



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
March 25, 2013 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

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**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Trustees Peg Orcheron, Chair, Bev Horsman, Vice-Chair, Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard, Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Michael McEvoy, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr

**Regrets:** Catherine Alpha

**Administration:**

John Gaipman, Superintendent of Schools and Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Sherri Bell, Deputy Superintendent, Pat Duncan, Associate Superintendent, Deborah Courville, Associate Superintendent, Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

Chair Orcheron 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.

It was moved and seconded:

That John Gaipman be appointed both the Superintendent of Schools and Secretary-Treasurer for the duration of the March 25, 2013 Board meeting.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING**

**A1. Approval of the Agenda**

It was moved and seconded:

That the March 25, 2013 Agenda be approved with the following changes/additions:

**A6. Community Presentations**

- b) Janis Hoffman, Wi-Fi in schools
- c) Tammy Jeske, Wi-Fi in schools
- d) Peter Milne, Public Engagement at Board meetings

**A7. Trustees' Reports**

- a) Trustee Loring-Kuhanga
- b) Trustee Horsman
- c) Trustee McNally
- d) Trustee Nohr
- e) Trustee McEvoy

**Motion Carried**

**A2. Approval of the Minutes**

- a) It was moved and seconded:

That the February 18, 2013 Regular Minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried**

**A3. Business arising from the Minutes**

Trustee Nohr requested follow up information with respect to a motion that was carried under Board Committee Reports – C1. b) ii) of the February 18, 2013 Board meeting. Deputy Superintendent Bell advised that letters had been sent to all partner groups after that meeting.

**A4. Student Achievement**

Marilyn Campbell, Principal, Ecole Quadra Elementary School attended the Board meeting along with two of her students, Owen and Maddie, to showcase a recent school project called Naturescape. Both of the students spoke briefly about the project of planting bulbs on the school grounds and the help they received from staff, parents and the community. A video presentation was made which included photos of the entire project from beginning to end.

Chair Orcherton thanked the students for their presentation.

**A5. District Presentations**

Carole Richardson, Teacher, Hillcrest Elementary School, introduced Mr. Don Shorting, a volunteer in the District over the past twenty years. Carole explained how Mr. Shorting has spent countless hours in the schools encouraging and promoting stamp collection to the students and how excited the students are to be a part of the stamp clubs.

Trustee Orcherton presented Mr. Shorting with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Board of Education and thanked Mr. Shorting for his years of volunteering.

Mr. Shorting accepted the certificate and thanked the Board for acknowledging him at the meeting.

**A6. Community Presentations**

- a) Rob Wickson, Community Advocates for Reduced Speed (CARS), spoke about his involvement in advocating for reducing the default speed limit from 50km/hr to 40km/hr in local municipalities and the changes that need to occur in order to make this happen. Mr. Wickson is looking to the Board of Education for its support.
- b) Janis Hoffman, parent, spoke of her concerns about the posting of Wi-Fi information on the District website.
- c) Tammy Jeske, parent, referred to a motion on the agenda regarding Wi-Fi at Victor school and encouraged the Board to vote against it. Ms. Jeske provided updated reports and studies regarding Wi-Fi.
- d) Peter Milne, parent, indicated that he was concerned with the lack of public engagement at Board meetings and strongly encouraged the Board to consider its position..

## **A7. Trustees' Reports**

Trustee Loring-Kuhanga reported that she attended a Victoria Sings performance at the University of Victoria, the Lansdowne Middle School Spring concert, and a Deepening Democracy Conference in Harrison Hot Springs.

Trustee Horsman acknowledged the recent passing of retired Secondary Principal, Len Michaux. Trustee Horsman reported that she attended the musical theatre performance of "How to Succeed in Business Without Even Trying" at Reynolds Secondary, the Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association (VISTA) Conference in Port Alberni, and the Deepening Democracy Conference in Harrison Hot Springs.

Trustee McNally reported that she attended a Victoria Sings performance at the University of Victoria which included many District students.

Trustee Nohr reported that she attended the District job fair at S.J. Willis, a music evening at Glanford Middle School, and the musical "In the Heights" at Spectrum Community School.

