



**SD70 PACIFIC RIM BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC MINUTES
5:00 pm – February 9, 2021
Via Zoom – Port Alberni**

Trustees P. Craig, S. Leslie, J. Bennie, L. Ransom, R. Buchanan, C. Watts, C. Washington
Administration: G. Smyth, B. Witte, L. Cheetham
P&VP: S. Brown

Call to Order – 5:04 pm Trustee Craig in the Chair.

Trustee Craig acknowledged the Tseshaht and Hupacasath people on whose territory we live, work and learn.

Questions/Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee and Watts seconded by Trustee Leslie that the Agenda of February 9, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

Conflict of Interest Declaration – Nil

1.0 Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Trustee Washington and seconded by Trustee Ransom the minutes of January 12, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

2.0 Announcements of the Chair

- Trustee Craig welcomed PVPA rep Steve Brown

3.0 Good News from the Schools

- 3.1 Indigenous Education Department – *Dave Maher & Mike Roberts*

4.0 Trustee Statements

- Trustee Craig commented on various events.

5.0 Petitions/Delegations/Presentations - Nil

6.0 Staff Reports

- 6.1 Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent provided his monthly report – *attached*.

6.2 2021/22 School Calendar

The Superintendent presented an amended draft of the 2021/22 School Calendar – *attached*.

6.3 2020/2021 Amended Budget

AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW

A Bylaw of THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 70 Pacific Rim (called the "Board") to adopt the amended annual budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

1. The Board has complied with the provisions of the *Act* respecting the Amended Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.
1. This bylaw may be cited as School District 70 Pacific Rim Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2020/2021.
3. The attached "Statement 2" showing the estimated revenues and the estimated expenditures for the 2020/2021 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$52,348,801 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the *Act*.
4. Statement 2, Statement 4 and Schedules 1 to 4 are adopted as the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021.

Moved by Trustee Washington and seconded by Trustee Leslie and read a first time the 9th day of February, 2021;

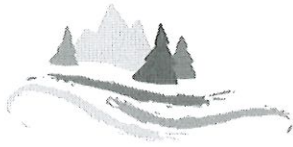
Moved by Trustee Ransom and seconded by Trustee Buchanan and read a second time the 9th day of February, 2021;

Moved by Trustee Watts and seconded by Trustee Bennie and read a third time, passed and adopted the 9th day of February, 2021.

CARRIED

6.4 Expenditures for December 2020

Moved by Trustee Buchanan and seconded by Trustee Watts that the expenditures for the month of December 2020 be approved as follows:



Superintendent's Report February 9, 2021

Changes to COVID19 Health and Safety Guidelines

Ministry of Education recently released updated COVID19 Health and Safety Guidelines for schools. The changes show better alignment between BCCDC guidelines and school guidelines and reflect five months of experiences under our current learning model. The changes are more subtle than substantial, refining health and safety procedures and, in some cases, extending these procedures or expectations to new situations. School districts are expected to publish revised District COVID19 Health and Safety Guidelines by February 26th, and each school is required to complete a Health and Safety Checklist by the same date. District staff and school administrators have started the process of reviewing District H&S Guidelines to ensure we are compliant with new expectations as of February 26th.

Of note, there are additional requirements for masks for staff and secondary students, but in K-7 mask usage continues essentially as before and masks remain a personal choice. Guidelines are based on school configurations rather than ages, which is why SD70 protocols are based on K-7 and 8-12 student groupings. Additional attention in new guidelines is paid to cleaning of frequently touched surfaces, especially toys, manipulatives and PE equipment that might be shared among cohorts. In this matter, first consideration for schools is whether toys, manipulatives and equipment is required and, if so, how they can be safely used within the guidelines.

2021/22 School Year Registrations

Early indication from the Ministry of Education is that they expect schools will return to normal operations as of September 2021. This is more than wishful thinking and takes into consideration how schools have successfully operated this school year as well as the positive impact the Province believes a vaccination rollout will have on individuals, communities, and organizations. For schooling, it means full-time, in-person learning, and parents should be planning for their children to be in traditional, 'bricks and mortar' schools next September.

Even if some parents remain uneasy about conditions in September 2021, it is far easier to move from a regular school to distributed learning than vice versa. **School-based staffing is determined by student registrations in April and there may not be space in September after catchment and out-of-catchment requests have been processed.** Unless parents are firmly committed to having their child enrolled in a Distributed Learning program, I strongly encourage parents to ensure their child is registered at their neighbourhood school according to the timelines outlined in *Policy 500: Appendix II*.

For those considering distributed learning, particularly for elementary-aged learners, please consider the significant difference in curricular learning experiences, social and emotional growth opportunities, and access to supports and services between the two programs. Our

Choices Distributed Learning staff have worked extremely hard this year to connect with learners in new and unique ways, yet we know a distributed learning model is not optimal for the wide range of learners choosing DL because of COVID19. Success rates confirm that Distributed Learning works for some students but not all students, and our recent experiences suggest that our youngest learners are best served in regular classrooms with their peers and teachers, and where school relationships and interpersonal interactions are key to long term social, emotional, and academic success. If interested in DL, contact the Choices DL program at Eighth Avenue Learning Centre to discuss further.

2021/22 Electronic Registration Process

As mentioned in January, we have introduced an electronic registration process that started Monday, February 1st. Registering electronically avoids the need to register in-person and helps reduce traffic in and out of schools during COVID19. It is not an online process but rather an opportunity to email required forms and documents directly to the school. Schools will review submitted documents to ensure completeness, and then confirm with parents once the registration package is ready to be processed at the school. All required documents must be in the school's possession to consider a registration package as complete. **Please ensure you have the necessary documents prior to registering.** Both hardcopy and electronic applications will be treated equally, and electronic registrations submitted outside of normal school office hours will be date and time stamped as of the next regular school day.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FORM - GENERAL

2021/2022 CALENDAR

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■ Instructional
 ■ Non-Instructional
 ■ Vacation Period
 ■ Statutory Holiday



Ministry of
Education