



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)**

**MINUTES - REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**

**January 12, 2021, 3:00 p.m.  
Meeting via Zoom**

Present: Chairperson Lento  
Trustee Ayling  
Trustee Bellina  
Trustee Damstrom  
Trustee Johns  
Trustee Kitt  
Trustee McPhee  
Trustee Turner  
Trustee Whalen

Staff Present Superintendent, S. Yardley  
Secretary Treasurer, A. Rice  
Director of Instruction/Human Resources, B. Reimer  
Director of Student Learning/Aboriginal Education, J. Tichauer  
Director of Instruction/Student Learning and Innovation, D. Casault  
District Principal/Student Services, D. Verbeurgt  
District Principal/Transformative Learning, J. Roberts  
Executive Assistant, (recorder) Sandy Gronlund

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Chairperson Lento called the January 12, 2021 regular public meeting of the Board of Education to order at 3:01 p.m.

Chair Lento acknowledged the passing of the following former staff:

Margaret Reiss – teacher at MBSS from 1965-1997

Fred Stevens – principal at PMS/LMS from 1981-1997

Phyllis Barnes – teacher at AWES from 1977-1989

**1.2 Consideration and Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION R-21-01**

M/S that the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of January 12, 2021 be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

- 1.3 Approval of the Minutes - December 8, 2020**  
Minutes of the Public meeting of the Board of Education of December 8, 2020.

**MOTION R-21-02**

M/S that the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of December 8, 2020 be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

- 1.4 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings**

**MOTION R-21-03**

M/S to accept the closed records of the in-camera meeting of the Board of Education of December 8, 2020.

**CARRIED**

- 1.5 Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

**1.5.1 Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) Letter**

The FSA letter addressed to Minister Whiteside from the SD5 Board was sent January 7, 2021.

**MOTION R-21-04**

M/S that the Board ratify the FSA letter of January 7, 2021 to Minister Whiteside, as it was the consensus of the Board to send the letter as soon as possible.

**CARRIED**

**1.5.2 Proposed Shelter Adjacent to Mount Baker Secondary School**

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported that the City of Cranbrook council, at its January 4, 2021 session, agreed delaying a public hearing for the proposed rezoning of the property on 2<sup>nd</sup> St N for a homeless shelter. Council has decided to delay until they can meet with BC Housing and obtain more information. BC Housing will present as a delegation at the January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 council meeting. There is also a public webinar session put together by BC Housing on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. You must pre-register to attend this webinar.

**MOTION R-21-05**

M/S that the Board submit a presentation to the City Council re: the public hearing for a homeless shelter across from Mount Baker Secondary School, following a thorough review of information.

**CARRIED**

- 1.6 Receiving of Delegations/Presentations**  
Nil.

**2. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- 2.1 Advocacy/Education Committee**  
No meeting in December.

**2.2 Policy Committee**

No meeting in December.

**2.3 Student Services Committee**

No meeting in December.

**2.4 Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee**

No meeting in December.

**2.5 BCSTA /Provincial Council**

Trustee Bellina advised the Board of a Kootenay Boundary Branch (KBB) motion building session arranged for tomorrow night.

Chair Lento commented on the government's change in policy to govern trustee stipends and as of January 1, 2020 the trustee's must hand in expense receipts. The Board feels this is a disservice to trustees and would like to see the 1/3 tax break brought back. Trustee Johns would like Trustee Bellina to bring the return of the 1/3 tax break forward to the (KBB) members and get their opinions.

Trustee Turner requested that Trustee Bellina check on the two recommended motions the Board has put forward.

**MOTION R-21-06**

M/S to accept the report of the BCSTA/Provincial Council.

**CARRIED**

**2.6 Communications/Media Committee**

Trustee Ayling reported on the news release on Isabela Dickens Elementary school expansion and the land in Fernie.

