at what point in time French Immersion became an issue for this District? Trustee Christensen felt that the sustainability concern arose shortly after amalgamation which took place in 1995/96. Trustee Christensen again expressed his amazement that the consultant’s report did not propose the elimination of the French Immersion and is pleased that we are able to continue this program beginning at the intermediate level. Mr. Richard again asked for the rationale behind the Board’s decision and it was stated that the impact of this program was having on the English side was a significant consideration. By introducing French Immersion at Grade 4 it is anticipated that both programs will be strengthened. Again, the issue is not the quality of the Immersion program, but rather what is going to be best for all students in the Golden as well as the rest of the District.

Anna Urban suggested that there were policy issues that should be rectified before eliminating early French Immersion. She was advised that policy changes are included in the recommendations that the Board will be implementing as part of this process. She also felt that she was not included in the consultation process as she does not presently have children in school but had planned for her son to enroll in French Immersion next year. Trustee Smith pointed out that the consultation meetings held last spring were advertised locally and were open to the public for their input. Ms. Urban stated that she feels that she has been cheated out of an opportunity for her son, and she has invested in the School District but now has nowhere to go. It appears to her that the Board has completely shut down on this issue and is refusing to communicate. The Board reminded her that this program is not being eliminated but is being reconfigured in an effort to serve the entire school community. She stated that other districts have introduced this program at Grade 4 and it has not worked.

Mr. Hillman then asked if the Board and teachers in the District could engage in discussions pertaining to 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning. Mr. Carriere indicated that four teachers from the District have been involved in the early stages and as things move along it will be essential for teachers to become more engaged in these discussions.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**M/S ANDERSON/SOLES**

**THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 20:36 hours.

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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Secretary Treasurer