

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

Open Meeting  
6:00 pm

Tuesday  
May 9, 2023

In Attendance:

L. Dolen, Chair  
B. Dolan, Vice Chair  
F. Peach, Trustee  
K. Dickie, Trustee  
Y. Taylor, Trustee  
M. Theobald, Superintendent  
M. Power, Secretary-Treasurer  
P. Anderson, Recording Secretary  
G. Gough, FNDTA President

Call to Order

Chair Dolen called the Open Meeting to order at 6:12 pm.

Acceptance of Agenda

Chair Dolen called for any additions or changes to the Open Agenda. As none were noted, Chair Dolen accepted the Open Agenda as presented.

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Dolen called for any errors or omissions to the Open Minutes of April 25. One error was noted, page 2 – Vice Chair Dolan strongly opposes this decision and feels like the decision should *not* be left up to the Administrators.

R23-028      That the Board of Education approve the Open Minutes of April 25 as amended.  
CARRIED

Y. Taylor/K. Dickie

Funding for Radios

It has been determined that radios are needed for schools which will come at a cost of approximately \$5,000. – \$6,000.

R23-029      Education – Information Items  
That the Board of Education file the Education – Information Items as received.  
CARRIED

Y. Taylor/F. Peach

Trustee Reports/Inquiries/Celebrations

- Vice Chair Dolan was pleased to see the write up on Numeracy Innovation, this speaks well for our District. Superintendent Theobald mentioned that at the Rural Schools Meeting he attended our District was the only one mentioned repeatedly.

Shannon and Becky have worked very hard on this and deserve the recognition.

Vice Chair Dolan mentioned that when he was signing off on payables, he noticed the purchase of a vaping unit.

Superintendent Theobald explained that FNSS had received vaping detectors which are tamper proof, equipped with sensors and come with cages. If the unit detects tampering or vaping it will send a signal to the Administrator's phone.

Trustee Peach asked if the smoke detectors will be affected, it was confirmed that they will be unaffected and left in place.

- Trustee Peach will attend the GWC PAC meeting next week. He attended the AGM in Vancouver which also included a session for newer trustees as well as taking part in the voting on motions that were presented at the last meeting. He has the results and will share them with the Board.
- Trustee Dickie attended the RLA PAC meeting. Many things are happening; the walk-a-thon, moose run, milk run, track & field, flower springs hike, school dance and picnic in the park, to name a few of the events they have planned. They are posting for grade 7 teachers. Flying Bob went over very well, they will be looking at partnering with another school next time to share in costs.
- Trustee Taylor attended the spring concert, it was very well done. She attended the Administrative Assistants' Day lunch and will attend the JSC PAC meeting tomorrow night.
- Chair Dolen attended a Board Chairs' call. Advocacy day is on October 19 in Victoria. How are we doing with the budget? Do we foresee any cuts? Will we remain status quo? She will be away for our next meeting on June 6, Vice Chair Dolan will Chair the meeting.
- Superintendent Theobald was in Vancouver for a Mental Health Conference with T. Abraham and E. Dorosz. There were many positive things discussed at the conference with good presentations on social and emotional learning. Coming out of COVID it seems that kids aren't doing well from an emotional standpoint. This was a good opportunity to have conversations with Mr. Abraham and Ms. Dorosz on the needs of our district. He attended another meeting with the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, BC Accessibility ABCA. We had seven individuals apply to the committee, we will meet at the end of May to set Terms of Reference and get the process started. S. Attrill will come up with an accessibility plan by September. Superintendent Theobald has been communicating with other districts and is making progress. On May 5 he got to cover for Ms. Froese and Ms. Clark at RLA as they were both away. What a great vibe at that school!! He had great interactions with staff and students.

Tomorrow he has a meeting with Apply to Educate to go over strategies to attract more applicants through those platforms. Next week he will be away for the Superintendent's meeting on May 17 & 18 then the week after he will be attending the JCAM meeting with D. Bigfoot.

Secretary-Treasurer Power is still working away at the budget. The sewer pipe should arrive in town this evening. Hopefully the bathrooms will be up and running next week.

They had a meeting with the architect on the JSC renovation and got the cost down to about \$1.1 million.

The AFG and Capital Plan is due by May 19, He will be working on that in the coming days as well as working on the Transportation Agreement signed off.

He is still working on a plan for the Trustee stipend.

- FNDTA President Gough attended an FNSS staff meeting with Ministry officials regarding reporting. He was very thankful for M. Lucas for allowing him to attend. It was very informative.

Chair Dolen asked which Trustee will be taking part in the Scholarship Committee, Trustee Taylor stepped up.

Chair Dolen will do the graduation speech this year.

Adjournment

Chair Dolen declared the Open Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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Linda Dolen  
Chair

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Mike Power  
Secretary-Treasurer