

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 58 (NICOLA-SIMILKAMEEN)**

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2012, 6:00 P.M.**

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PRESENT:	Chairman	G. Comeau
	Trustees	G. Swan D. Rainer D. Laird L. Ward T. Kroeker
	Superintendent	R. Peacock
	Secretary Treasurer	K. Black
	Assistant Superintendent	S. McNiven
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	L. Lutter

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**AGENDA**

12/008 **SWAN-KROEKER**

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**MINUTES**

12/009 **LAIRD-RAINER**

THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting held December 7, 2011 be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Literacy Update**

Literacy Helping Teacher Jennifer Denton provided an overview of her role and responsibilities as well as a number of initiatives that have been undertaken.

### **Work Experience Program Presentation**

District Vice Principal of Student Support Services, Jane Kempston provided an update on a new program recently launched called Pursuit. Pursuit is a work experience program aimed at students with intellectual disabilities, health challenges, mental health issues, social/emotional impairments, and sensory impairments.

### **Trades Program**

Merritt Secondary School Vice Principal Darren Coates advised that the TRU Welding Trailer will be coming to Merritt Secondary School in the last week of August 2012 with the program running to the end of January 2013. Currently, out of twelve available spots, eight seats have been awarded to students and one seat awarded to an adult.

### **Community Learning Centre (CLC) Hours**

Merritt Secondary School Vice-Principal Darren Coates provided a rationale of the proposed expansion of the CLC hours. Three examples were discussed in detail, in particular, an evening session.

12/010

### **RAINER-SWAN**

THAT approval in principle be given for the change of hours at the Community Learning Centre; and

THAT a pilot project be run in the second semester of the 2011/2012 school year to determine the best use of resources for both teachers and student needs.

**CARRIED**

### **Stein Valley Field Trip Presentation**

Merritt Secondary School Vice Principal Darren Coates presented an overview on two field trip proposals, a backpack trip to the Stein Valley in Lytton or a canoe trip to Clearwater Lake at Wells Gray Park. It was noted that the only one field trip would be chosen for students.

12/011

### **SWAN-WARD**

THAT approval in principle for the Merritt Secondary School field trip to either the Stein Valley in Lytton or to Clearwater Lake at Wells Gray park move forward in gathering student interest and be brought back to the Board for final approval

**CARRIED**

### **Field Trips**

The January 5, 2012 list of Superintendent approved field trips was circulated.

It was noted that Merritt Secondary School's Outdoor Education curricular practical experience ice fishing field trip to SX Ranch on Garcia Lake is a Level Four field trip.

12/012

**SWAN-RAINER**

THAT the Merritt Secondary School Outdoor Education ice fishing field trip to the SX Ranch on Garcia Lake January 19, 2012 be approved as requested, subject to the information required for a Level Four field trip being provided to the Superintendent and that appropriate fishing licenses are purchased.

**CARRIED**

**FSA Results**

Assistant Superintendent McNiven provided an overview of the FSA results for



He also noted that the Ministry recently announced that beginning 2012/2013, districts with declining student populations will be protected to at least 98.5% of the previous autumn funding level. For School District No. 58, this amounts to approximately \$375,000.

The Secretary Treasurer also reminded Trustees that funding protection is no longer in place for Distributed Learning Programs.

### **2012/2013 Budget Process**

The Secretary Treasurer circulated the budget plan process for the 2012/2013 annual budget. There was consensus that the proposed budget plan process including dates be accepted and sent out to stakeholders.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### **PAC Reports**

Trustees reported on the following meetings:

Trustee Swan on the Merritt Bench Elementary and Merritt Secondary School PAC meetings and Trustee Ward on the Vermillion Forks Elementary School PAC meeting.

### **Other Reports**

Chairman Comeau reminded Trustees of the BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch meeting to be held in Merritt on March 2-3, 2012.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following letters were received and action taken if necessary:

- The 2010/2011 Annual Report from the Ombudsperson
- BC Progress Board Benchmark Summary Report dated December 19, 2011.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary Treasurer