

**Board of Education Public Meeting
September 19, 2017 – 6:30 PM
Cherry Hill Elementary – 32557 Best Avenue, Mission BC**

Members Present:

Board Chair Rick McKamey
Acting Chair Trustee Tracy Loffler
Trustee Randy Cairns
Trustee Shelley Carter
Trustee Jim Taylor

Staff Present:

Superintendent Angus Wilson
Secretary Treasurer Corien Becker
Assistant Superintendent Larry Jepsen
District Principal of IT Colleen Hannah
Executive Assistant Aleksandra Zwierzchowska

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 pm by the Acting Chairperson. The Chair acknowledged the meeting was being held Sto:lo Territory. There are four First Nation Bands within the boundaries of the Mission School District: Leq:a'mel First Nation, Sq'ewlets First Nation, Kwantlen First Nation, and Matsqui First Nation.

2. Adoption of Agenda

One additional item:

6.3 Motion regarding By-Election

**MOVED and seconded that the Agenda be adopted as amended.
CARRIED**

3. Delegations/Presentations

Shane Sliziak, Principal of Cherry Hill Elementary, introduced Ms. Schaufert and a group of music students, who spent two short weeks rehearsing for this evening's performance. Ms. Schaufert played the piano while the students sang Oh Ancient Times, followed by On the Back of an Eagle.

4. Unfinished Business

4.1 Solar Array

MAIN MOTION

MOVED and Seconded that the Board places a high priority on the immediate purchase and construction of a min. 24,000 w solar array on Dewdney Elementary School. To facilitate this, project staff will:

1. Prior to September 25, 2017, contract We Go Solar of Chemanis, B.C. to complete technical specifications for the array. The specifications will include, among other details:
 - a) optimal location for solar panels
 - b) specific grid-tie configurations, wire and equipment sizes to accommodate the proposed 24,000 w system and reduce costs when future expansions takes place
 - c) Display capabilities to allow the school and the community to monitor electrical consumption and production both in real time and over extended periods.

- d) Format the specifications in a manner to facilitate SD 75's purchasing department converting the document into a call for tender.

The technical specifications report will be finished prior to October 24, 2017

2. Within two weeks following receipt of the technical specifications, the School District will put the project out to tender with a closing date for bids two weeks following posting of the bid.
3. Awarding the bid will include factors such as price and demonstrated expertise but will place equal value on the ability to start the project within a one-month time period.

AMENDMENT

That the motion be amended with the following four (4) changes;

- On the first line of the motion replace 24,000w with 15,000w;
- Replace the contractor's name from *We Go Solar of Chemanis* to *TerraTek*;
- For the proposed kilowatt size, change *24,000 w system* to read *appropriate kilowatt system*.
- Change the bid closing date from two (2) weeks to read three to four weeks.

AMENDED MOTION

That the Board places a high priority on the immediate purchase and construction of a minimum 15,000 w solar array on Dewdney Elementary School. To facilitate this, project staff will:

1. **Prior to September 25, 2017, contract Terratek, B.C. to complete technical specifications for the array. The specifications will include, among other details:**
 - a) **optimal location for solar panels**
 - b) **specific grid-tie configurations, wire and equipment sizes to accommodate the proposed appropriate w system and reduce costs when future expansions takes place**
 - c) **Display capabilities to allow the school and the community to monitor electrical consumption and production both in real time and over extended periods.**
 - d) **Format the specifications in a manner to facilitate SD 75's purchasing department converting the document into a call for tender.**

The technical specifications report will be finished prior to October 24, 2017

2. **Within two weeks following receipt of the technical specifications, the School District will put the project out to tender with a closing date for bids three to four weeks following posting of the bid.**
3. **Awarding the bid will include factors such as price and demonstrated expertise but will place equal value on the ability to start the project within a one-month time period.**

CARRIED (Opposed: Trustee Loffler)

The Superintendent mentioned that following the Committee of the Whole meeting, Principal Hannah met TerraTek at Dewdney Elementary to assist with the preliminary site inspection for the installation of the solar array.

Principal Hannah reported that the school's electrical room is situated in an ideal location; as a result, this could minimize some of the work related to wiring the solar array. TerraTek recommended a 15,000 kw photovoltaic system considering the funds available, and requested that an electrician from the district be onsite during installation to ensure the electrical panel can handle the electric load. The system can be connected to an iPad which can be utilized as an educational tool to display energy consumption to students.

Concerns were raised about the timing for the solar array project especially since the entire province is dealing with specific issues related to the Supreme Court ruling.

Q: Will the timeline outlined for the Solar Array project delay other work?