Trustee McEvoy also acknowledged the passing of Len Michaux. Trustee McEvoy reported that as the President of the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA), he recently wrote a letter to the Minister of Education regarding Holdback Funds and the diversion of money to prepay next year's Annual Facilities Grant.

## **B. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Orcherton congratulated Trustee McEvoy on his recent appointment as President of the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) and acknowledged his work as the President of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.

Chair Orcherton acknowledged Wendy Holob, Principal, Willows Elementary, for her dedication to and organizing of the Victoria Sings performances at the University of Victoria.

Chair Orcherton reported that she attended an interview on February 26<sup>th</sup> at CFX Radio along with two District students to promote Pink Shirt Day. On February 28<sup>th</sup>, Chair Orcherton met with the Education Critic for the NDP, Robin Austin, along with Superintendent Gaipman and Secretary-Treasurer Laser, to express the Board's concerns regarding the funding of public education. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, Chair Orcherton, Superintendent Gaipman and Secretary-Treasurer Laser, attended a follow up meeting with the Minister of Education, Don McRae and again expressed the continued concerns of the Board about public education funding.

## **C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **C1. Joint Education Policy Development and Operations, Policy and Planning Committee**

- a) The March 4, 2013 meeting minutes were presented for information.
- b) Trustee Leonard referred to the minutes from the Joint Education Policy Development and Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting and presented the following motion.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) allow Wi-Fi to be installed (or used) at Victor Street School, since it is a unique school within the district, as per the request of the PAC, parents and professionals that work with the children at the school.

**Motion Carried**

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

**D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**

**D1. Superintendent’s Report**

- a) Superintendent Gaipman presented the 2013-2014 School Calendar for approval.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions being asked and answered by Superintendent Gaipman.

It was moved and seconded:

That the following dates for the 2013/2014 school year be approved:

School Opening –	September 3, 2013
First non-instructional day –	September 23, 2013
Thanksgiving –	October 14, 2013
Second non-instructional day –	October 25, 2013 (Province wide)
Remembrance Day –	November 11, 2013
Third non-instructional day –	November 22, 2013
Schools close for Winter vacation –	December 20, 2013
Schools re-open after Winter vacation –	January 6, 2014
Family Day –	February 10, 2014
Fourth non-instructional day –	February 21, 2014
Schools close for Spring vacation –	March 7, 2014
Schools re-open after Spring vacation –	March 24, 2014
Good Friday –	April 18, 2014
Easter Monday –	April 21, 2014
Fifth non-instructional day –	May 16, 2014
Victoria Day –	May 19, 2014
Administrative Day and School Closing –	June 27, 2014

\*Sixth non-instructional day to be chosen by each school

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**D2. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report**

- a) 2013/2014 Carbon Neutral Capital Program Capital Project Bylaw No. 126588

Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer Gaipman presented the following motions.

Director of Facilities, Seamus Howley, provided background information to the Trustees about the Carbon Neutral Capital Program. Mr. Howley explained how the District submitted a number of projects for consideration to the Ministry, with the following project being approved. Questions of clarification were asked and answered by Mr. Howley.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of Capital Project Bylaw No. 126588, being a bylaw for the Carbon Neutral Capital Program Tillicum Elementary School Boiler Project and Energy Study Funding in the amount of \$197,265.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

That Capital Project Bylaw No. 126588, being a bylaw for the Carbon Neutral Capital Program Tillicum Elementary School Boiler Project and Energy Study Funding in the amount of \$197,265 be:

READ A FIRST TIME THE 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013;

READ A SECOND TIME THE 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013, and

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013 and that the Secretary-Treasurer and the Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## E. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

None.

## F. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

### F1. Lower Speed Limits in Municipalities and Child Safety – Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally presented her motion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) endorse the City of Victoria's resolution calling for a lower default speed limit in municipalities from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

A discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with Trustee Nohr suggesting to add the following sentence "*Write a letter to the City of Victoria endorsing this new Victoria resolution for a lower default speed limit.*" Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees and Trustee Nohr withdrew her suggestion.

Trustee Orcherton moved an amendment to the motion to add the words "*in principle*" after the word "*endorse*". Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves adding the words "*in principle*" after the word "*endorse*" to the original motion.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees McNally, Loring-Kuhanga, McEvoy, Horsman, Orcherton and Nohr

Against: Trustee Leonard

Abstain: Trustee Ferris

Trustee Horsman moved to refer this item to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee.

It was moved and seconded:

To refer the motion, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) endorse, in principal, the City of Victoria's resolution calling for a lower default speed limit in municipalities from 50 km/h to 40 km/h to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee."

**Motion Defeated**

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

Chair Orcherton called the question on the original motion as amended.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) endorse, in principle, the City of Victoria's resolution calling for a lower default speed limit in municipalities from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees McNally, Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Horsman and Orcherton  
Against: Trustees Ferris and Leonard  
Abstain: Trustee McEvoy

## **F2. Lower Speed Limits in Municipalities and Child Safety #2 – Trustee McNally**

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the BC School Trustees Association asking for support of efforts to reduce default speed limits from 50 km/h to 40 km/h in municipalities, thus increasing traffic safety for all users of roads and public right-of-ways, especially children and youth travelling to and from schools.

**Motion Withdrawn**

## **F3. Restoration Budget – Trustee McNally**

Trustee McNally presented her motion and provided her rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) submit only a needs budget reflecting remedies for the ongoing structural deficit, and reflecting current costs for restoration of all service levels to the general levels of service in all departments that existed in 2001.

**Motion Defeated**

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

**F4. Public Speakers List – Trustee McNally**

Trustee McNally presented her motion. Trustee Horsman moved to refer the motion to the Sub-Committee on Public Engagement.

It was moved and seconded:

To refer the motion, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) provide a list of all individuals who made application to be on the community presentations/ speakers list for any standing committee or Board meeting be appended to every agenda, a) names listed in the order in which application was received along with the topic proposed, and b) list to include individuals who have not been placed on the agenda to speak" to the Sub-Committee on Public Engagement.

**Motion Carried**

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

**F5. District Class Size and Composition or School Organization Report – Trustee Nohr**

Chair Orcherton questioned Trustee Nohr on whether she had given any consideration to amending her motion. Trustee Nohr advised she would proceed with her motion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) present the District Class Size and Composition Report or School Organization Report 2012-2013 at the April, 2013 public board meeting and also make it available on the District website.

Chair Orcherton ruled that the motion is not in order and advised Trustees that this motion was brought forward to the June 18, 2013 Board meeting and was defeated.

**F6. Letter to the Premier and Minister of Education – Trustee Nohr**

Trustee Nohr presented her motion and provided her rationale.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Premier and the Minister of Education expressing concern about the Board's ability to maintain its service level for student achievement in the Greater Victoria School District as the District will be responsible for many new and unanticipated costs.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification asked of Trustee Nohr and a request to be more specific in her motion. Trustee Loring-Kuhanga suggested adding examples; such as the Teachers' Pension Plan increases and BCPSEA fees to make the motion clearer.

Trustee Nohr agreed to refer her motion to the April 8, 2013 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting for further discussion.

It was moved and seconded:

To refer the motion, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Premier and the Minister of Education expressing concern about the Board's ability to maintain its service level for student achievement in the Greater Victoria School District as the District will be responsible for many new and unanticipated costs" to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

#### **F7. Letter to the Minister of Education Regarding Wage Increases – Trustee Nohr**

Trustee Nohr presented her motion and provided her rationale.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting that the government review their cooperative gains mandate and provide the additional funding for a wage increase for our CUPE support staff employees.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with Trustee McNally suggesting a friendly amendment to the motion by removing the words "*review their cooperative gains mandate*". Trustee Nohr accepted the friendly amendment.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting that the government provide the additional funding for a wage increase for our CUPE support staff employees.

Trustee Orcherton suggested a friendly amendment of adding the words "*and any potential increases for our Teachers*" after "*employees.*" Trustee Leonard asked questions of clarification. Trustee Nohr accepted the friendly amendment.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting that the government provide the additional funding for a wage increase for our CUPE support staff employees and any potential increases for our teachers.

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with it being determined that the motion should be re-written to include all employee groups. It was suggested that the motion be referred to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee for further discussion.

It was moved and seconded:

To refer the amended motion, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting that the government review their cooperative gains mandate and provide the additional funding for a wage increase for our CUPE support staff employees and any potential increases for our teachers" to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**



**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 10:13 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer