

FORT NELSON SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Open Meeting
7:00 pm

Tuesday
January 19, 2010

Call to Order
Chair Dolen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present:

- L. Dolen, Chair
- M. Gilbert ,Vice-Chair
- C. Maginel, Trustee
- D. Tofte, Trustee
- L. Bumstead, Trustee

- D. Samchuck, Superintendent
- R. Irwin, Director of Instruction
- M. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer
- K. Prouse, Recording Secretary

- Y. Taylor, President FNDTA
- S. Nay, FNDTA Liaison
- N. LaChance, FNSS Teacher
- D. Chenier, Principal JSC

R09-269	Acceptance of Agenda That the Board of Education accept the agenda as amended. CARRIED	Bumstead/Maginel
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Additions:
2 presentations Fundraising for Haiti– N. LaChance, FNSS Teacher & D. Chenier, Principal JSC

R09-270	Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous meeting December 08, 2009. That the Board of Education accept the minutes as per the amendments. CARRIED	Bumstead/Gilbert
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Trustee Gilbert amendment to the minutes – pg. 3 R09-267
Trustee Gilbert has a growing concern about funding reductions from the Government, he find this most insidious and there are many hidden and buried costs such as the implementation of the HST and the potential that we will not get the rebate that we previously received. it is a de facto reduction in funding and districts continue to see these kinds of things with added responsibilities and limited manpower. Despite government assertions to the contrary, the funding which they are withholding will have a direct and negative impact on children in our classrooms.

R09-263 – Business Credit Card Policy a question was asked with regards to the Business Credit Card Policy. The policy will be distributed for 30 days as per policy and when the cards are distributed they will be issued to be used in the spirit of the policy.

Trustee Tofte inquired if all the schools were in compliance with Ministry Policy in regards to having their School Code of Conduct posted for parent/public accessibility.

Director of Instruction Irwin had been assured by the school administrators that their School Code of Conduct would be posted on websites and parents would have access. Director of Instruction Irwin will ensure the schools are in compliance.

Report of Closed Items:

- Review of Motion C09-103 Travel
- Superintendent's Report
- Transfers in/Out for December
- Suspension Report for December
- District Discipline Review Committee Report for November
- Budget Discussion

R09-271 Letter from FNDTA Tofte/Bumstead
That the Board of Education approve the requested dates of November 4 and 5, 2010 for the FNDTA Professional Development Days.
CARRIED

Full Day Kindergarten

Chair Dolen advised that SD. #81 Fort Nelson will not be implementing Full Day Kindergarten for September 2010/11. We want all of our Kindergarten students and parents to have an equal opportunity for Full Day K. There are currently many unknown factors, within the District and the Ministry of Education regarding budget, space and programming. Therefore, after consideration and discussion, we have decided to implement Full Day Kindergarten in September 2011/12.

A question was asked as to what the numbers are at for Kindergarten for 2110/2011 school year to date.

K GWC = 19
K JSC = 13

R09-272 JSC Request for Fundraising for Haiti –Ms. D. Chenier, Principal JSC Bumstead/Gilbert
That the Board of Education approve J.S. Clark Elementary Schools request for the students of JSC to participate in a coin drive from Thursday, January 21 to Tuesday, January 26, 2010.
CARRIED

The proceeds will be forwarded to the Canadian Red Cross in support of the Earthquake efforts for Haiti.

R09-273 FNSS Request for Fundraising for Haiti - Ms. LaChance, FNSS Teacher Gilbert/Maginel
That the Board of Education authorize the Grad Committee and the Social Justice Club to use FNSS premises including the gym, MPA, and other facilities, to engage in the raising of funds to be forwarded to a registered charity specifically for the relief of the Haiti earthquake. Activities conducted may involve the use of social networking media, and will be subject to supervision by the Superintendent.

CARRIED

Trustee Bumstead cautioned Ms. LaChance about the contents of the slide show that will be developed. She asked that the slideshow be vetted through someone before showing to students. Some of the images have been disturbing and she asks that respect is shown for the deceased. Ms. LaChance assured the Board of Education that she would be mindful of keeping the presentation toned down.

Secretary-Treasurer Hall will work with Ms. LaChance with regards to receipts for donations.

R09-274 Amendments to the Staff List Maginel/Bumstead
That the Board of Education receive and file the amendments to the staff list.
CARRIED

R09-275 2009/2010 Amended Annual Budget Bumstead/Maginel
That the Board of Education approve all three readings of the Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2009/2010.
CARRIED

R09-276 2009/2010 Amended Annual Budget Maginel/Gilbert
That the Board of Education adopt the Final Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2009/2010 in the amount of \$10,440,848.00.
CARRIED

Secretary-Treasurer Hall provided a pre-amble and highlights of the Budget for the 2009/2010 school year. She spoke to some of the surprises that had taken place with less funding from the Government such as the removal of the Annual Capital Grant. Regretfully, installing new whiteboards and floor re-finishing had already taken place. Some additional expenses that were incurred this year included Pandemic Costs, Smarttool cost for Carbon Neutral Program, Carbon emission costs, changes to Medical Service Plan costs, and an increase in special needs children which necessitated increased staffing. Schools have been cautioned with regards to restricting spending from now until the end of June.

R09-277 Commendation Letter to Student Bumstead/Maginel
That the Board of Education receive and file the letter of congratulations to former student Christina Conrad on her recent award for "Youth of the Year".
CARRIED

Trustee Reports/Inquiries

- Pandemic Committee Meeting – Next meeting TBA
- Finance Committee – will post dates on First-class for consideration
- Education Committee - Next meeting TBA
- Policy Committee - Next meeting TBA
- Calendar Committee – Next meeting TBA
Secretary-Treasurer Hall reported that a 3 year calendar will be developed as a draft and presented. The Calendar Committee felt that a reasonable number of surveys were returned.
- Green Committee Next meeting TBA

- Aboriginal Enhancement Steering Committee Next meeting – TBA

Stakeholder/Public Inquiries

Chair Dolen

- Participated in a Support Staff Bargaining conference call,
- several budget/finance meetings,
- FNDDTA bargaining,
- will be attending BCPSEA meeting January 22-23, 2010, and
- she sent the annual Christmas greeting to all staff.

Trustee Maginel - nothing to report

Trustee Tofte

- attended the JSC PAC meeting; informed the Board that the JSC PAC have switched some of the executive. The PAC was inquiring if a cheque had been received as they are expecting a reimbursement of \$6000. A. Watkins JSC parent, has started a "Kindness and Passion Club" at J.S. Clark Elementary School.

Trustee Bumstead

- Attended the RLA PAC meeting last Thursday, very short meeting due to illness,
- attended a budget meeting, calendar meeting, and
- will be attending The Northern Interior Branch meeting in Prince George on February 4 & 5, 2010.
- inquired if the business credit cards had been issued, and would they be with the intent to act as if policy was in place.

Vice-Chair Gilbert

- Attended the FNSS PAC meeting last week – discussion around attendance policy and whether it has had the desired impact. The administration has advised that the attendance policy is being reviewed. Discussion regarding bussing for FNSS students and the students arriving late.
- Was advised that the FNSS School Year Book may not be done this year as no staff member has taken it on.
- Will be attending the BCSTA Provincial Council in February, some of the costs will be recoverable.
- Attended the calendar committee meeting.
- Trustee Gilbert said "I have talked to a number of people who have in my opinion false impressions engendered by statements by the government that misrepresents the funding situation of this district and in general districts in the province. While insisting that they are putting more funding than ever into education they have imposed numerous hidden claw backs on districts in the form of such things as increased MSP premiums and the carbon reduction regime. Our government has also escalated demands for service in the form of additional reporting, the generation of many additional reports. This has placed a demand on our staff whose time can better be used to the benefit of students."

Chair Dolen

- The funding recovery for BCSTA Provincial Council also applies to the BCPSEA. The Northern Interior Branch meeting is not recoverable.
- Chair Dolen reported that she supplied reports: Jump Math and the good scores received in School District #81 and the Early Learning Preschool Equipment (Indoor Playroom at GWC). One of the challenges School District #81 is facing; includes difficulty in arranging meetings with the Ministry of Children and Families; we were informed that a manager will be situated in Fort Nelson.
- School District #81 faces many challenges to name a few: developing a budget with declining enrollment; uncertainty of funding from Government; and Kindergarten choice.

Superintendent Samchuck

- Thanks to Imperial Oil Foundation for their generous donation to the School District. They are supplying Jump Math Books and Training. It is very nice that we have those funding dollars to use for our program.

Secretary-Treasurer Hall – nothing to report

Director of Instruction Irwin – nothing to report

FNDTA President Yvette Taylor

- the dates for the FNDTA Professional Development dates have been set, the FNDTA can begin their planning. The FNDTA does not have the budget as in the past.
- The Evaluation District Committee has been looking at an Alternative Evaluation model and will be sharing it at a February 15 meeting. The model allows for experienced teachers to have a choice of an evaluation – this will be a pilot that is in use by other districts. The Board/Association meeting has been changed to February 8, 2010, 5:00 p.m.

FNDTA Liaison, S. Nay - nothing to report

R09-278 Adjournment

That that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm

CARRIED

Bumstead/Gilbert



Linda Dolen
Chairperson



Margaret-Anne Hall
Secretary-Treasurer