

MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC – MINUTES

HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2021

In person at the School Board Office – 811 Stanley Street, Nelson
and via video conference

Board:

L. Trenaman, Chair
S. Nazaroff, Vice-Chair
D. Lang *(via video conference)*
S. Chew
S. Walsh
B. Coons *(via video conference)*
A. Gribbin *(via video conference)*
B. Maslechko *(via video conference)*
C. Beebe *(via video conference)*

District Staff:

T. Smillie, Superintendent
M. McLellan, Secretary-Treasurer
N. Howald, Director of Information Technology
D. Holitzki, Director of Inclusive Education
C. Singh, Director of Human Resources
B. Eaton, Director of Innovative Learning
C. Kerr, Director of Operations
N. Lynn, Learning Innovator
T. Malloff, District Principal of Innovative Learning *(via video conference)*
N. Ross, District Principal of Innovative Learning *(via video conference)*
J. Schmidt, District Principal of International Education *(via video conference)*
B. Hamm, Principal CVSS *(via video conference)*
M. Nelson, Vice-Principal CVSS *(via video conference)*
K. Louie, Teacher CVSS *(via video conference)*

Student Trustees:

R. Klassen, Creston Valley Secondary School
M. Darby, Creston Valley Secondary School
N. Holland, Mount Sentinel Secondary School
S. Piller, Mount Sentinel Secondary School
L. McKone, Salmo Secondary School
R. Drescher, Salmo Secondary School
Z. Lamoureux, J.V. Humphries Secondary School
A. Troback, J.V. Humphries Secondary School
S. Kitch, L.V. Rogers Secondary School
S. Van Donselaar, L.V. Rogers Secondary School

Partners:

C. Wilson, KTLF *(via video conference)*
D. Kunzelman, KTLF *(via video conference)*
R. Sherman, KLPVPA

Guests:

J. McMurray (via video conference)
K. Yates (via video conference)
R. Kirby (via video conference)
S. McGregor (via video conference)
S. Sanford (via video conference)
S. Piller (via video conference)
T. Harper (via video conference)
OblongSquare Media (via video conference)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 PM.

2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory

We acknowledge, respect and honour the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District No. 8.

The chair welcomed all Student Trustees to their first meeting. The Following student Trustees introduced themselves and shared their reasons for wanting to become a student trustee.

- Creston Valley Secondary - Reese Klassen and Madeline Darby
- LV Rogers Secondary – Sam Kitch Sola Van Donselaar
- JV Humphries – Annabelle Trobak
- Salmo Secondary – Leilu Laska McKone and Rozlyn Drescher
- Mount Sentinel Secondary – Natasha Holland and Sage Piller

The Chair noted that student trustees not in attendance will be introduced at the next meeting.

3. Changes to the Proposed Agenda

Added item 10A: COVID Update – Superintendent

4. Adoption of Agenda

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:**

21/22-016

THAT the Agenda for this December 7, 2021 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

5. Receiving Presentations – Nil

6. Comments or Questions from the Public regarding items on this Agenda – Nil

7. Consent Package

The following questions/comments were made regarding the Listing of Transactions over \$10,000 from the consent package, which were answered by staff:

- Last item page 19 – Janet former manager has now come back as a consultant for three months to setup a new Transportation Information System, Traversa, and to aid in transition with new Manager of Transportation
- Page 20 Dell Canada and Dell Financial Services – Invoices are for the provision of the hardware equipment, leasing costs and non-leasing costs for the acquisition of devices.

8. Adoption of Minutes

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:**

21/22-017

THAT the minutes from the November 23, 2021 Meeting of the Board Meeting held in public **BE ADOPTED.**

9. Future and Action Item Tracking – Nil

10. Education

A. COVID Update

The Superintendent reported that the Interior Health order was revoked and that the District would be now following the Provincial Health Order, which allows Schools to host sporting events. She noted that COVID infections have recently been low in the region, which is similarly reflected in schools.

B. Fine Arts in SD8

The District Principal of Innovative Learning shared a presentation with respect to Fine Arts in School District 8.

Trustee Gribbin left the meeting at 5:29 PM.

Trustee Gribbin returned to the meeting at 5:39 PM.

The District Principal of Innovative Learning thanked staff and students from Trafalgar Middle School and Creston Valley Secondary for the opportunity to showcase their Fine Arts performances.

C. School Completion Report

The Superintendent introduced the School Completion Rate report and referred to the enclosed Memorandum.

The Director of Innovative Learning shared a presentation outlining the 2020-21 School Completion Rates, including:

- Completion are an indicator of how well students are doing;
- Students receive either a dogwood or evergreen diploma;

- The District has been on an upward trend, as rates have continued to increase over the past 5 years;
- Plan moving forward – to continue with existing 3-year graduation plans;
- Potential expansion of trades training and dual credit program;
- Individualized supports to AbEd students and students with diverse needs;
- Working towards scholarship opportunities with an equity lense to give as many students as possible opportunities;
- Goal is increased completion rates for all students.

D. Creston Valley School re-naming

The Superintendent introduced this item and handed it over to the CVSS Re-naming Leadership Team (Teacher Ki Louie, Vice-Principal Mike Nelson and Principal Brian Hamm).

The Principal provided background, reported about the conducted survey and summarized the results. He noted that two Town Hall meetings were held where people shared their thoughts and anchored around reconciliation. He reported that concerns came up with the name choice, which led to them opening the survey again after consulting with the Lower Kootenay Band.

Principal Hamm shared a video presentation, which showcased the history of the school.

The CVSS Re-naming Leadership Team came forward with the following recommendation:

The intent of the name is an act of reconciliation and they were advised to listen to the community. Therefore, they recommended Kootenay River Secondary School as the new school name.

Trustees and staff expressed their gratitude to the KRSS team and their commitment to reconciliation.

A Trustee expressed a concern around the name Kootenay and if it isn't a reconciled word. Staff responded that out of conversations with the Lower Kootenay Band lead them to believe that they have ownership of that word.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:**

21/22-018

THAT the secondary school in Creston be permanently named Kootenay River Secondary School.

E. Anti-Racism Policy Development Public Engagement Plan

The Superintendent reported on the process to develop an anti-racism policy for the District and referred to the attached memorandum. She advised that there are resources on the website, but no specific policy. She outlined the plan in more detail and noted that the council would be informed by a student-led group that is going to develop a toolkit of resources and anti-racism materials, as well as a survey to capture feedback from education partners.

F. Trustee inquiry: New School District

The Chair reported that the Board asked staff to investigate a possible creation of a new school district in the Creston area. She noted that staff worked with the Ministry to investigate this and she referred to the memorandum in the board package which was presented in more detail by the Secretary-Treasurer.

A Trustee offered thanks for encouraging the Board to proceed with this analysis, and he thanked staff for putting this information together. The Trustee also disputed an assertion within the memorandum that the \$1 million deficit inherited by the new amalgamated School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) in 1996 insignificant and has zero impact on the delivery of educational services anywhere in the District today.

11. Operations and Finance

A. 2021/22 Budget Update

The Secretary-Treasurer informed the Board that SD8 is working towards a small deficit, but staff are working towards managing as best possible towards a balanced budget for the year, which may be possible unless there are any events that cause new expenses that are out of the ordinary course of business.

A Trustee inquired about the District funds for diverse needs students after September 30. Staff responded that student files will be reviewed again in the middle of January for the February 1701 count.

A Trustee inquired about how much was spent on legal services. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that he would bring this forward to the next meeting.

12. Governance and Policy

A. Revised Policy 660: Provision of Childcare

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:**

THAT revised policy 660 **BE APPROVED.**

The Superintendent noted that the policy has been updated as per new legislation and was out for field testing. She added that the policy came back with no comments.

13. Human Resources – Nil

14. Trustee Reports

A. Trustees

Several Trustees provided an update on the BCSTA Trustee Academy attended by the Board, as well as Metis Awareness Month, Student Trustee Orientation, BCPSEA, KLTF and PAC meetings and activities attended.

B. Chair

The Chair provided an overview of various meetings attended including a BCSTA meeting, student trustee orientation and the BCSTA Trustee Academy. Furthermore, she shared 2 highlights from the Trustee Academy in more detail.

C. BCSTA

The Vice-Chair and a Trustee reported about the Branch meeting.

D. BCPSEA – Nil

E. RDCK – Nil

F. Other Committees

G. Student Trustees

Student Trustees Darby and Klassen from Kootenay River Secondary School shared their excitement about the school name change. They thanked the Board of Education for their support.

Student Trustees Van Donselaar and Kitch from LVR shared their progress with a peer tutoring program for students who don't have the financial ability to get peer tutoring.

15. Comments or Questions from the Public – Nil

16. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

A. Board Meetings

The next Open meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2022.

17. Adjournment of Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM.


Board Chair


Secretary-Treasurer