**MOTION R-21-07**

M/S to accept the report of the Communications/Media Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2.7 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee**

Trustee Johns reported that this item will be covered under item 3.3.

**MOTION R-21-08**

M/S to accept the report of the Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee.

**CARRIED**

**2.8 Key City Theatre**

Trustee McPhee conveyed that Galen Olstead's personal contract is ready for signatures. Trustee Turner was welcomed as a member on the Key City Theatre Society Board. She mentioned that most performances cancelled back in March due to COVID-19 have now been rebooked.

**MOTION R-21-09**

M/S to accept the report of the Key City Theatre.

**CARRIED**

## **2.9 Legacy of Learning**

Trustee Johns communicated to the Board that he was contacted by Viveka Johnson, HR Director at School District 6 (SD6) and former principal at Mount Baker Secondary School. She is interested in SD6 and the Legacy of Learning creating a partnership. Trustee Johns reported working on putting a proposal together with SD6 around the Legacy of Learning.

### **MOTION R-21-10**

M/S to accept the Legacy of Learning report.

**CARRIED**

## **2.10 French Advisory Committee**

Trustee Whalen expressed the good news with the full funding allocation from the Ministry of Education. Director Casault advised that the allocation went from 80% to full funding.

A committee member mentioned a French version of district learning would be beneficial. Director Casault will be having a discussion with the French Advisory Committee on how we can best support the students. The next meeting is January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### **MOTION R-21-11**

M/S to accept the French Advisory Committee report.

**CARRIED**

## **2.11 Trustee Reports**

Trustees reported on their activities for the month:

- Trustee Bellina will be attending a PAC meeting tonight in Sparwood.
- Trustee Damstrom attended a Jaffray School PAC meeting last week and was happy with the turn out. There seems to be a larger turn out for Zoom meetings than in persons
- Trustee Turner attended the first Kootenay Orchards PAC meeting of the year. The PAC is looking forward to delivering hot lunches under the new Covid regulations. There has not been much fundraising going on. The Christmas concerts on-line went very well.

## **3. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

### **3.1 Stage 2 Restart Protocol Update -Secretary Treasurer**

Secretary Treasurer Rice reported on the meeting Friday with the deputy minister. The changes to the Covid procedures will be minor. Once the district has received the changes the Health and Safety committee will meet and review them together.

The Canadian Center for Disease Control (CCDC) has updated their health self-assessment check list on their website.

There was very little information provided around the roll out of the Covid vaccines to school districts. The education system is not currently included in the

present roll out plans of our Provincial Health Authority. The hope is the education system will be included sometime during second semester.

We will be meeting with the School Health and Safety committees to discuss any concerns in the schools. We will also be reviewing the needs of the federal funds and bring back to the Board. We have received confirmation on the 10% holdback of the Federal funding for Covid expenses. The government has confirmed that the final hold back amount for our district is \$6,500. They make their decisions on the number of cases in the communities and our cases are low in comparison to others.

Trustee Turner heard that HEPA filters were reported as the most efficient way of filtering air. Secretary Treasurer Rice has also heard good things and has 40 on order. More will be ordered if required.

### **3.2 Isabella Dicken Elementary School (IDES) Update/Fernie Land**

Secretary Treasurer Rice, Chair Lento, Operations Manager Tank, Principal Phillips, Stantec Architecture, Parastone Landmark Construction & Development, Charlie Sawatzky of Lefebvre Project Management & Consulting and Chris Kielpinski as the union representative for Fernie Teachers all met to discuss the IDES expansion project.

The completion expectation for the expansion project is in time for the September 2022 school opening.

Secretary Treasurer Rice shared the good news that the Fernie land purchase deal has closed.

### **3.3 Mount Baker Secondary School (MBSS) Renovation – Architect**

Secretary Treasurer Rice, the Cranbrook Trustees and Operations Manager Tank met to review the submissions from architect companies to provide a building replacement/renovation proposal for MBSS. Berry Architecture & Associates were selected as a good fit for SD5. They are available to begin as soon as possible.

#### **MOTION R-21-12**

M/S that the Board engage Berry Architecture & Associates to provide a building replacement/renovation proposal for Mount Baker Secondary School.

**CARRIED**

### **3.4 Public Sector Employee Compensation Report 2019-20**

Secretary Treasurer Rice advised the Board that this report is now available on the Ministry of Education website and the SD5 website.

### **3.5 SD5 Board and MLA meeting**

Secretary Treasurer Rice delivered an update regarding the Board's request for a meeting with MLA Shypitka. It was decided between both parties to wait until the meet in person COVID restriction has been lifted.

### **3.6 Federal Funding Update**

Secretary Treasurer Rice covered this item under item 3.1.

### **3.7 Proposed Budget Timeline**

Secretary Treasurer Rice advised the trustees that a memo will be sent to our partners; SD5 District PAC, CFTA, CUPE and the Southeast Principal and Vice Principal Association, regarding public input sessions into the 2021/22 Annual Budget. This information will also be advertised in the local papers. The following two dates are available for public and partner presentations to the Board:

- February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 – Committee Meeting at 12:30 p.m.
- March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – Public Board meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Written submission will also be accepted. Please contact Sandy Gronlund by email at [sandy.gronlund@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:sandy.gronlund@sd5.bc.ca) if you wish to make a presentation to the Board.

### **MOTION R-21-13**

M/S that the January 12, 2021 Secretary Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

The Pathway's report can be found on the School District's website at [www.sd5.bc.ca](http://www.sd5.bc.ca).

Superintendent Yardley reported that her group has been busy developing the Enhancement of Student Learning Survey which will include data and be sent out to our shareholders and school community on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and will close on Monday, January 25, 2021. The results from the survey will be reported at the February 22, 2021 committee meeting.

SD5 and DPAC are presenting a live "TEAMS" event on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. on Parenting Anxiety: 5 tips for Supporting Kids with Anxiety" with a presentation from Sean Larsen, MA PhD.

The District Directors and District Principals each reported on their departments.

### **MOTION R-21-14**

M/S that the January 12, 2021 Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chair Lento reported receiving emails from parents with questions regarding the French Immersion funding. He requested that Secretary Treasurer Rice summarize in a report a response to the concerns raised.

Other items:

- Chair Lento expressed that he would like to see apprenticeship programs in the Elk Valley.

- He also expressed the desire to conduct a student survey to obtain each student's ancestral country of origin. It would be nice to have a picture of the ethnic diversity of our district.
- It would be beneficial, particularly at the secondary level, if we had an inventory of our employee's talents, gifts and passions if we are to maximize an elective strategy for our students.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Business Arising from Delegations**

Nil.

### **6.2 New Quarter/Semester Mask Protocol**

Trustee Turner asked whether students changing cohorts due to the quarter and semester system are asked to wear masks in class for the first two weeks. Secretary Treasurer responded that the district has not received direction from the Ministry of Education to have these students wear masks in their new cohorts.

## **7. TRUSTEE BOUQUETS**

- Trustee Whalen appreciated the items she received from the Aboriginal department and the book from Trustee Johns.
- Trustee Bellina enjoys seeing everyone back after the Christmas break.
- Trustee McPhee appreciates all the work SD5 employees do.

## **8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

BCPSEA AGM 2021 - January 28, 2021  
BCSTA Provincial Council - February 20, 2021  
BCSTA AGM 2021 - April 17, 2021

## **9. QUESTION PERIOD**

Shelley Balfour and Chris Kielinski appreciated the support of the Foundation Skills Assessment letter sent to the Minister of Education by the Board.

## **10. LATE ITEMS**

Nil.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

### **MOTION R-21-15**

M/S that the January 12, 2021 regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 4:14 p.m.

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Frank Lento, Chairperson

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Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer