

**MINUTES**

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

**MERRITT BOARD OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016, 6:00 P.M.**

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PRESENT: Chairman

G. Comeau

Trustees

G. Ellingsen

B. Jepsen

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T. Kroeker

G. Swan

L. Ward

Student Trustees

R. Chhabra

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

### **Play is the Way**

The Superintendent introduced Merritt Central Elementary School Principal Leroy Slanzi who provided an overview of the Play is the Way initiative occurring at schools in Merritt.

Mr. Slanzi noted that Play is the Way is a practical methodology for teaching social and emotional skills using play or games. He noted that detentions are down 62% since the program started at Merritt Central School.

Mr. Slanzi advised of the following program details:

- A unique program of physically interactive games;
- Five guiding concepts that are embedded through classroom activities and serve as a moral compass to help children do what they believe is right as opposed to doing what they are told;
- A specific and empowering self-reflective language that helps children to master their behavior in preparation for a responsible life.

### **DPAC**

The Superintendent introduced DPAC Chairperson Renee Harrison. Ms. Harrison reported on her recent attendance at the BCCPAC annual conference.

She noted her vision for DPAC going forward as being an information hub where information would flow to and from the DPAC to PAC, the parent body BCCPAC as a whole to DPACs to PACs, and School Board of Education to DPAC to PAC.

She also provided the DPAC email address [sd58dpac@gmail.com](mailto:sd58dpac@gmail.com).

### **Trustee Representatives Secondary Graduations**

The Superintendent noted the trustee representatives are requested for the following graduations:

1. SCIDES
2. Merritt Secondary School
3. First Nations
4. Princeton Secondary School

Chairman Comeau will represent the Board at the SCIDES graduation on June 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Merritt Civic Centre. Trustee Swan will represent the Board at the Merritt Secondary School graduation on June 24, 2016 at the Merritt Arena and Trustee Ellingsen will represent the Board at the First Nations graduation on June 9, 2016 at the Merritt Civic Centre.

Trustees Ward or Rainer will represent the Board at the Princeton Secondary School graduation on June 25, 2016 at Princeton Secondary School.

**Human Resources Task List Update**

The Superintendent updated Trustees on the recent Motivation Based Interviewing seminar recently attend by senior staff. He noted the emergency planning work that is continuing to take place with the goal of having it completed by the end of the year.

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer advised of the implementation of the electronic leave of absence form for the district. She noted that it is being rolled out in phases with the first phase being the Board office and Operations staff.

**Vermilion Forks Elementary Playground**

The Secretary Treasurer reported the Vermilion Forks Elementary School playground install is currently in progress with an expected completion date of May 16, 2016.

**Field Trips**

The list of Superintendent approved field trips was circulated for information.

16/083

It was moved and seconded:

THAT approval be given for the Vermilion Forks Elementary School Grade 7 field trip to Eagle Bay Camp on May 3084

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Vandalism Report**

The Secretary Treasurer noted t

Trustee Jepsen for Diamond Vale and Merritt Central Elementary Schools, Trustee Swan for Merritt Secondary School and Merritt Bench Elementary School, Trustee Ward for Princeton Secondary School and Vermilion Forks, Trustee Ellingsen for Nicola-Canford Elementary School, and Trustee Comeau for John Allison Elementary School and Community Learning Centre.

### **Student Trustee Report**

Student Trustee Chhabra and McCormack reported on the numerous activities at Merritt Secondary School.

### **Dates for the Long Service/Retirement Teas**

The following dates and times were approved for the long service/retirement teas:

Princeton, June 6, 2016 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Merritt, June 7, 2016 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

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The Board Chair responded to the correspondence from the Town of Princeton and indicated they are looking at options for the Farmer's Market.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

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Chairman

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Secretary Treasurer