

BOARD OF EDUCATION School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes)

MISSION:

Achieving Educational Excellence through engaging and personalized learning VISION:

Competent and confident learners making positive contributions in an evolving global environment

6:00 PM

Excellence | Innovation | Community

Regular Board Meeting		MINUTES	October 21, 2024	
Present:	D. Christie		Chairperson	
	N. Hazelton		Vice Chair	
	D. Albertson		Trustee	
	S. Davis		Trustee	
	R. Gratz		Trustee	
	R. Pooley		Trustee	
	C. Walker		Trustee	
	M. Skinner		Interim Superintendent	
	D. Turner		Secretary-Treasurer	
	K. Black		Assistant Secretary-Treasurer	
	M. Gauthier		Director of Instruction	
	H. Silver		Recording Secretary	
Absent:	С. МсКау		Director of Instruction	
In-House				
Guests:	C. Houghton		FSJSS Principal	
	C. Martin		FSJSS Teacher	
	K. Lessard		FSJSS Student Voice Representative	
	B. Pacheco		FSJSS Student Voice Representative	
	4 Members of the Public			
Present				

1. CALL TO ORDER

Online:

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson D. Christie at 6:00 p.m.

2. <u>RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY</u>

5 Members of the Public

Chairperson D. Christie acknowledged that we are grateful to live, work, and play on the unceded, ancestral territories of fourteen First Nations represented by the Dakelh, Nedut'en, and Wet'suwet'en Peoples; and, we are working diligently towards creating equity for our learners through conscious Acts of Reconciliation.

Specifically for tonight's meeting, we are honoured to gather in Nak'azdli Whut'en territory.

3. <u>INTRODUCTIONS</u>

The following guests were introduced:

- C. Houghton FSJSS Principal
- C. Martin FSJSS Indigenous Language & Culture Teacher
- Kirby & Braelyn FSJSS Student Voice Representatives

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda, including the following items, was approved:

- The Agenda for the Regular Meeting dated October 21, 2024.
- The Minutes of the Regular Meeting dated September 16, 2024.
- The Record of the In-Camera Meeting dated September 16, 2024.

24-69 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Consent Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Monday, October 21, 2024, be approved as presented.

Carried

Adopted: November 18, 2024

5. PRESENTATIONS

FSJSS Principal C. Houghton and FSJSS Indigenous Language & Culture Teacher C. Martin shared a celebratory presentation about Cultural Week and Truth & Reconciliation activities that were hosted by FSJSS during the final week of September 2024. Interim Superintendent M. Skinner thanked the duo for their ongoing work with students and staff and for bringing the community together to share in the relationship-building activities. Chairperson D. Christie requested and was granted permission to share the PowerPoint presentation with the BCSTA Indigenous Education Council and Ministry personnel in Vancouver.

* FSJSS Principal C. Houghton and FSJSS Teacher C. Martin departed the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

6. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee R. Pooley shared an update about the current work of the Board's Policy Committee. While there are no policies being reviewed for edits at this time, the committee has begun a project of reorganizing and re-numbering all existing policies in their current state. Committee members will continue to review and discuss this project with the intent of gathering public feedback as the work proceeds over the next few months.

Chairperson D. Christie provided an update about the recent Northern Interior Branch (NIB) gathering in Prince George. The NIB meets twice a year for professional development opportunities and to conduct branch business such as topic suggestions for the BCSTA to address with the Ministry. This past meeting involved discussions about the Framework for Continuous Improvement, northern district vs. provincial student data, children and youth in care matters, and eco-cycle planning within the NIB. The next NIB meeting is scheduled to take place as part of BCSTA Academy in November 2024.

7. STUDENT VOICE

FSJSS Student Voice Representatives Kirby and Braelyn presented about a wide range of student-led activities that have happened or will be happening at SD91 schools in recent times.

** FSJSS Student Voice Representatives Kirby and Braelyn departed the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

8. <u>EDUCATION DIVISION</u>

8.1 EDUCATION UPDATE

Interim Superintendent M. Skinner summarized his monthly report to the Board, highlighting the following stories:

- Truth and Reconciliation Week learning and activities at many SD91 schools
- Enrollment update, the Ministry's 1701 funding calculations, and budget impacts
- SD91's 6th Annual Indigenous Education Conference for all staff
- October 28 online meeting for caregivers and families to learn about the annual Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) report and ask questions about the key data points within the FESL report
- FSJSS's learning outside the classroom opportunity that was recently featured on CKPG news
- KOH Learning wrap-up event on October 4

Interim Superintendent M. Skinner shared an update from Director of Instruction C. McKay regarding Inclusive Curriculum & School Environment. Improving outcomes for children and youth in care is a high priority for the Inclusive Education department this year, and staff are developing a survey to gather information to guide our work as we focus more deeply on this priority.

Director of Instruction M. Gauthier highlighted plans about three projects to support the District's strategic plan goal regarding Strengthening Partnerships:

- Visual arts themed partnership with Simon Fraser Institute that includes SFU
 instructors visiting our schools, an opportunity for students to visit SFU and learn
 about its arts program offerings, and a November 18 session for students to work
 with a visiting graphic artist and learn about creating graphic novels.
- Continued work with SD28, SD57, CNC and UNBC to expand dual credit opportunities available to secondary school students including offerings related to some of the most-needed careers in our local region.

Adopted: November 18, 2024

 CNC has also reached out to SD91 for further engagement to plan more course offerings for all members in our SD91 communities.

8.2 OUT-OF-COUNTRY FIELD/SPORTS TRIP REQUEST

A. FINAL APPROVAL REQUEST

There was discussion about the approval request for FLESS Travel Group students to travel to Japan from March 24 to April 1, 2025.

24-70 MOVED and SECONDED

THAT final approval be given to selected FLESS students to travel to Japan from March 24 to April 1, 2025.

Carried

9. **OPERATIONS DIVISION**

9.1 FINANCE

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer K. Black presented the First Quarter Financial Update. Discussion followed.

9.2 2023-2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer D. Turner reported that the 2023-2024 Audited Financial Statements as well as a one-page informational document are now available for public viewing on the SD91 website.

9.3 <u>2024-2025 AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET</u>

Secretary-Treasurer D. Turner advised that there will be a November 4 meeting for the Budget and Finance Committee to review and discuss the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget.

9.4 <u>CAPITAL PLAN UPDATE - BUSES</u>

Secretary-Treasurer D. Turner reported that the Ministry discovered an error in their Capital Plan request system and had recently announced that SD91 could increase our request for additional school buses.

9.5 SITES

A. GRASSY PLAINS DAYCARE

Interim Superintendent M. Skinner thanked the SD91 Facilities Department for sharing the October 11, 2024, update from PRD Construction Ltd. regarding the Grassy Plains Daycare construction project. The construction work began in September 2024.

B. FSJSS SPORTS FIELD

Interim Superintendent M. Skinner reported that the FSJSS sports field is not up to standard for use by students and may be de-activated until sufficient repair work can be done. This project will be placed with high priority on the District's Annual Facilities Grant list.

9.6 SUPERINTENDENT HIRING PROCESS

Chairperson D. Christie provided an update about the Superintendent hiring process, including:

- There were many good candidates in the applicant pool. The Board worked with consultant Anne Cooper to shortlist the candidates who will move to the interview stage.
- Interviews are scheduled for October 29 and 30, 2024, and the Board expects to make a hiring decision shortly thereafter.

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2024 Adopted: November 18, 2024				
11.	ADJOURN	<u>IMENT</u>		
	24-71	MOVED and SECONDED		
		THAT the Meeting of Monday, October 21, 2024, adjourn at 7:10 p.m.		
		Carried		

Dave Christie, Chairperson

School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes)

Darlene Turner, Secretary-Treasurer