



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
Regular Board Meeting, Monday, December 10, 2012 @ 7:30 p.m.  
Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

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## AGENDA

### A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

*The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.*

- A1. Approval of the Agenda (p 01-02)
- A2. Approval of the Minutes
  - a) Approval of the November 19, 2012 minutes (p 03-09)
- A3. Business arising from the Minutes
- A4. Trustee Elections
  - a) Election of Chair
  - b) Election of Vice-Chair
  - c) Election of British Columbia Public Service Employers' Association Representative
  - d) Election of British Columbia School Trustees' Association Provincial Councillor
  - e) Election of Vancouver Island Labour Relations Association Representative
  - f) Appointment of the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Members/  
Election of Chair
  - g) Appointment of the Education Policy Development Committee Members/  
Election of Chair
- A5. Community Presentations (5 minutes per presentation)
  - a) Rachel Franklin, Public Engagement
- A6. Trustees' Reports

### B. CHAIR'S REPORT

**C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS****C1. Joint Operations, Policy and Planning and Education Policy Development Committee**

a) Minutes from the December 3, 2012 meeting – information only (p 10-15)

b) Recommended Motions:

i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) form an Ad Hoc Committee to review Bylaw 9360 to make recommendations for enhancements for public engagement including a structure for a possible Question and Answer period. The Ad Hoc Committee will include one representative from ASA, CUPE 382, CUPE 947, Exempt, GVTA, VCPAC, VPVPA and the Superintendent of Schools. The committee will report to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee and will be at no cost to the Board.

ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Bylaw 9368 'Procedure', Article 107.00 to read: "Any Trustee may challenge the ruling of the Chair, according to Robert's Rules of Order. The Trustee making the challenge (with a seconder) will be asked by the Chair to state the challenge; debate will occur according to Robert's Rules of Order; a vote to sustain the Chair will follow debate.

iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) adopt the revised Policy 5140.1, Child Abuse. (p 16-17)

**D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS****D1. Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

a) Trustee Remuneration

**E. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES****F. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS****G. COMMUNICATIONS**

G1. Letter from Minister of Education

**H. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS****I. ADJOURNMENT**



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
November 19, 2012 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

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**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Trustees Peg Orcherton, Chair, Bev Horsman, Vice-Chair, Catherine Alpha, Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard, Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr

**Regrets:** Trustee McEvoy

**Administration:**

John Gaipman, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Sherri Bell, Deputy Superintendent, Pat Duncan, Associate Superintendent, Deborah Courville, Associate Superintendent, Dave Brandon, Acting Director of Human Resource Services, Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities Services, Nita McBurney, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Chair Orcherton recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Introductions were made around the Board table. Chair Orcherton formally introduced the District's new Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. Debra Laser.

**A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING**

**A1. Approval of the Agenda**

It was moved and seconded:

That the November 19, 2012 Agenda be approved with the following changes/additions:

**A3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

- i) Trustee Loring-Kuhanga
- ii) Trustee Nohr

**A4. Community Presentations**

- ii) Tammy Jeske, Wi-Fi in Schools and accommodation for children with electromagnetic intolerance or sensitivity
- iii) Janis Hoffman (on behalf of her daughter, Lori Hoffmann), Wireless Technology in Schools

**A5. Trustees' Report**

- a) Trustee Horsman
- b) Trustee McNally

**Motion Carried**

**A2. Approval of the Minutes**

It was moved and seconded:

That the October 15, 2012 Regular Minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried**

**A3. Business arising from the Minutes**

Trustee Loring-Kuhanga presented a Notice of Motion regarding adding a question and answer period to the board agenda. The motion was referred to the December 3, 2012 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting.

Trustee Nohr stated that she will bring her questions regarding the International Student Program presentation to the December 3, 2012 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting.

**A4. Student Achievement**

Grant Boland, Vice-Principal, Victoria High School introduced the school's band director, Mr. Eric Emde. Mr. Emde presented the Vic High Pop Choir. The students sang a song that they had sung at their Remembrance Day Assembly entitled, "Love and Honour".

Chair Orcherton thanked the choir for their performance.

**A5. Community Presentations**

- a) Walter McGinnis, Wireless Internet Technology in Public Schools  
Mr. McGinnis acknowledged that a lot of Wi-Fi discussions have occurred over the last few years. He stated that the Board has the authority to oppose Wi-Fi and that he does not believe that the Board can rely on Dr. Kendall's advice regarding the effects of Wi-Fi. A solution with respect to the use technology needs to be found.
- b) Tammy Jeske, Wi-Fi in Schools  
Ms. Jeske stated that she would like to see the direction from the board go further to ask teachers to remove any unofficial Wi-Fi until the District makes a decision as to whether or not to move forward. She feels that the District should not allow unofficial Wi-Fi in schools until it has been determined that it is safe for children.
- c) Janis Hoffmann, Wi-Fi in Schools  
Ms. Hoffmann spoke on behalf of her daughter, Lori Hoffmann, whose son gets severe headaches from Wi-Fi. She feels that a consent letter should be signed off by parents regarding Wi-Fi in schools. Ms. Hoffmann expressed that the safe way to proceed is with hard-wired internet connections.

**A6. Trustees' Reports**

Trustee Horsman reported that she attended and thoroughly enjoyed the Remembrance Day Assemblies at Reynolds Secondary and Rogers Elementary, sharing information that had occurred at both assemblies.

Trustee McNally reported that she attended the Victoria Civic Orchestra concert at Oak Bay, the United Way kick-off and the Remembrance Day Assembly at Rockheights Middle School. She also attended the BC Education Plan Graduation Planning Requirements Session at SJ Willis.

**B. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Orcherton reported that she attended a meeting with Don McRae, the Minister of Education on Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Fairey Tech facility at Victoria High School. Chair Orcherton talked to the Minister about the Board's wish to meet with him to discuss funding. Minister McRae asked for a letter requesting a meeting. This has been sent and Chair Orcherton hopes to report back on this item soon.

Kim Munro has been hired as the new Director of Human Resource Services. Ms. Munro has an extensive human resources background and comes to the District from the District of Burnaby. Her start date will be January 14, 2013. Chair Orcherton extended her thanks to the staff in Human Resources who are carrying on in the interim.

Chair Orcherton stated that the Teachers' Pension Board has announced a 1.3% increase to the employer contribution rates effective July 1, 2013. This results in a \$1.2 million increase in cost to the school district without any opportunity for input. Chair Orcherton advised that she will seek a meeting with the Premier to request that the Provincial Government fund School Districts entirely for the pension cost increase and further, that a review be conducted as it relates to the management of the BC Teachers' Pension Fund.

## C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### C1. Education Policy Development Committee

- a) Approval of the October 1, 2012 Minutes

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the October 1, 2012 Education Policy Development Committee Regular Minutes.

**Motion Carried**

- b) The November 5, 2012 meeting minutes were presented for information.
- c) Trustee Horsman referred to the minutes from the Education Policy Development Committee meeting and presented the following motion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve Aboriginal Cultural Connections 12 as a Board/Authority Authorized course.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The November 13, 2012 meeting minutes were presented for information.
- b) Trustee Leonard invited Superintendent Gaipman to give a report on Wi-Fi. Superintendent Gaipman listed the elementary schools that have Wi-Fi routers and how many routers were at these schools. Clarification was sought and provided from Associate Superintendent Pat Duncan as it relates to George Jay. George Jay School had approached their staff and parents and they received full support to have Wi-Fi routers installed in their school. This occurred prior to November, 2010.
- c) Trustee Leonard referred to the minutes from the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting and spoke to the motion from the meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) remind the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association and School District staff regarding the current Board direction related to Wi-Fi in elementary schools.

Trustee McNally proposed a friendly amendment to the motion as follows:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that GVTA and School District staff align with the current Board position that apart from George Jay no Wi-Fi be used in K to 5 schools.

It was noted that this motion was not a friendly amendment as it was substantively different.

Based on the discussion at the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting, Trustee Leonard provided a change to the motion from the meeting in order to provide greater strength and clarity.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to ensure that no new routers be placed in any school until such time as the Board has changed its present direction.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Ferris, Nohr, Leonard, Alpha, Horsman and Orcherton  
Against: Trustees McNally and Loring-Kuhanga

#### **D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**

None.

#### **E. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

Trustee McNally attended the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association meeting as the Trustee Representative as well as the British Columbia School Superintendents' Association/British Columbia School Trustees' Association Conference.

Trustee Horsman attended the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting and she also attended the BCSSA/BCSTA Conference.

#### **F. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

##### **F1. Letter to Minister McRae Requesting New Targeted Funding – Trustee Nohr**

Trustee Nohr presented her motion. A lengthy discussion ensued among Trustees, including input from John Bird, President of Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) provide the new Minister of Education, Don McRae, with an advocacy letter requesting new targeted funding for students in grades K to 3 who present with significant learning or behavioural challenges, before they become a priority for psycho-educational assessment and Individual Education Plan support. Additionally, this letter be sent to the Leader of the Opposition, Adrian Dix and to the Education critic, Robin Austin.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Alpha, Horsman, Loring-Kuhanga, McNally and Nohr  
Against: Trustees Ferris, Leonard and Orcherton

**F2. Letter to Minister McRae Requesting Educational Assistance Funding - Trustee Nohr**

Trustee Nohr presented her motion. A discussion ensued among the Trustees, including input from Ms. Gillian Miller, Greater Victoria Teachers' Association Secretary-Treasurer.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) provide the new Minister of Education, Don McRae, with an advocacy letter requesting full funding, 30 hours of educational assistance time, for students with designations on the autism spectrum (A.S.D.) or with intensive behaviour. Additionally, this letter be sent to the Leader of the Opposition, Adrian Dix and to the Education critic, Robin Austin.

Trustee Horsman suggested replacing "requesting full funding, 30 hours of educational assistance time" with "requesting additional funding to be added to existing funding" which was accepted by Trustee Nohr. Further discussion occurred.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write an advocacy letter to the Minister of Education, Don McRae, requesting additional funding to be added to existing funding for students with designations on the autism spectrum (A.S.D.) or with intensive behaviour. Additionally, this letter be sent to the Leader of the Opposition, Adrian Dix and to the Education critic, Robin Austin.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**F3. \$10/Day/Child Care Plan - Trustee Nohr**

Trustee Nohr presented her motion. A discussion ensued among the Trustees after which it was decided to refer motions F3 and F4 to the January 7, 2013 Education Policy Development Committee Meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) endorse the Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning, otherwise known as the \$10/Day/Child Care Plan.

**F4. Encourage Awareness of the \$10/Day/Child Care Plan - Trustee Nohr**

The motion was referred to the January 7, 2013 Education Policy Development Committee meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) encourage awareness of the \$10/Day/Child Care Plan to our partner groups and request that they endorse the program as well.

**F5. Letter to Minister McRae Requesting Reinstatement of Targeted Funding - Trustee Nohr**

Trustee Nohr presented her motion. Discussion ensued among the Trustees regarding funding for special needs students as well as the recent Judge Abella decision concerning North Vancouver student Jeffrey Moore.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) provide the new Minister of Education, Don McRae, with an advocacy letter requesting the reinstatement of full targeted funding for students with learning disabilities designations. Additionally, this letter be sent to the Leader of the Opposition, Adrian Dix and to the Education critic, Robin Austin.

Trustee McNally suggested adding the words "in addition to current to current funding" after the word designations which was accepted by Trustee Nohr. Further discussion occurred among the Trustees and President of VCPAC, John Bird.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) provide the new Minister of Education, Don McRae, with an advocacy letter requesting the reinstatement of full targeted funding for students with learning disability designations in addition to current funding. Additionally, this letter be sent to the Leader of the Opposition, Adrian Dix and to the Education critic, Robin Austin.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Alpha, Loring-Kuhanga, McNally and Nohr  
Against: Trustees Ferris, Horsman, Leonard and Orcherton

#### **F6. Stewardship Report - Trustee Nohr**

Trustee Nohr presented her motion. A brief discussion ensued among the Trustees after which it was decided to refer motions F6 and F7 to the December 3, 2012 Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) develop and implement a stewardship report for all Board meetings to include the action taken, person responsible and progress report ( which may include timeline and/or date of progress report ).

#### **F7. Adding Stewardship Report to Bylaw 9360 - Trustee Nohr**

The motion was referred to the December 3, 2012 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) add Stewardship Report to Part 12 of Bylaw 9360, "General Meeting of the Board", to read:

The Order of Business on the SD61 Board of Education Board meeting Agenda shall be:

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes
3. Business Arising From the Minutes
4. Unfinished Business
5. Student Achievement
6. District Presentations
7. Public Disclosure of In-Camera Items
8. Community / Public Presentations
9. Trustees' Reports / Reports from Trustee Representatives
  - 9.1 Chair's Report
10. Board Committee Reports
  - 10.1 Education Policy Development Committee
    - a. Minutes
    - b. Recommended motions
  - 10.2 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee
    - a. Minutes
    - b. Recommended motions
11. District Senior Administration Reports
  - 11.1 Superintendent's Report
  - 11.2 Secretary-Treasurer's Report
12. New Business / Notice of Motions / \* Stewardship Report
13. Adjournment



**G. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**H. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS**

None.

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair



**Combined Operations, Policy and Planning Committee  
and  
Education Policy Development Committee Meeting  
December 3, 2012 – GVSD Board Office, Boardroom**

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**REGULAR MINUTES**

**Present: TRUSTEES**

Elaine Leonard, Chair, Operations Policy and Planning Committee  
Catherine Alpha, Chair, Education Policy Development Committee  
Tom Ferris  
Bev Horsman  
Edith Loring-Kuhanga  
Diane McNally  
Deborah Nohr  
Peg Orcherton

**Absent:** Michael McEvoy

**ADMINISTRATION**

John Gaipman, Superintendent of Schools  
Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer  
Sherri Bell, Deputy Superintendent  
Janine Roy, District Principal, Learning Initiatives  
Kristine Marshall, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m.

Chair Leonard recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

**1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved

That the December 3, 2012 regular agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved

That the November 5, 2012 Education Policy Development Committee Meeting regular minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried**

It was moved

That the November 13, 2012 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting regular minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried**

### **3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Trustee Loring-Kuhanga asked that the November 13, 2012 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting regular minutes Point 'C' under "Finance and Legal Affairs" reflect that Superintendent Gaipman gave a report on the International Student Program. Superintendent Gaipman clarified that it was Dave Scott, Director, International and Continuing Studies along with his team who gave a presentation on the International Student Program.

Trustee Nohr asked for a point of clarification regarding the installation of Wi-Fi in schools. Superintendent Gaipman clarified that the Board motion was specifically directed at what action the Board was taking not the actions of individual schools. Elementary Principals have been advised that no additional Wi-Fi routers are to be installed.

### **4. OPERATIONS, POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE – Trustee Leonard, Chair**

#### **A. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

##### **1. Trustee McNally – Challenge the Ruling of the Chair**

Trustee McNally presented her motion explaining that when a trustee challenges the Chair it is often difficult to understand what the challenge is. Clarity is important to ensure that everyone understands the challenge. Discussion ensued.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Bylaw 9368 'Procedure', Article 107.00 to read: "Any Trustee may challenge the ruling of the Chair, according to Robert's Rules of Order. The Trustee making the challenge (with a seconder) will be asked by the Chair to state the challenge; debate will occur according to Robert's Rules of Order; a vote to sustain the Chair will follow debate.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Alpha, Loring-Kuhanga, McNally, Nohr  
Against: Trustees Leonard, Ferris, Horsman, Orcherton

## 2. Trustee Nohr – Stewardship Report

Trustee Nohr presented her motion. She agreed to the friendly amendment made by Trustee McNally to add the words “on motions carried”. She also agreed to the friendly amendment made by Trustee Horsman to change “stewardship report” to progress report.

Trustee Nohr explained that she would like a chart created to show carried motions, who is responsible and progress to date which would allow for better tracking of motions that are being undertaken. This would eliminate the need for searching through all of the minutes to find motions made and decisions taken.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) table Motion 2 Stewardship Report and Motion 3 Adding Stewardship Report to Bylaw 9360 until after the discussion of Motion 4 Form an Ad Hoc Committee.

**Motion Tabled**

For: Trustees Alpha, Nohr, Orcherton, Ferris, Horsman, Leonard  
Against: Trustees Loring-Kuhanga, McNally

Based on the decision to form an Ad Hoc Committee to review Bylaw 9360, it was agreed that Motion 2 Stewardship Report will be presented by Superintendent Gaipman to the Ad Hoc Committee.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) develop and implement a progress report for all Board meetings to include the actions taken on motions carried, person responsible and progress report (which may include timeline and/or date of progress report).

**Motion Referred to Ad Hoc Committee**

## 3. Trustee Nohr – Adding Stewardship Report to Bylaw 9360

Based on the decision to form an Ad Hoc Committee to review Bylaw 9360, it was agreed that Motion 3 Adding Stewardship Report to Bylaw 9360 will be presented by Superintendent Gaipman to the Ad Hoc Committee.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) add Stewardship Report to Part 12 of Bylaw 9360, “General Meeting of the Board”, to read:

The Order of Business on the SD61 Board of Education Board meeting Agenda shall be:

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes
3. Business Arising From the Minutes
4. Unfinished Business
5. Student Achievement
6. District Presentations
7. Public Disclosure of In-Camera Items

8. Community / Public Presentations
9. Trustees' Reports / Reports from Trustee Representatives
- 9.1 Chair's Report
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- 10.1 Education Policy Development Committee
  - a. Minutes
  - b. Recommended Motions
- 10.2 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee
  - a. Minutes
  - b. Recommended Motions
11. District Senior Administration Reports
- 11.1 Superintendent's Report
- 11.2 Secretary-Treasurer's Report
12. New Business / Notice of Motions / \* Stewardship Report
13. Adjournment

**Motion Referred to Ad Hoc Committee**

#### **4. Trustee Horsman – Form an Ad Hoc Committee**

Trustee Horsman presented her motion and explained that the Ad Hoc Committee would take a look at all aspects of opportunities for public input including a question and answer period and that the committee would include a representative from each stakeholder group and the Superintendent of Schools. Trustee Horsman agreed to Chair Leonard's friendly amendment to change "input" to engagement. The committee would enable the stakeholders to recommend enhancements for engagement and there would be opportunity for Trustees to debate the recommendations/suggestions when they are presented to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee.

Trustee McNally presented an amendment motion. Discussion ensued.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) form an Ad Hoc committee to review Bylaw 9360 to make recommendations for increasing opportunities for public input at Board Meetings, including at least one, and possibly two, Question and Answer periods for the public. The Ad Hoc Committee will include all interested Trustees, with written input from any partner group or individual that wishes to submit a statement. The Committee will report to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee with a recommendation no later than February 2013. The Committee will meet at no cost to the Board.

**Motion Defeated**

Against: Trustees Alpha, Loring-Kuhanga, Leonard, Ferris, Horsman, McNally, Nohr, Orcheron

Discussion followed on the original motion.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) form an Ad Hoc Committee to review Bylaw 9360 to make recommendations for enhancements for public engagement including a structure for Question and Answer period. The Ad Hoc Committee will include one representative from ASA, CUPE 382, CUPE 947, Exempt, GVTA, VCPAC, VPVPA and the Superintendent of Schools. The committee will report to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Leonard, Ferris, Horsman, McNally, Nohr, Orcherton  
Against: Trustees Alpha, Loring-Kuhanga

The Operations, Policy and Planning Committee directed Superintendent Gaipman to present Motions 2, 3 and 5 to the Ad Hoc Committee for discussion.

#### **5. Trustee Loring-Kuhanga – Question and Answer Period**

Based on the decision to form an Ad Hoc Committee to review Bylaw 9360, it was agreed that Motion 5 Question and Answer Period will be presented by Superintendent Gaipman to the Ad Hoc Committee.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) public board meeting include a standing item for one Question and Answer period to allow for questions from the public.

**Motion Referred to Ad Hoc Committee**

### **5. EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Trustee Alpha, Chair**

#### **A. Revision to Policy 5140.1 Child Abuse**

Janine Roy, District Principal, Learning Initiatives presented the suggested revisions to Policy 5140.1, Child Abuse.

The suggested revisions to Policy 5140.1 Child Abuse were made in response to the Board request that the District Leadership Team (DLT) update the existing policy to bring it in alignment with current legislation. The language was changed to align the policy with the new National and Provincial legislation. It is a housekeeping change not a policy change.

Regulation 5140.1 was referred back to DLT for further consultation.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) adopt the revised Policy 5140.1, Child Abuse.

**Motion Carried**

For: Alpha, Ferris, Horsman, Leonard, Nohr, Orcherton  
Against: Loring-Kuhanga, McNally

### **6. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None**

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved

That the meeting adjourn.

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 8:57p.m.

# MEMO

## FROM THE LEARNING INITIATIVES OFFICE

Greater Victoria School District #61  
556 Boleskine Rd., Victoria, BC V8Z 1E8  
Phone: 250-475-4230 Fax: 250-475-4180

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TO: **Board of Education**

FROM: **Janine Roy, District Principal-Learning Initiatives**

DATE: **December 10, 2012**

RE: **Policy 5140.1 Child Abuse**

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The revised Policy 5140.1 is being provided for your consideration.

### **Recommended Motion:**

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) adopt the revised Policy 5140.1, Child Abuse.
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### **Notes on updates:**

#### **Policy 5140.1 Child Abuse**

- Updated to Board of "Education"
- Included "legal duty to report"
- Updated reference to *Child, Family and Community Service Act* and *Youth Criminal Justice Act*

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The Greater Victoria School District is committed to each student's success in learning within a responsive and safe environment.

## POLICY 5140.1

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### CHILD ABUSE

The Board of School Trustees **Education** recognizes the need to ensure the personal safety of its students. The aims and objectives of the Board will be to:

1. Protect our school children from school personnel, or others (including children) who may sexually, physically, or emotionally abuse children.
2. Provide personal safety programs for children to assist them with their own protection from sexual offences.
3. Assist personnel in identification and ~~reporting~~ **reporting their legal duty to report** cases of child abuse **under the Child, Family and Community Service Act (Part 3: Division 1(14.1))**.

*Greater Victoria School District*

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Adopted: October 27, 1986  
Revised: November 23, 1992  
Reviewed: February 1999  
Revised: October 16, 2006  
**Revised:** \_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2012

Ref 163945

Dear Board Chairs:

I am writing to provide you with information on the Cooperative Gains Mandate and the savings plans needed to support this round of collective bargaining with the K-12 education sector's support staff.

As you will have heard in recent announcements from the Honourable Michael de Jong, Minister of Finance, the priority for government is to balance the budget . As you are aware, government faces increased fiscal pressure at a time when public sector workers expect to negotiate wage increases.

The Cooperative Gains Mandate is intended to protect the Province's fiscal plan while increasing employers' flexibility in funding wage increases and assisting them in reaching voluntarily negotiated collective agreements. Ministries are required to work with their respective sectors to develop savings plans to free up funding from within existing budgets to provide for compensation increases. Savings plans can include savings resulting from operational cost reductions, increased efficiencies, service redesign, increases in revenue and other initiatives—including from within collective agreements.

Savings plans must adhere to the principles of the Cooperative Gains Mandate:

- savings must be real and measurable;
- savings must be incremental to savings required to meet budget targets;
- savings must not be generated by transferring costs to the public; and
- savings must not be generated by reducing service levels to the public.

To be clear, generated savings obtained by boards must not negatively impact the delivery of educational programming for students.

You will also be aware that each sector has approached bargaining within the Cooperative Gains Mandate differently, and this is reflected in the recent public sector collective bargaining settlements. For example, in the public service settlement, government used efficiency measures without reducing services, and a staggered implementation of wage increases, to reach agreement. The variations in these settlements reflect the fact that the Cooperative Gains Mandate is differentiated based on the financial capacity of each sector. Settlements in education will be unique to our sector.

.../2

I recognize that boards of education also face fiscal pressures at this time, and have varying capacity to generate savings. In some cases, finding savings will be very difficult; therefore, we are proposing a variety of methods to generate a modest amount of funds to put towards an increase in compensation for support staff.

At the provincial table, the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) will be discussing with support staff unions a benefits and disability management modernization initiative, which may create significant savings across school districts.

In addition, I am asking boards of education to look into their own district's operations to find savings to complement that amount. To that end, I am requesting that all boards develop their own savings plans to identify savings within the Principles of the Mandate, that would reach a target of 1.5 percent of support staff compensation in their district. My expectation is that savings plans will vary throughout the province. Together, I am hopeful that the combined provincial and local savings will enable boards and support staff to successfully negotiate a collective agreement that will recognize the needs of both parties.

To assist in working through this process and to answer related questions, the Ministry will be hosting two conference calls with Superintendents and Secretary Treasurers the week of December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. I encourage participation in these conference calls.

We would like to have savings plans completed by mid-January in order that bargaining can continue in order to arrive at settlements. Final approval of savings plans will be carried out by the Ministry of Finance.

I appreciate that the preparation of these savings plans is being asked within a tight time-frame and I wish to thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,



Don McRae  
Minister

pc: Melanie Joy, Chair, BCPSEA  
Terry Sullivan, President, BCSSA  
Linda Minnabarriet, President, BCASBO  
Lee Doney, Interim President and CEO, PSEC