R: Yes, our focus is to get laptops and computers into the hands of teachers and students, and this project will delay this task to a later date. It won't compromise other projects from being completed, however, electricians who are working on other tasks will be pulled away to work on the solar arrays.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 Banking Resolution- Borrowing

MOVED and seconded that the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer be authorized to borrow on behalf of Mission Public School District (School District #75) from the Scotia Bank for the 2017 / 2018 operating year:

- a) \$1,500,000 for an Operating Line of Credit
- b) \$750,000 for a revolving term / Scotia leasing

AND THAT Banking Resolution between the Bank of Nova Scotia for general banking purposes approved September 20, 2016 be amended to include the following paragraph:

4. ***We may exercise every power to borrow money and otherwise obtain services from you and to receive repayment thereof and to secure our obligations to you arising out of our acquisition of services from you which is conferred upon us by our governing legislation. The persons and the required combination of those persons we verify, are the persons authorized and the combination of those persons required, to borrow money from you on our credit from time to time in the amounts and on the terms that those persons determine, and to grant security to you over any of our property from time to time. We will provide this verification by a certificate in writing given to you by any TWO of the officers set out below. The most recent certificate given to you will be the current certificate in effect:***

***Superintendent
Secretary Treasurer***

***Assistant Superintendent
Assistant Secretary Treasurer***

CARRIED

5.2 Financial Statement

MOVED and seconded that the draft 2016 / 2017 Financial Statements be accepted;

AND THAT the final 2016 / 2017 Financial Statements including the audit report be submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

KMPG assisted the district with the annual audit and presented this information to the Board at a meeting earlier in September. The School District is required to submit the financial statements to the Ministry of Education by September 30, 2017. The Secretary Treasurer noted that the finalized financial statements, the auditor's report, and the SOFI reports need to be published by December 31, 2017.

5.3 Tree Canada

Principal Hannah shared information about a \$5,000 grant that was received from Trees Canada to plant trees in Mission's community. SD No.75 has partnered with the District of Mission and Kwantlen First Nation to plant trees in the wetlands.

MOVED and seconded that the Board match the current funding of \$5000, with a maximum of \$5000.

CARRIED

Q: How does voting on such an item affect the budget?

R: At this time, we would approve funding and add this item in the amended budget.

Q: Would it be wise of the Board to have a plan set out for future funding requests?

R: Yes, it would prudent to set out some parameters on how groups and organizations can approach the Board for funding.

5.4 Reporting Out from Closed Board Meeting

The Superintendent reported that personnel matters were discussed.

On behalf of the Board of Education, the Superintendent made a special announcement about the passing of Ms. Clemo who was a long-standing member of the Mission School District.

6. New Business

6.1 Future Expansion of Riverside College

MAIN MOTION

THAT a sub-committee of the Committee of the Whole be struck to make recommendations regarding the future expansion of Riverside College. The scope of the committee's work will include discussion and recommendations of potential new course offerings and discussion and recommendations regarding both short and long-term options for increasing shop space. The initial subcommittee meeting will be held prior to October 21, 2017.

AMENDMENT

That the main motion be amended by adding the word *possible* in front of *future expansion*.

AMENDED MOTION

THAT a sub-committee of the Committee of the Whole be struck to make recommendations regarding the possible future expansion of Riverside College. The scope of the committee's work will include discussion and recommendations of potential new course offerings and discussion and recommendations regarding both short and long-term options for increasing shop space. The initial subcommittee meeting will be held prior to October 21, 2017.

CARRIED

Riverside College provides a valuable service to youth in our community giving easy and less expensive access to initial trades training. This service aligns well with the objectives of past and present Provincial Governments and is fully supported by the Mission Municipal Council. Additionally, Riverside College offers an individualized route to high school graduation which could relieve enrolment pressure on Mission Secondary School. During the last four years improved management of the college has shown that it can operate at a profit and is well worth additional financial investment on the part of the School District.

The Sub-Committee would be a group of members that have no authority to make decisions. The purpose of this committee would be to refine ideas and deliver these ideas to the Committee of the Whole.

The Board is supportive of this motion and the ideas surrounding the possible growth of Riverside. The Secretary Treasurer noted that she has a few templates on forming committees and noted it would be valuable to have a mix of members especially ones who bring technical expertise.

6.2 Submission of Motions to BCSTA's Provincial Council

A motion was brought to the floor and recommended to be submitted to the British Columbia School Trustee Association for further discussion. See item 6.3.

6.3 By-Election Motion

MOVED and Seconded that BCSTA demand the provincial government change the School Act to state in the event of the firing of a locally elected Board of Education or Trustee, and this firing creates a vacancy of more than a year in length, a By-Election must be held within six months of said firing.

CARRIED

There has been more than one Board of Education that has been fired by the Ministry of Education. While it can be argued there are other options available to the Ministry; at times they have taken this drastic action. In the past and currently, the Ministry has appointed a person to run the School District until the next election period, which has run at times for several years.

The Board is satisfied that this motion has been brought forward, it was brought forward in the past; however due to timing restraints, it was not submitted on time. The Board requested that the motion go forward to Provincial Council, then return to the Board, and back to the AGM.

7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MOVED and seconded that the Board of Education meeting minutes of June 20, 2017, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. COMMITTEE MINUTES/ LIASON REPORTS

Trustees reported on:

- Pricilla Wells was elected as Vice Chair of Siwal Si'wes
- A respected elder, Neil Phillips, passed away unexpectedly;
- Silverdale has a new curriculum with a focus on environmental and outdoor education;
- Working on emails and planning for upcoming BCSTA Fraser Valley meeting held on Monday October 16, 2017;
- Attended the BCSTA Canadian School Boards Association Conference which highlighted Aboriginal Education. It provided very insightful information; a report was emailed to Trustees and Staff;
- A key topic that was discussed at the Canadian School Board Association Conference was reconciliation. Mission is very ahead of other districts and we can thank our elders for this progression.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. Questions

No questions were asked.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 8:11 pm.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Vice-Chair, Board of Education

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Secretary Treasurer

November 7, 2017

Date

November 7, 2017

Date