

Rocky Mountain School District No. 6

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., – **May 14, 2024**

Present:	Amber Byklum	Chairperson
	Jane Fearing	Vice-Chairperson
	Ron McRae	Vice-Chairperson
	Betty-Lou Barrett	Trustee
	Scott King*	Trustee
	Darryl Oakley	Trustee
	Rhonda Smith	Trustee
	Ryan Stimming	Trustee
	Jane Thurgood Sagal	Trustee
	Steve Wyer	Acting Superintendent
	Alan Rice	Secretary Treasurer
	Sharon Collin	Director of Instruction, Instruction and Learning
	Trent Dolgopol	Director of Instruction, Technology and Innovative Learning
	Crystal MacLeod	Director of Instruction, Early Learning and Child Care
	Al Ure	Director of Operations
	Amanda Garand	Manager, Human Resources
	Jacinda Harding	Manager, Finance
	Stacey Ursulescu	Executive Assistant

* via Microsoft Teams

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Byklum called the meeting to order at 19:03 hours.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

Chairperson Byklum acknowledged that School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) resides in the traditional unceded territory of the Ktunaxa and Secwépemc Nations. We honour the cultures, languages, and First Nations people of these territories.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

M/S MCRAE / THURGOOD SAGAL

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

APPROVED

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETINGS

4.1 Regular Meeting: 2024.04.09

M/S MCRAE / STIMMING

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held on April 9, 2024 be approved as presented.

APPROVED

4.2 Synopsis of in camera meeting: 2024.04.09 Alan Rice

4.2.1 Property matters: NIL

4.2.2 Legal Matters: NIL

4.2.3 Personnel Matters:

4.2.3.1 The Board of Education approved five (5) requests as presented with the caveat that the leave must be filled by June 1, 2024 and that any teacher on leave will not seek alternate employment on regularly scheduled workdays as they have requested this leave for a specific reason.

4.2.3.2 The Employee Information Report was received and filed as circulated.

4.2.3.3 The Labour Relations Information Report was received and filed as circulated.

4.2.3.4 Trustee remuneration

4.2.3.5 Leadership discussion

4.2.4 Student Matters: NIL

4.2.5 Procedural Matters: NIL

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS NIL

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NIL

7. STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

7.1.1 Policies under review feedback

The school district received one piece of feedback regarding policy 5800, district code of conduct for students.

7.1.2 Practice under review

District Practice 4300, Service recognition

Acting Superintendent, Steve Wyer, advised the Board of Education of proposed changes to service recognition.

7.1.3 Third Reading: NIL

7.1.4 Second Reading:

Policy 5800, District code of conduct for students

In response to Premier Eby's announcement earlier this year, Rocky Mountain School District is proposing an amendment to the school district code of conduct for students to include a section on the use of electronic devices and communication. Since the last Board of Education meeting, the school district received guidelines from the Ministry of Education and Child Care and feedback was received. Changes were made to the policy and district practice to reflect the guidelines and feedback.

M/S BARRETT / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve second reading of policy 5800 presented at this meeting.

APPROVED

7.1.5 First Reading:

Policy 1500, Trustee role, responsibility, and code of ethics

The Ministry of Education and Child Care distributed a document entitled *School Trustees Codes of Conduct: Provincial Criteria Guidelines*. The purpose of the document was to set out best practices and provide guidelines for the voluntary development or refinement of a board of education's school trustee code of conduct. Changes to the policy and district practice have been proposed to reflect these guidelines.

M/S BARRETT / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) unanimously agree to proceed with all three readings of policy 1500, trustee role, responsibility, and code of ethics presented at this meeting.

DEFEATED

M/S BARRETT / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education of School District No.6 (Rocky Mountain) approve first reading of policy 1500 presented at this meeting.

APPROVED

Policy 5160, Community coaches

The safety of students shall always be a primary concern at school, and during all school-sanctioned activities. Wherever possible, the school district relies on employees to support and sustain school sanctioned activities. However, Rocky Mountain School District recognizes the important contribution of members of the community in coaching school sports. Community coaches are important adults in the lives of students having sole responsibility for supervision, education, and travel with students. In addition to requirements for volunteers, set out in Policy 4000, the Board of Education for Rocky Mountain School District believes community coaches should be supported to:

- (a) Learn the ways coaches successfully and respectfully interact with students.
- (b) Be educated about safe practices in coaching students including:
 - a. Injury awareness and prevention
 - b. Awareness of potential risks to student athletes' wellness
 - c. Awareness of child protection issues with respect to school athletes
- (c) Identify safety measures and emergency response plans for athletes in sport.

M/S STIMMING / OAKLEY

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve first reading of policy 5160 presented at this meeting.

APPROVED

8. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

8.1 Board approved fees

Steve Wyer

School fees have remained stable or have decreased in some cases as schools have been able to offset costs utilizing school generated funds. Some schools increased fees due to increased costs of school supplies and no longer having access to a 2023 special purpose fund.

Families experiencing hardship are able to contact the Principal for support. Principals have access to the Student Family Affordability Fund to directly offset costs to parents, guardians, and students, such as school supplies or other cost pressures they are facing.

M/S MCRAE / THURGOOD SAGAL

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the school fees for the 2024 – 2025 school year as presented at this meeting.

APPROVED

9. REPORTS

9.1 Budget utilization report

Alan Rice

Mr. Rice presented the Board of Education a report on year-to-date operating expenditures compared to budget and prior year. Expenditures to date are above budget by 0.58% and greater than the prior year by \$2,748,000 for the same timeframe. The operating variance of actual to budget for year-to-date is considered reasonable.

- 9.2 Accessibility in Rocky Mountain School District Sharon Collin
 In April 2022 the Accessible British Columbia Regulation required that all prescribed organizations within the province establish an accessibility committee, an accessibility plan, and build a tool to receive feedback on accessibility within the organization. This is the first of four phases of implementation of the Regulation. Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 has met all current legislative obligations of phase one of the Accessible British Columbia Regulation implementation.
- 9.3 Early learning and child care update Crystal MacLeod
 The child care crisis remains a complex and challenging issue across our region, the province, and the country. The two main inputs are the lack of licensed spaces and the lack of qualified Early Childhood Educators (ECEs). The government is aware of and working on both space creation and wage improvements via the New Spaces Fund, ECE Wage Enhancements, and the piloting of a Wage Grid. It is important to note that the education division of the Ministry of Education and Child Care does not have any jurisdiction over the child care division.
- 9.4 BC School Trustees Association: Jane Thurgood Sagal
 Trustee Thurgood Sagal reviewed contents of BCSTA weekly communications which included AGM slides, resources, photos, and the report of proceedings. She also shared information about a trustee leadership podcast.
- 9.5 BC School Trustees Association, Kootenay Boundary Branch (KBB): Rhonda Smith
 Trustee Smith highlighted items discussed at the KBB breakfast meeting held on Friday, April 12, 2024. She also reminded Trustees of the Leadership series meeting that will be held in Nelson on May 25. She also shared with Trustees that the KBB AGM will be held in Nakusp in the fall.
- 9.6 BC Public Schools Employers' Association: Scott King
 Trustee King reported on activities of BCPSEA since last meeting. On April 2, an email was received requesting a survey be completed by the school district to refine teacher bargaining priorities. Trustee King attended the Teachers Teaching on Call Extended Health Benefits arbitration award discussion and a BC Teaching Certification Information Session.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 10.1 Correspondence NIL
- 10.2 May and June 2024 calendars

11. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 2024.05.27 Finance and Audit Committee, Virtual, 6:00-7:30
- 2024.05.28 Policy Committee, Virtual, 4:30 p.m.
- 2024.05.29 Field Trip Committee, Virtual, 4:30 p.m.
- 2024.06.04 Labour Relations Committee meeting, Virtual, 12:30 p.m.
- 2024.06.11 Board of Education Meeting, Golden Secondary School
 - In-Camera, 5:30 p.m.
 - Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 2024.06.15 Selkirk Secondary School graduation ceremony
- 2024.06.27 David Thompson Secondary School graduation ceremony
- 2024.06.27 Golden Secondary School graduation ceremony
- 2024.06.27 Last day of school for students

12. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

13. ADJOURNMENT

Trustees agreed to adjourn by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at 20:16 hours.