

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETINGS

4.1 Regular Meeting: 2023.11.14

M/S STIMMING / KING

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held on November 14, 2023 be approved as presented.

APPROVED

4.2 Synopsis of in camera meeting: 2023.11.14 Alan Rice

4.2.1 Property matters: NIL

4.2.2 Legal Matters:

4.2.2.1 Volunteer drivers

4.2.3 Personnel Matters:

4.2.3.1 The Employee Information Report was received and filed as circulated.

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

4.2.3.3 Well at work

4.2.3.4 Correspondence

4.2.3.5 Superintendent growth plan

4.2.4 Student Matters: NIL

4.2.5 Procedural Matters: NIL

5. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS NIL

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NIL

7. STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

7.1.1 Policies Under Review feedback NIL

7.1.2 Third Reading: NIL

7.1.3 Second Reading: NIL

7.1.4 First Reading

7.1.4.1 Policy 4400, Non-certified Teachers On-call

Mr. Wyer reported that in order to provide continuous, well-directed educational programs for students, the Board of Education may elect to employ non-certified teachers as per language in B22.1 and 2 of the collective agreement between School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) and the Rocky Mountain Teachers' Association.

M/S STIMMING / KING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve first reading of policy 4400 presented at this meeting.

APPROVED

8. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

NIL

8.1 Draft School Calendars Report

Steve Wyer

Mr. Wyer presented the draft 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 school calendars. Each calendar requires a 60-day public consultation in order to comply with *School Act* and District Bylaw requirements by May 31, 2024. The district calendar for 2024-2025 requires final approval following a 60-day consultation process. The District seeks approval in principle for the district calendar 2026-2027.

M/S KING / THURGOOD SAGAL

THAT the Board of Education for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve, at first reading, the DRAFT 2024-2025 as the FINAL calendar.

APPROVED

M/S STIMMING / KING

THAT the Board of Education for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve, at first reading, the DRAFT calendar for 2026-2027 in principle.

APPROVED

8.2 Research in Schools

Steve Wyer

In the fall of 2023, the Board of Education approved a policy 2350 that outlines the process for researchers to apply to the Board of Education to conduct research studies in schools. The Board of Education considered two research applications. One from the University of Calgary entitled, *Cross-Sectional Injury Survey in Rural and Indigenous Communities* and the second from Student's Commission of Canada, Queens University entitled: *Sharing the Stories (Phase 2)*.

M/S SMITH / STIMMING

THAT the Board of Education for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the research application from University of Calgary as presented.

APPROVED

M/S SMITH / FEARING

THAT the Board of Education for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve the research application from Queens University as presented.

APPROVED

- 8.3 Groundswell Network Society request to serve alcohol at DTSS Alan Rice
District Practice 6000: Community Use of School District Property and Facilities, section 2.3 states, "Alcohol is only permitted on District property if permission is obtained from the Board of Education. A copy of a valid liquor license must be provided to the District Administration Office". Groundswell Network Society (Groundswell) has requested permission from the Board of Education to serve alcohol at an event at the Greenhouse which it operates at DTSS.

M/S THURGOOD SAGAL / FEARING

THAT the Board of Education for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve that alcohol may be served in the Groundswell Greenhouse area only for the Groundswell Network Society events December 15-16, and 22-23, 2023.

APPROVED
(Stimming abstained)

9. REPORTS

- 9.1 Budget utilization report Alan Rice
Mr. Rice presented the Board of Education a report on year-to-date operating expenditures compared to budget and prior year Expenditures to date are below budget by 0.47% and greater than the prior year by \$1,629,000 for the same timeframe. The operating variance of actual to budget for year-to-date is considered reasonable.

- 9.2 Land acknowledgements Trent Dolgopol
The Board received an update on the status of land acknowledgements. Recent dialogue with local First Nations has indicated a desire for Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 to revise the current land acknowledgement. Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 should take the appropriate steps to revise the current land acknowledgement to reflect the input provided by local First Nations and supported in many reference documents.

M/S FEARING / OAKLEY

THAT the Board of Education approve an immediate change to the District Land Acknowledgement for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) to "School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) is located on the traditional unceded territories of the Ktunaxa and Secwépemc Nations. We honour the cultures, languages, and First Nations people of these territories."

APPROVED

M/S FEARING / SMITH

THAT the Board of Education support further engagement of local First Nations with the intention of establishing a Land Acknowledgement for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) that affirms alignment with the interests of the First Nations of these territories.

APPROVED

- 9.3 Technology update Trent Dolgopol
The Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 Technology Team (Tech Systems Support) continues to implement strategies that support priorities outlined in the District Strategic Plan and District Technology Plan. Recently, the Tech Systems Support Team has seen staffing changes with a new IT Manager being hired to fill a vacancy resulting from a resignation. As a result of this change, the hiring of an additional Tech Systems Specialist has been delayed. A Tech Leaders Network in-person meeting was hosted on Monday, November 24th. During this meeting there was a focus on the use of AI (Artificial Intelligence), including sharing about tools currently available, exploring a few of the tools, and discussion about how they can be utilized. A 2023-2024 Technology Learning Plan has been developed which includes offering continued learning opportunities on non-instructional days, as well as throughout the school year at different times that are intended to be accessible to the respective audiences.
- 9.4 Operational plan update Steve Wyer
In the fall of 2023, Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 embarked on a new four-year strategic cycle. The four priorities of this cycle are advanced by the specific actions outlined in the operational plan each year. To keep the Board informed, the Senior Leadership Team will share updates to the operational plan when new evidence and data is available. Monitoring the progress of the operational plan allows the District to adjust and refine objectives in order to have a better chance of meeting the expected outcomes of the plan.
- 9.5 BC School Trustees Association: Jane Thurgood Sagal
Trustee Thurgood Sagal reported on the BCSTA Trustee Academy that was held from November 23-25, 2023 in Vancouver. She provided Trustees with upcoming dates for virtual trustee orientation, Provincial Council, and the BCSTA Regional Leadership Series. She also shared with the Board of Education that a recording of a previous virtual orientation was now available on the BCSTA Hub.
- 9.5 BC School Trustees Association, Kootenay Boundary Branch (KBB): Rhonda Smith
Trustee Smith reported that the Board could still discuss and develop any motions to take to the motion building session in late January. She thanked Trustee King for presenting the SD6 update at the breakfast meeting during the BCSTA Academy.

- 9.6 BC Public Schools Employers' Association: Scott King
Trustee King provided an overview of correspondence received from the BCPSEA since the last Board of Education meeting. Updates included the K-12 Hiring Incentives Working Group, local teacher bargaining procedure for the 2025 round of collective bargaining, implementation details for moving TTOCs enrollment in the school district's plans, amendments to the Government Body Designation (Public Interest Disclosure) Regulation, and French Teacher Recruitment Fund.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

10.1 Correspondence

10.1.1 Charlene Sundstrom correspondence received and responded to

10.1.2 Jamie Gilles correspondence received and responded to

10.2 December 2023 and January 2024 calendars

11. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

2023.12.12 –

2024.01.05 Winter Break

2024.01.09 Board of Education Meeting, Virtual

- In-Camera, 6:00 p.m.

- Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

2024.01.25-26 BCPSEA AGM, Virtual

12. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Caroline Carl, RMTA Local 18 President, asked a question regarding operational plan for keeping schools cool and well ventilated. Al Ure responded to her question.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Trustees agreed to adjourn by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at 20:03 hours.