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**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 6:00PM**

**TRUSTEES:** C. Dixon, R. Farrell, S. Gascon, A. Murphy, D. Simon

**STAFF:** A. Davidson, P. Dubinsky, M. McLellan

**GUESTS:** Valley Voice

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM

*We gratefully acknowledge that we live, work, and learn on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Sinixt Peoples, and we honour their ongoing presence on the land.*

**2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda**

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved: 2023.12.19-1

**THAT** the agenda for this December 19, 2023 meeting is **ADOPTED**, as circulated.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved: 2023.12.19-2

**THAT** the minutes for the November 21, 2023 meeting are **ADOPTED**, as circulated.

**5. Presentations**

A. Good News Report

Trustee Farrell presented the Good News Report

**6. Superintendent's Report**

A. Strong Start Update

Superintendent Dubinsky reported that NELCCC is bustling, as are the long-standing Strong Start centers throughout the District. There are Strong Start Programs in New Denver and Nakusp with Burton, Edgewood and Fauquier being outreach centers. The programs are seeing increased enrollment and wait lists. Because of high Enrollment at Burton Elementary School, the previously used classroom by Strong Start was no longer solely available to them. Dubinsky described the school's creative solution to continue Strong Start at Burton with limited space by sharing the classroom. The Superintendent presented a video from Mr. Cook, Principal

at Burton Elementary School, which shows the moving of cabinets, etc. Ms. McLean, Strong Start Coordinator, shared how the transition was going and shared that everyone helped and created. Ms. McLean shared that all students have a leadership role and help prepare for the Strong Start transition. Ms. Wallis shared what it is like having her students share a classroom for lunch with Ms. Walmsley's class. Ms. Wallis thinks it is a benefit to both the younger and the older kids.

Superintendent Dubinsky reiterated that the process and transition have been positive for all.

**B. Childhood Experiences Questionnaire**

Superintendent Dubinsky detailed a survey created by the Early Learning Partnership. The CHEQ was for parents of students entering kindergarten. The report is important for primary teachers to examine, and he highlighted crucial areas. The schools provided a computer so parents could fill the questionnaire out at school, but most parents filled it out at home.

There was a discussion regarding time outside and risk-taking based on a survey question.

A Trustee asked for confirmation that 70% took the survey and 30% did not, which was confirmed.

**7. Trustee, Committee and Organization Reports**

Reports are posted on the District website.

**8. Financial Report**

Secretary-Treasurer McLellan presented the monthly financial report in detail. He reported that District expenditures are in line with the budget and revenue updates.

**9. Unfinished Business**

**A. 4-Day School Week**

Superintendent Dubinsky gave an update on the 4-day School Week process. The survey for parents, staff and students closed on December 5<sup>th</sup>. The Board met with partner groups last week to review survey results.

Secretary-Treasurer McLellan gave a presentation of the surveys' results. One survey each for families, staff and students. The parent group had 163 respondents, with 1/3 of the parents responding. He provided highlights of the survey responses.

Following a question from a Trustee, McLellan noted that the District did not ask about bussing in the survey.

McLellan presented the results of the student survey, which had over 180 respondents, and the staff survey, which had over 100 respondents.

A Trustee inquired as to how many people were on staff at SD10, and McLellan responded that there were over 150, including TTOCs and casuals.

A Trustee asked if the Board wanted any more data and could reach out to staff, which was confirmed.

**10. New Business**

**A. Trustee Appointments**

The Chair stated that he would be making appointments until the end of the term but reviewed every year.

A Trustee asked why the Chamber Committee was listed as “TBD”. A discussion ensued about whether there was a contribution being made in having a Trustee join the chambers. A discussion ensued, including:

- The benefit for summer students.
- A Trustee confirmed they were introduced as guests at a chamber meeting.

The Chair stated that unless the Chamber reaches out and requests a trustee, the Board will not appoint someone to a Chamber.

A Trustee suggested reaching out to the chamber and letting them know the District and Board have an open-door policy.

B. Policy 110 – The Board’s Purpose & Values

Superintendent Dubinsky noted his appreciation for the work the Board did on the Strategic Plan.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved: 2023.12.19-3

**THAT** the Board of Education adopt Policy 110 – The Board’s Purpose & Values

C. Policy 542 – Whistleblower Protection – Secretary-Treasurer McLellan

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved: 2023.12.19-4

**THAT** the Board of Education rescind Policy 542 – Whistleblower Protection

D. Policy Manual Updates

Secretary-Treasurer McLellan explained that the Policy Committee met and agreed to improvements to the structure of the policy manual.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved: 2023.12.19-5

**THAT** the Board of Education rename Policy Section 400 from Educational Leadership to District Leadership and renumber Policy 430 to Policy 305 – School Closure and Reconfiguration.

E. Notice of Motions Regarding Policies

A notice of motion was noted as follows:

**THAT** the Board of Education adopt or amend the following policies:

- Policy 120 – Role of The Board & Governance
- Policy 121 – Trustee Code of Conduct
- Policy 125 – Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
- Policy 130 – Delegation of Authority
- Policy 410 – Role of the Superintendent
- Policy 412 – Evaluation of the Superintendent
- Policy 415 – Role of the Secretary-Treasurer
- Policy 421 – Evaluation of Exempt Staff

**11. Next Meeting Dates**

- A. Meeting of the Board in Public: January 16, 2024
- B. Meeting of the Board in Public: February 20, 2024

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58



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S. Gascon  
Chairperson



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M. McLellan  
Secretary-Treasurer