

Rocky Mountain School District No. 6

MINUTES of the **REGULAR MEETING** of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held at Kimberley, Golden, and Invermere District Offices, B.C., – **February 13, 2024**

Present:	Amber Byklum	Chairperson
	Jane Fearing	Vice-Chairperson
	Betty-Lou Barrett	Trustee
	Scott King	Trustee
	Darryl Oakley	Trustee
	Rhonda Smith	Trustee
	Ryan Stimming	Trustee
	Jane Thurgood Sagal	Trustee
	Alan Rice	Secretary Treasurer
	Steve Wyer	Assistant Superintendent
	Sharon Collin	Director of Instruction, Instruction and Learning
	Trent Dolgopol	Director of Instruction, Technology and Innovative Learning
	Crystal MacLeod	Director of Instruction, Early Learning and Child Care
	Al Ure	Director of Operations
	Danielle Warren	Director of International Education
	Amanda Garand	Manager, Human Resources
	Jacinda Harding	Manager, Finance
	Stacey Ursulescu	Executive Assistant
Apologies:	Ron McRae	Vice Chairperson
	Karen Shipka	Superintendent of School

* via Microsoft Teams

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Byklum called the meeting to order at 19:00 hours.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

Chairperson Byklum acknowledged that School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) resides in the traditional unceded territory of the Ktunaxa and Secwépemc Nations. We honour the cultures, languages, and First Nations people of these territories.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

M/S THURGOOD SAGAL / FEARING

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

APPROVED

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PRIOR MEETINGS

4.1 Regular Meeting: 2024.01.09

M/S KING / STIMMING

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) held on January 9, 2024 be approved as presented.

APPROVED

4.2 Synopsis of in camera meeting: 2024.01.09 Alan Rice

4.2.1 Property matters: NIL

4.2.2 Legal Matters:

4.2.2.1 Confidential correspondence with the Board of Education

4.2.2.2 Correspondence received and filed from Duncan Whittick

4.2.2.3 SD93 request for space

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 Employee outcome review

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

7.1.2 Third Reading:

7.1.2.1 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. Mr. Wyer reviewed feedback that was received on Policy 4400, Non-certified Teachers On-call.

M/S STIMMING / FEARING

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

APPROVED

7.1.3 Second Reading: NIL

7.1.4 First Reading

7.1.4.1 Policy 7000, Transportation of students on regular bus routes

Mr. Wyer discussed transportation assistance. The proposed amendment would see that transportation assistance rate tied to the collective agreement between the Rocky Mountain School District Board of Education and Rocky Mountain Teachers' Association. The rate for transportation assistance will be 75% of the rate described in district practice 3800.

M/S SMITH / FEARING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve first reading of policy 7000 presented at this meeting.

APPROVED

8. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

8.1 2023-24 Amended Budget Alan Rice

In accordance with section 113 of the *School Act* the Minister is requiring Amended Annual Budgets to be prepared, adopted by bylaw and submitted by February 29, 2024. The Finance and Audit Committee met on February 6, 2024 to review the Amended Annual Budget. Mr. Rice presented the Amended Annual Budget to the Board of Education at this meeting and responded to questions. The recommendation from the Finance and Audit Committee meeting was to approve all three readings of the Bylaw.

M/S STIMMING / OAKLEY

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve all three readings of the 2023-2024 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw at this meeting.

APPROVED

M/S BARRETT / STIMMING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve first reading of the 2023-2024 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$64,221,567.

APPROVED

M/S BARRETT / KING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve second reading of the 2023-2024 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$64,221,567.

APPROVED

M/S BARRETT / FEARING

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) approve third and final reading of the 2023-2024 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$64,221,567.

APPROVED

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 0.48% and greater than the prior year by \$1,971,000 for the same timeframe. The operating variance of actual to budget for year-to-date is considered reasonable.

9.2 Childcare facility update

Alan Rice

Since launching in July 2018, the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund has accelerated the creation of new licensed childcare, helping families who want or need to access affordable, quality childcare and strengthening communities across BC. To date, two projects have been approved in School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain). Both projects are progressing on time, and on budget.

9.3 BC Adolescent Health Survey results

Sharon Collin

Students participated in the 2023 BC Adolescent Health Survey in the spring of 2023. Results specific to the district were shared with district staff in early December. The provincial report from the survey will be released on February 21, 2024, with 16 regional reports to follow shortly after that. Several themes emerged including mental health, relationships and connection, use of legal substances, and sexual health.

- 9.4 First nation school of choice Trent Dolgopol
 On November 7, 2023, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia passed Bill No. 40, *School Amendment Act*. The legislation identifies new requirements for First Nation schools of choice, model local education agreements, and Indigenous education councils. Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 continues to monitor the documentation and resources provided by the Ministry of Education and Child Care and will implement changes once additional guidance has been received.
- 9.5 Rocky Mountain International Student Program amended budget Danielle Warren
 The final 2023-24 full time equivalent (FTE) for the Rocky Mountain International Student Program (RMISP) will be 132, a partial shortfall from the budgeted amount of 150. This has resulted in a projected deficit of \$80,000 that will be covered by previous year's surpluses of the International Student Program. This is an improvement from the original budget estimate which projected \$119,000 deficit. Several factors impacting the budget and FTE were discussed. The Director of International Education will seek to continue to build the RMISP program with increased sustainability, quality, and transparency.
- 9.6 BCSTA surveys Amber Byklum
 Chairperson Byklum requested feedback on two surveys that need to be completed as a Board for the BCSTA. The first was a questionnaire regarding the BCSTA AGM in 2026. BCSTA is hosting the Canadian School Boards Association National Trustee Gathering in 2026. The organizers were seeking feedback on combining the BCSTA AGM and the National Trustee Gathering conference in 2026. The second survey sought feedback on the top three priorities in the District in preparation for advocacy initiatives in the next general election.
- 9.7 BC School Trustees Association Jane Thurgood Sagal
 Trustee Thurgood Sagal provided several updates. She first reported that a financial planning and accountability guide for Boards of Education is now available on the BCSTA Hub. She reminded Trustees of the leadership series being held in Nelson on May 25. She encouraged registration in the Season 4 of the TRC 57 speaker series presented by Ladysmith Public Schools. She shared additional information about a virtual orientation for trustees on financial management, cell phone ban in schools, a national trustee gathering hosted by BCSTA, and the upcoming provincial Council meeting on February 24, 2024 that Trustee Smith will be attending as the alternate.
- 9.8 BC School Trustees Association, Kootenay Boundary Branch (KBB) Rhonda Smith
 KBB had their motion building session in January and passed several motions. She indicated that she has registered for voter training and that she will be attending Provincial Council as the alternate representative on February 24.

- 9.9 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.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 10.1 Correspondence NIL
10.2 February and March 2024 calendars

11. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 2024.02.27 Policy Committee, Virtual, 4:30 p.m.
2024.02.28 Field Trip Committee, Virtual, 4:30 p.m.
2024.03.05 Labour Relations Committee meeting, Virtual, 12:30 p.m.
2024.03.12 Board of Education Meeting, Virtual
• In-Camera, 6:00 p.m.
• Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
2024.03.18 – Spring Break
2024.04.01

12. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Catherine McKenzie, co-president of the Rocky Mountain Teachers' Association asked a question regarding feedback received on Policy 4400, Non-certified Teachers On-call.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Trustees agreed to adjourn by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at 20:10 hours.