
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
MINUTES**

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

Attendees: All Trustees, Superintendent Dubinsky, Secretary-Treasurer McLellan

Presenters: Chelsea Hanet (Mental Health Coordinator), Stephanie Mervyn (REACH), Erin Collinson (Learning Technology Helper Teacher)

Guests: Barbara White (CUPE), Valley Voice, JD Mah

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 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 or Deletions to the Agenda

3. Adoption of Agenda

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

THAT the Board of Education hereby **ADOPTS** agenda for December 17, 2024, as circulated.

4. Adoption of Minutes

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

THAT the Board of Education hereby **ADOPTS** the minutes from the annual organizational meeting held in public on November 19, 2024, as circulated.

THAT the Board of Education hereby **ADOPTS** the minutes from the regular meeting held in public on November 19, 2024, as circulated.

5. Presentations

A. Good News Report

The Superintendent presented the good news report.

6. Superintendent's Report

A. Learning Technology Teacher

Erin Collinson presented the work she had done to establish a new program of support for technologies, including details about the process followed to identify each classroom's needs and the type of technologies being pursued. Trustees asked questions regarding how to ensure that it is not a "new initiative" that dies on the vine, that there aren't too many apps, and how to set boundaries for teachers around using different technologies, which were responded to by Ms. Collinson.

B. Rural Education Academy of Cooperative & Hands-on Learning (REACH)

Stephanie Mervyn presented the REACH program, explaining its impacts and benefits to students and the experience she brings to the program from her career as a teacher. Trustees asked various questions, including how kids join the program. Ms. Mervyn explained that the program is presented to interested students each year and how many students should join it. The Superintendent added that providing another option for students is beneficial, yet enrollment has declined.

C. Mental Health Coordinator

Chelsea Hanet presented some of the work she does to support students' mental health. Superintendent Dubinsky added that Ms. Hanet works throughout the district, and we receive funding from the MECC, which the district reports on each year. Ms. Mervyn continued that she is invited into classrooms where her services are needed. She's added wellness initiatives, Art Circles, and workshops with artists. Trustees made inquiries regarding the extent to which adult volunteers are involved and whether they are paid or not, to which they responded affirmatively.

7. Trustee, Committee and Organization Reports

8. Financial Report

There was no financial report presented. The following financial report will be provided at the January meeting.

9. Unfinished Business

A. Committee Appointments

10. New Business

A. Policies

- Bylaw No. 20 – Organization & Operations of the Board of Education
- Policy 125 – Board Chair and Vice Chair – Election, Roles & Responsibilities

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

THAT the Board of Education hereby **ADOPTS** Bylaw No. 20 – Organization & Operations of the Board of Education, replacing Bylaw No. 19.

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

THAT the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** Policy 125 – Board Chair and Vice-Chair – Election, Roles and Responsibilities.

B. Notice of Motions Regarding Policies

The Chair noted that a notice of motion is provided for adopting a policy or bylaw at the next board meetings open to the public. The following two policies will be proposed for adoption at the board meeting open to the public on January 21, 2025:

THAT the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** Policy 532 – Respectful Workplace & Employee Code of Conduct.

THAT the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** Policy 370 – Field Trips.

11. Questions from the Public

12. Next Meeting Dates

The Chair noted the following forthcoming meeting dates:

- A. Policy Committee Meeting: January 9, 2025
- B. Board Meeting Open to the Public: January 21, 2025
- C. [2024-2025 Board Meetings](#) are posted on the [Board Meetings Information Page](#).

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

S. Gascon
Chairperson

M. McLellan
Secretary-Treasurer