

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

Open Meeting
6:00 pm

Tuesday
June 19, 2018

In Attendance:

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

Absent:

E. Ashdown, Trustee

Guest: Steve Smith, FNDTA

Call to Order

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

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Dolen called for any additions of changes to the Open Agenda.

One addition was identified:

8 b. Facility Services – Grounds/Maintenance Service - Toad River School

R18-040 That the Board of Education accept the Open Agenda as amended. B. Dolan/M. Gilbert
CARRIED

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Dolen called for any errors or omissions to the Open Minutes of May 29, 2018. As no errors or omissions were identified, Chair Dolen declared the Open Minutes of May 29, 2018 accepted as presented.

Report on Closed items

- Boiler Upgrade FNSS

R18-041 Board Meeting Dates 2018-2019 B. Dolan/M. Gilbert
That the Board of Education approve the proposed Board Meeting dates for September and October 2018 with the remaining dates being proposed and determined once elections have been completed and further to approve the Closed Meeting start time of 5:00pm.
CARRIED

R18-042 Physical Restraint and Seclusion Policy D. Tofte/B. Dolan
That the Board of Education adopt the Physical Restraint and
Seclusion Policy.
CARRIED

R18-043 Accumulated Operating Surplus (Reserve) Policy D. Tofte/B. Dolan
That the Board of Education adopt the Accumulated Operating
Surplus (Reserve) Policy.
CARRIED

R18-044 Video Surveillance Policy D. Tofte/B. Dolan
That the Board of Education circulate the Video Surveillance Policy
for 30 days for stakeholder feedback and input.
CARRIED
OPPOSED – Trustee Gilbert

Extensive discussion ensued.
Trustee Tofte struggles with this policy as he doesn't believe the PAC knows exactly what they agreed to and if parents understand what's happening. Secretary-Treasurer Hall stated that in the past when we've had policies that came up close to the end of the school year they've been put off until September for official circulation. Trustee Gilbert said many issues regarding the handling of the tapes have arisen as well as issues around privacy. He indicated that he thinks there is a lack of knowledge on behalf of parents but the ability to increase parental knowledge is difficult because of the low number of parents that actually attend PAC meetings. All notes, comments and concerns can be provided as feedback once the Policy gets circulated. Trustee Tofte suggested we circulate until September 30th when all staff are back. Superintendent Samchuck mentioned that FNSS have had cameras for years now and that only the downstairs didn't have video surveillance. It was decided that the policy will be circulated until September 30 for input and feedback, but the cameras will be installed before the circulation is complete.

R18-045 Letter from Katrine Conroy B. Dolen/M. Gilbert
That the Board of Education prepare a letter in response to Success
by Six and Children First initiatives in keeping with the Board's
discussion.
CARRIED

Discussion ensued. Superintendent Samchuck spoke to the positive outcome that Success by Six and the Children First initiatives have in our community. We've been very successful with these programs in our area. Lorraine Gerwing has done wonderful work in leading this.

If they cancel this in our community, years of hard work and relationship building will be lost. MCFD has come up with a new position, two weeks on and two weeks off, they figure this will help us, they wanted two so that they could stagger the position, however only one position was filled.

Trustee Tofte said they want cost savings, which is what we all want. Trustee Gilbert stated that a person in that line of work they need to be active in the community. These programs in the entire province have been affected, not just in Fort Nelson. However, these programs have not been as successful in other areas.

Chair Dolen suggested we come up with a plan of action that seems feasible and can show good results. Make a presentation and hopefully they grab on.

Secretary-Treasurer Hall suggested we write a letter to Emily Horton and a letter to the table to support this program.

Trustee Gilbert agrees, a letter should be written.

Trustee Gilbert wonders why they are pulling funding from a functioning program that works well in our community and giving the funding to an institution that has no staff.

Trustee Tofte proposes a moratorium, MCFD's idea will not work here, extend our program of two more years. That will give us time to propose ideas, as what they're proposing is not viable up here.

These programs are used by a lot of families in our community.

Chair Dolen proposes we write the letter.

Trustee Tofte said we should include all Success by Six reports with the letter. Trustee Gilbert suggests we get this out to the media, do we support this?

Trustee Dolan is concerned that this move could be detrimental. We should send a copy of our report with a letter. If this doesn't get acknowledged, then we should go to the media.

Secretary-Treasurer Hall spoke to the fact that we have no pediatrician or hearing specialist here, families must travel to Prince George. It's just one thing after another, concerned that if we sit back and don't draw attention to this issue then we will lose one more level of service that we provide.

Trustee Gilbert said to get cut off without notice is unacceptable. We represent these children and they are being shorted. Their process is poor, and we should respond publicly.

Chair Dolen said the program isn't great across the province, however it has been very successful in our community. Life in Fort Nelson isn't what they see out their office window in bigger communities/cities.

R18-046

Technology Report

That the Board of Education provide authorization to remove items from inventory and give D. Johnstone approval to sell the items listed. Revenue will go back into the technology budget.

CARRIED

D. Tofte/B. Dolan

Discussion ensued. Trustee Dolan asked the process for these sales. Most sales are done through ebay and have been very successful. D. Johnston's plan is to contribute \$10,000 through the process of these sales to support the tech budget.

R18-047 Grounds/Maintenance Plan – Toad River D. Tofte/M. Gilbert
That the Board of Education accept the letter of interest from Nathaniel Steward to provide Grounds/Maintenance Services at Toad River School for the period of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021 at a rate of \$30.00/hr.
CARRIED

Discussion ensued. Secretary-Treasurer Hall spoke to the position and the need to have someone on site to converse with our Maintenance Department and/or take care of minor maintenance concerns/problems thus decreasing the need for maintenance staff having to travel up there for minor fixes and troubleshooting. Nathaniel Steward was the only applicant. We will write the appointment letter and elaborate on the checklist.

R18-048 5 Year Capital Plan B. Dolan/D. Tofte
That the Board of Education approve the 5 Year Capital Plan
CARRIED

Secretary-Treasurer spoke to the priority of the projects. Trustee Dolan inquired about the cladding for the high school, we will stick to our original color scheme. Secretary-Treasurer Hall stated that the buildings are aging and starting to fade but cladding the building will benefit with the insulation. We cannot use Carbon Neutral funding at this time. If carbon money comes up in the future we may be able to apply.

R18-049 2018-2019 Annual Budget Bylaw D. Tofte/B. Dolan
That the Board of Education approve all three readings of the 2018-2019 Annual Budget Bylaw.
CARRIED

Discussion ensued. Secretary-Treasurer Hall stated that since the package went out Budget amount changed from \$11,636.333 to \$11,641,581. Trustee Tofte inquired about the fallout of the Special Ed Audit. Secretary-Treasurer spoke to this stating that three weeks ago we were told that we wouldn't get any funding back after the February count, however she pleaded our case and the reps have agreed to review our case. With the Special Ed Audit, we lost \$185,000. We anticipate receiving \$62,315.00. Secretary-Treasurer spoke to the bussing contracts. By reducing by one bus in

September \$42,000. will be saved, however costs associated with staffing to accommodate for the bussing changes will be about \$10,000 - we will still have a significant savings. Classroom and overhead funds have been updated. Secretary-Treasurer Hall has sent out new reports which are more accurate.

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| R18-050 | <p>Education/Information items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enrollment Report• Principal Reports• 2017 Carbon Neutral Action Report• Security Review of In-Town Schools• Student's Progress Report• Great Leaps Report• Premier's Award – Next Generation Network Project• Fundraising Reconciliations <p>That the Board of Education file Education Information items as received.
CARRIED</p> | M. Gilbert/D. Tofte |
| R18-051 | <p>Staff Amendments</p> <p>That the Board of Education file the Staff Amendment report as received.
CARRIED</p> | M. Gilbert/B. Dolan |
| R18-052 | <p>May Monthly Financials</p> <p>That the Board of Education file the Financial Reports as received.
CARRIED</p> | M. Gilbert/D. Tofte |

Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

- Trustee Dolan – JSC came to a satisfactory wrap up. Looking forward to Graduation. Students that were at RLA for his brief tenure will be Graduating.
- Trustee Tofte – Sat in on Scholarship Selection Committee. Well organized, well done, timely manner. A good variety of students are recipients, some will be surprised.
- FNDDA President – Steve Smith – Choosing a recipient for the FNDDA Scholarship was difficult, many great candidates. Elections took place May 30th. Ellie Derosz-Gagne will be joining us next year as a Representative of the FNDDA.
- Trustee Gilbert – Attended the final PAC meeting at GWC. Much discussion surrounding enrollment. Commenting on how resilient restructuring of classes was. If there is an influx of students how will it be handled. Much discussion surrounding surveillance cameras, many valid and unanswered questions.
- Chair Dolen – Attended final PAC at FNSS, extended well wishes for summer. Was up at Toad River on the weekend,

and graduate stopped by with a personal invitation to his grad. Had an interview with CBC Day Break North.

- Superintendent Samchuck – Nothing to report
- Secretary-Treasurer Hall – Participated in Scholarship Committee Meeting. Always a great time and interesting to see the efforts put in to student's presentations. Attended Global Forum with G. Mercer. Presentations on poverty, each report was unique. Visited with K. Tofte's class and listened on reports. Each student selected different topics, all were very interesting. Would like to recognize Administrative Assistant Anderson for her first year with the District. Thank you for a job well done.

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm

Linda Dolen
Chair

Margaret-Anne Hall
Secretary-Treasurer