

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., - **MARCH 9, 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 19:04 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 KING / THURGOOD SAGAL

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: 2021.2.9

M/S STIMMING / FEARING

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held on February 9, 2021 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4.2 Synopsis of In-Camera Meeting: 2021.2.9

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 was received and filed 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.

4.2.3.4 Golden Teachers’ Association (FSA Letter) – the Board authorized Administration to respond that the Board will continue to move forward with FSA testing as planned.

4.2.4 Student Matters: Nil

5. **PRESENTATIONS** Nil

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** Nil

7. **STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES**

7.1 Policy Development:

7.1.1 Third Reading: Nil

7.1.2 Second Reading: Karen Shipka

7.1.2.1 Policy 4104, Departing Exempt Employee Compensation

7.1.2.2 Policy 4950, Service Recognition

Ms. Shipka presented the Board with the proposed amendments for the above two (2) policies for second reading. Ms. Shipka indicated that all the proposed amendments include feedback received since the last reading to correct minor grammatical errors. The Policy Committee is recommending that the Board consider second reading of both policies at this meeting.

M/S THURGOOD SAGAL / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve second reading of the following policies at this meeting:

- Policy 4104, Departing Exempt Employee Compensation; and
- Policy 4950, Service Recognition.

CARRIED

7.1.3 First Reading:

7.1.3.1 Policy 4105, Staff Conflict of Interest Karen Shipka

Ms. Shipka reported that the policy ensures fair and equitable hiring and supervisory practices within the district. The Policy Committee is recommending that the Board consider first reading of the policy at this meeting.

M/S KING / SMAILL

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

CARRIED

8. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

8.1 Legacy of Learning Partnership

Viveka Johnson

Ms. Johnson reported that the Board received a partnership proposal from the Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History to participate in the Legacy of Learning project. The Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History is a non-profit society dedicated to furthering the preservation, documentation and presentation of the Columbia River's human and natural history. Ms. Johnson reported that the society is asking for a financial contribution of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars to help document, showcase and keep history alive for students. Ms. Johnson responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her presentation.

M/S SMITH / SMAILL

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) support the partnership with the Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History in the amount of \$5,000 for procurement, development, and display of resources as presented.

CARRIED

8.2 French Support

Steve Wyer

Mr. Wyer provided a report that examined the allocation of French resources across the district. Currently the district offers Core French in all three communities, Intensive French in Invermere and Kimberley, and French Immersion in Golden. Mr. Wyer shared evidence that enrollment is strong when students enter the program however the number of students who complete grade 12 French programming is significantly reduced. Mr. Wyer explained the district receives a grant to support French across the district and currently there is a disproportionate amount that is allocated to the Golden zone supporting French in Kindergarten to grade 4 classrooms where there is no provincial curriculum. Mr. Wyer also commented on the recruitment challenges faced by the district and asked the Board to support reallocation of that teaching position to one of the French Immersion programs in Golden, which would lead to an equitable reallocation of the grant funding across the district. Mr. Wyer responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his presentation.

M/S MCRAE / STIMMING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) support district administration to re-allocate the resources currently spent in Golden toward a more equitable distribution among all communities and schools responsible for Core French.

Several Trustees wanted more information about the redistribution of the resources and presented a motion to table the item until the May board meeting.

M/S SMAILL / BARRETT

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) table the motion until the May board meeting.

DEFEATED

M/S MCRAE / STIMMING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) support district administration to re-allocate the resources currently spent in Golden toward a more equitable distribution among all communities and schools responsible for Core French.

CARRIED

9. REPORTS

9.1 Budget Utilization Summary February 2021

Mr. Culler presented the Board with the February budget utilization summary. Mr. Culler indicated that the report now includes the budget amounts from the 2020-21 Amended Annual budget. Mr. Culler indicated that the variances are as expected now that the operating budget has amounts that are reallocated to the special purpose funds, primarily the classroom enhancement funds and the provincial and federal COVID-19 grants. Mr. Culler also reported that the report reflects an additional local capital reserve transfer approved by the Board for the purchase of five acres of undeveloped land adjacent to Eileen Madson Primary School. Mr. Culler responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his report.

9.2 BC School Trustees Association

Jane Fearing

Trustee Fearing provided an update on the development of the BC Tripartite Agreement handbook that she reported on at the previous Board meeting.

9.3 BC School Trustees Association, Kootenay-Boundary Branch

Jane Thurgood Sagal

Trustee Thurgood Sagal indicated that she had nothing to report.

9.4 Public School Employers' Association

Sandra Smaill

Trustee Smaill indicated that she had nothing to report.

9.5 SOGI Board Report

Viveka Johnson

Ms. Johnson provided the Board with an update on the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) program. Ms. Johnson reported that the Ministry of Education requires references to SOGI in all school districts' codes of conduct throughout the Province. Ms. Johnson indicated that she will need to continue to provide training for staff. Ms. Johnson shared that there is a SOGI lead in each school across the district and that SOGI is a regular agenda item on all staff meetings. Ms. Johnson responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her report.

9.6 Early Learning

Viveka Johnson

Ms. Johnson provided the Board with an update on the work being done across the Province to meet the Ministry of Education's mandate for Early Learning under the *School Act*. The shift from the Ministry of Children Care is beginning to unfold and there is significant preparation to be done. This work will require significant development of community partnerships in all the communities in the district to fully understand the possibilities. Through the SEY2K program being piloted at Eileen Madson Primary School the district has a head start developing community partnerships in Invermere. Ms. Shipka added that she is proposing that a new position be posted that will work in all three communities to first develop a plan for the Board to consider. Ms. Shipka indicated that there is a significant amount of work that needs to be done and she anticipates that this position would start in May of 2021. Ms. Johnson reported that this position would also work in partnership with the StrongStart and Ready, Set, Learn early learning programs. Ms. Johnson responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her report.

13. ADJOURNMENT

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 20:26 hours

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer