

SCHOOL DISTRICT #81 (FORT NELSON)  
FORT NELSON SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

Open Meeting  
6:00 pm

Tuesday  
December 8, 2015

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Chair  
M. Gilbert, Vice-Chair  
D. Tofte, Trustee  
E. Ashdown, Trustee  
B. Dolan, Trustee  
D. Samchuck, Superintendent  
M. Hall, Secretary-Treasurer  
D. Umpherville, Recording Secretary

Guests:

G. Gerwing, FNDTA President  
P. Nelson, FNDTA Liaison

Call to Order

Chair L. Dolen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Acceptance of the Agenda

Chair L. Dolen called for any additions or changes to the Open Agenda. As no items were identified, Chair L. Dolen declared the Open Agenda accepted as presented.

Acceptance of the Minutes

Chair L. Dolen called for any errors or omissions to the Open Minutes of November 17, 2015. As no errors or omissions were identified, Chair L. Dolen declared the Open Minutes of November 17, 2015 accepted as presented.

Report on Closed Items:

- Saw Stop
- Prophet River LEA
- DRC Report

Review of Board Chair and Vice Chair

Discussion took place to review the Board Chair and Vice Chair positions. It was determined that L. Dolen will remain as Chair and M. Gilbert will remain as Vice Chair for the period of one year.

It was also determined that the Board would like to Review Bylaw #3 to ensure that is up to date with current practices.

R15-069 Education Information E. Ashdown/M. Gilbert  
That the Board of Education file the following Education Information items:

- Enrollment Report
- Principal Reports
- Superintendent's Report
- Technology Report

CARRIED

R15-070 Staff Amendments M. Gilbert/D. Tofte  
That the Board of Education file the report as presented.  
CARRIED

R15-071 Monthly Financials M. Gilbert/B. Dolan  
That the Board of Education file the report as presented.  
CARRIED

#### Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

##### Trustee E. Ashdown

- Attended GWC Assembly
- Would have attended GWC PAC meeting, but it is tonight, so conflicts with Board meeting.

##### Trustee B. Dolan

- Attended Conflict Resolution course on Collaborative Justice in Whitehorse for Professional Development.
- Attended the BCSTA Winter Academy with Chair L. Dolen
- JS Clark – parents were disappointed with the prospect of only 1 Christmas Concert. Circumstances have now changed with 2 Concerts being performed – would like to commend JSC staff for being receptive to parent and student needs.
- Appreciated how JSC Principal's Report explains the Assessment process.

##### Trustee D. Tofte

- Attended FNSS PAC meeting on November 18, 2015, where the Principal presented the Draft School Growth Plan
- Posed the question to Board members "Would anyone be interested in having a couple of meetings at one of the schools and have a tour of the school at the same time?" Discussion ensued.
- Attended School Staff Christmas Party. Everyone had a good time.
- Will be a representative of the Board at a Solid Waste meeting and he will report back with information.

##### Vice Chair Gilbert

- Was unable to attend the last RLA PAC meeting, but Chair L. Dolen attended on his behalf.
- Attended Community Remembrance Day Ceremony.
- Seconds Trustee D. Tofte's suggestion of holding School Board meetings at the schools.

- The Board has agreed to purchase 2 Stop Saws for the FNSS Shops in the interest of student safety, to help with prevention of injuries in the shops.

#### Chair L. Dolen

- Chair Dolen wanted to respectfully acknowledge the passing of Gail Parker, long-time resident, and former teacher for School District #81 – she touched many lives and had a positive impact on many students' education.
- Attended the RLA PAC meeting – they were planning their Christmas Hamper fundraiser and discussing their upcoming gymnastics program with Leah Lollipop.
- Attended FNSS Honour Roll Assembly
- The BCPSEA AGM is on January 29<sup>th</sup>. It is the same time as the NIB meetings in Prince George. The NIB currently has a survey out to trustees.
- Attended BCSTA Winter Academy. Chair L. Dolen gave an overview of topics discussed.

#### Superintendent Samchuck

- This year there is a change to the School Growth Plan process. The Superintendent met with each Principal to go over the plans, and the plans have all been presented to their respective PACs. Hoping to arrange a meeting in January, not to approve the plans, but for information, as PACs, along with Staff will need to collaborate.
- Quick mention – the Ministry put out an Innovation Grant – last year there were no takers, but this year, Lori Gilbert applied and if she was successful, will receive \$8,000 towards a project she is working on with the UBC Zoology Department.
- Had an invitation and opportunity to visit JS Clark Elementary to see the "Hour of Code" with Lori Woodworth. It was great to see students really engaged in their thinking.

#### Secretary-Treasurer Hall

- Missed the last Board meeting due to Payroll Training in Vancouver, and wanted to let the Board know how much the 3 individuals learned and appreciated the training. We have also done one webinar training session, with one more on-site review of practices – the last year was difficult with no training being given to Payroll for many years and now both Payroll positions are working part-time. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that the only full-time 12 month employees at the Board Office were the Superintendent, the Secretary-Treasurer, and the District Principal, but the District staff does an amazing job with their allotted time. Trustee Gilbert noted that the Board understands that staff is doing more with less time, and it is appreciated.

#### FNDTA President

- Nothing to report

FNDTA Liaison

- Nothing to report

Adjournment

Chair L. Dolen declared the meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.



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Linda Dolen  
Chair



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Margaret-Anne Hall  
Secretary-Treasurer