

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)

MINUTES of the **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held via virtual meeting at Kimberley, Golden and Invermere locations, B.C., - **MAY 11, 2021.**

Present:	Amber Byklum	Chairperson
	Jane Fearing	Vice-Chairperson
	Sandra Smaill	Vice-Chairperson
	Ronald McRae	Trustee
	Scott King	Trustee
	Ryan Stimming	Trustee
	Rhonda Smith	Trustee
	Jane Thurgood Sagal	Trustee
	Betty-Lou Barrett	Trustee
	Karen Shipka	Superintendent of Schools
	Dale Culler	Secretary Treasurer
	Members of Senior Management	
	General Public	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Byklum called the meeting to order at 19:02 hours.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

Chairperson Byklum acknowledged that this meeting is being held on the shared traditional territory of the Ktunaxa and Secwepemc people.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/S FEARING / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the agenda as circulated.

CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETINGS

4.1 Regular Meeting: 2021.4.13

M/S SMAILL / MCRAE

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held on April 13, 2021 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4.2 Synopsis of In-Camera Meeting: 2021.4.13

4.2.1 Property Matters: Nil

4.2.2 Legal Matters: Nil

4.2.3 Personnel Matters:

4.2.3.1 The Personnel Report – Pending Board Approval – The Board approved nine (9) Teacher personal leave of absence requests and one (1) Exempt personal leave of absence request as presented.

4.2.3.2 The Personnel Information Report was received and filed as circulated.

4.2.3.3 The Labour Relations Information Report was received and filed as circulated.

4.2.4 Student Matters:

4.2.4.1 The Board was provided with an update on the district practice regarding cleaning products used by the District.

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Rocky Mountain International Student Program

Amy Shoup

Amy Shoup, Manager International Education Program provided the Board with an update on the Rocky Mountain International Education Program (RMISP). Ms. Shoup reported that during this current school year she had expected about 199 students (142.4 FTE); however due to cancellations and deferrals because of the COVID-19 pandemic the actual number of students attending programs are 73 (43.3 FTE). These results are typical across all International programs in the province. For the upcoming 2021-22 school year Ms. Shoup is expecting 170 students (155 FTE); however she is still getting applications for second semester which could result in about 170 FTE for second semester. Ms Shoup indicated that the Province of Nova Scotia has cancelled all their International programs for 2021-22 and she is working on getting applications from their program for placement in School District 91 (Nechako Lakes). Ms. Shoup also reviewed the demographics of applications by student's country of origin and indicated that there are student applications from several new countries of origin. Ms. Shoup reviewed the Rocky Rewards program with the Board where students can earn a five (5) day trip to Vancouver. Ms. Shoup responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her presentation.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES Nil

7. STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

7.1 Policy Development:

7.1.1 Third Reading:

Karen Shipka

7.1.1.1 Policy 4105, Staff Conflict of Interest

Ms. Shipka presented the Board with the proposed amendment for the policy for third reading. Ms. Shipka indicated that there has been no feedback received or changes made since second reading. The Policy Committee is recommending that the Board consider third and final reading of the policy at this meeting.

M/S SMAILL / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve third and final reading of Policy 4105, Staff Conflict of Interest at this meeting.

CARRIED

7.1.2 Second Reading:

Nil

7.1.3 First Reading: Nil

8. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

8.1 2021-22 Annual Budget Dale Culler

Mr. Culler presented the 2021 – 2022 Annual Budget Bylaw for the Board’s approval. Mr. Culler reviewed the District’s revenue sources and proposed expenditures in detail. Mr. Culler explained that the Finance and Audit Committee met to review and provide input into the budget and is recommending that the Board consider first and second readings of the 2021 – 2022 Annual Budget Bylaw at this meeting. Mr. Culler responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his presentation.

M/S STIMMING / KING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) unanimously agree to proceed with both first and second readings of the 2021 – 2022 Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2021 – 2022 at this meeting.

CARRIED

M/S KING / STIMMING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve first reading of the 2021 – 2022 Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2021 – 2022 at this meeting.

CARRIED

M/S KING / FEARING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve second reading of the 2021 – 2022 Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2021 – 2022 at this meeting.

CARRIED

8.2 Board of Education, Schedule of Meetings, 2021 – 2022 Karen Shipka

Ms. Shipka presented the Board of Education, Schedule of Meetings for the school year 2021-22 for Board consideration. Ms. Shipka responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her presentation.

M/S FEARING / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the Board of Education, Schedule of Meetings for the 2021 – 2022 school year as presented at this meeting.

CARRIED

8.3 School Fees, 2021 – 2022 Karen Shipka

Ms. Shipka reported that annually in May the Board approves school fees for the upcoming school year in compliance with the *BC School Act*. Ms. Shipka reviewed the fees that the schools propose to charge parents in 2021-22 for various activities and programs that are permissible within the guidelines of the *Act*. Once approved, the fee schedule will be made available on the district website for parents to access. Ms. Shipka responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her report.

M/S THURGOOD SAGAL / SMAILL

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the School Fees for the 2021 – 2022 school year as presented at this meeting.

CARRIED

9. REPORTS

9.1 BC School Trustees Association

Jane Fearing

Trustee Fearing indicated that Trustee Smith attended the last meeting on her behalf. Trustee Smith reported that the main item on the agenda was approval of the budget, which was passed at that meeting.

9.2 BC School Trustees Association, Kootenay-Boundary Branch

Jane Thurgood Sagal

Trustee Thurgood Sagal provided an update on the branch meeting. She reported on a number of professional development opportunities. There will be a doodle poll sent out to Trustees to rank topics of interest.

9.3 Public School Employers' Association

Sandra Smaill

Trustee Smaill indicated that she had nothing to report.

9.4 Safe Return Grant Spending

Jacinda Harding

Ms. Harding presented the Board with an update on the Provincial and Federal COVID-19 special purpose grants received by the District for the 2020-21 fiscal year. The District received \$291,299 from the Provincial grant and \$1,262,309 from the Federal grant. Ms. Harding reported that the Provincial grant has five components and she reviewed the spending to date for each of them. Ms. Harding reported that the Federal grant has three cost categories and she reviewed the spending to date for each of those as well. Ms. Harding responded to questions indicating that she will continue to monitor spending for each of the grants. The Chairperson thanked her for her report.

9.5 Celebration of Student Success

Karen Shipka

Ms. Shipka reported that there has been a shift away from the requirement for Schools to include a celebration of student success at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year to the Board. Schools did not want to celebrate COVID and instead they want to share their new operational plans, which have identified strategies and goals for the upcoming school year that align with the draft District strategic and operational plans, and the Framework for Enhanced Student Learning (FESL). Ms. Shipka reported that FESL is a framework designed to increase overall accountability and all districts must have finalized strategic and operational plans completed and approved by the Ministry by September 30, 2021. Ms. Shipka responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her report.

9.6 Operational Grant Holdback Allocation

Steve Wyer

Mr. Wyer presented the Board with an overview of the plan to utilize the Operational Grant Holdback in the amount of \$42,635. Mr. Wyer reported that the funds must be used to address learning impacts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Wyer reported that he is working with principals to develop programming to support students in grades K – 2 who have developed reading gaps. Mr. Wyer responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his report.

9.7 Needs Assessment Process

Viveka Johnson

Ms. Johnson presented the Board with a report on the Needs Assessment process that the District follows to determine staffing requirements for students with special needs. The Ministry provides funding to Districts based on the number of students with level 1, 2, or 3 designated students, which creates inequities for rural primary (K – 3) schools to get the required documentation in place for certain designations. Ms. Johnson reported that as a result these students still require supports even though the

Ministry does not directly fund those students. Ms. Johnson reported that the process the District follows provides a more equitable method of resource allocation especially for the K – 3 schools where the resource allocation supports student needs regardless of Ministry funding. Ms. Johnson emphasized that level 1, 2, and 3 funding is not targeted and that there is no requirement to spend any specific amount on a student regardless of designation. Ms. Johnson responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her report.

9.8 Highway Closure

Steve Jackson

Mr. Jackson reported to the Board that the first Trans-Canada highway closure for the Kicking Horse Canyon Project is nearing completion. Mr. Jackson reported that communication with the Ministry of Transportation (MOT) has been good and they have been responsive at addressing the District's concerns on how the increased traffic flow on highway 95 may affect safety of bus stops. The Ministry has put up additional signs and flashing banners at Radium to alert motorists. They also sent out flyers to truckers that are not used to bus stops on major highways. Mr. Jackson also indicated that there is increased police presence on highway 95 between Golden and Radium. Mr. Jackson reported that the second phase in the fall will be a longer extended closure; therefore we need to use this first phase as a learning opportunity. Mr. Jackson responded to questions indicating that he would take the feedback to the MOT liaison committee. The Chairperson thanked him for his report.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

10.1 Correspondence

10.2 May and June 2021 Calendar

Circulated

11. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2021.05.25 Policy Committee Meeting, via Teleconference, 5:00 pm
2021.06.01 Labour Relations Committee Meeting, via Teleconference, 8:30 am
2021.06.08 Board Meeting, Martin Morigeau Elementary school, In-Camera Meeting, 6:00 pm
2021.06.08 Board Meeting, Martin Morigeau Elementary school Meeting, 7:00 pm

12. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Nil

13. ADJOURNMENT

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 20:41 hours

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer