



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
April 23, 2014 Special Board Budget Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road**

MINUTES

Present:

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

Administration:

Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Pat Duncan, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities Services, Janine Roy, District Principal, Learning Initiatives, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Chair Orcheron requested that Superintendent Bell and Secretary-Treasurer Laser review the budget options presented at the March 26, 2014 Special Board Budget meeting. Trustees had questions of clarification for both Superintendent Bell and Secretary-Treasurer Laser.

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A1. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded:

That the April 23, 2014 Agenda be approved with the following changes/additions:

C. 2014/2015 Annual Budget

- a) ii) Trustee McNally - Amendment to Motion
- a) iii) Trustee Nohr - New Motion

Motion Carried Unanimously

B. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS ON THE 2014/2015 BUDGET - None

C. 2014/2015 ANNUAL BUDGET

a) 2014/2015 Annual Budget Debate

Secretary-Treasurer Laser explained that the motion to approve the carry forward funding needs to be considered prior to debating the budget options.

- i) It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves carrying forward the \$6,300,000 to the 2014-2015 school year to be applied against the deficit.

Motion Carried

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

The following motion was presented and Chair Orcherton requested speakers to this motion. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Laser.

ii) It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the list of proposed budget options for the 2014-2015 school year and approves carrying forward the \$53,501 to the 2015-2016 school year to be applied against the deficit.

Trustee Horsman moved an amendment to the main motion to use the \$53,501 to fund learning mentors at five CommunityLINK schools. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Laser.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves using the unallocated budget amount of \$53,501 to fund learning mentors at the following schools based on CommunityLINK data: Craigflower, George Jay, Victoria West, Tillicum, and Quadra.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees McNally, McEvoy, Nohr and Horsman

Against: Trustees Ferris, Loring-Kuhanga, Orcherton, Alpha and Leonard

Chair Orcherton referred Trustees back to the main motion. Trustee McNally moved an amendment to the main motion to allocate the \$53,501 to Craigflower Elementary School. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved and seconded:

That the \$53,501 be allocated to Craigflower School for additional reading recovery time and/or learning support time, to be decided by the school staff.

Motion Carried

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

Against: Trustees Leonard, Orcherton and Ferris

Chair Orcherton referred Trustees back to the main motion as amended.

ii) It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the list of proposed budget options for the 2014-2015 school year and that the \$53,501 be allocated to Craigflower School for additional reading recovery time and/or learning support time, to be decided by the school staff.”

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

Trustee Leonard moved an amendment to delete the words “reading recovery time and/or learning” from the amended main motion to provide flexibility to the school to decide how the money will be used. Discussion ensued amongst the trustees.

- ii) It was moved and seconded:

That the amended main motion *“That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the list of proposed budget options for the 2014-2015 school year and that the \$53,501 be allocated to Craigflower School for additional reading recovery time and/or learning support time, to be decided by the school staff”* be amended to read “That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the list of proposed budget options for the 2014-2015 school year and that the \$53,501 be allocated to Craigflower School for additional support time, to be decided by the school staff.”

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Orcherton called for the vote on the amended main motion.

- ii) It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the list of proposed budget options for the 2014-2015 school year and that the \$53,501 be allocated to Craigflower School for additional support time, to be decided by the school staff.

Motion Carried Unanimously

- iii) Trustee Nohr - BCSTA Fees

Trustee Nohr 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) eliminate the yearly BCSTA fees and apply the additional funding to student support which will be determined by senior administration in conjunction with the GVTA.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Nohr and McNally

Against: Trustees Ferris, McEvoy, Loring-Kuhanga, Orcherton, Horsman, Alpha and Leonard

b) 2014/2015 Annual Budget Bylaw

Secretary- Treasurer Laser referred to the 2014/2015 Annual Budget Bylaw and explained that in accordance with the new Public Sector Accounting standards the budget bylaw now includes the Operating Fund, Special Purpose Funds and the Capital Fund. Secretary- Treasurer Laser reviewed each fund and explained that the board must unanimously agree to give the budget bylaw all three readings at one sitting.

It was moved and seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of the 2014/2015 Annual Budget Bylaw at the meeting of April 23, 2014.

Motion Carried

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

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2014/2015 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$195,330,769 be:

Read a first time the 23rd day of April, 2014;
Read a second time the 23rd day of April 2014;

And that the Chairperson and the Secretary Treasurer be authorized to sign, seal and execute this Bylaw on behalf of the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Orcheron gave notice to Trustees under Bylaw 9011, that a Poll Vote will be sent via email on Thursday, April 24, 2014 for a 3rd reading of the 2014/2015 Annual Budget Bylaw.

D. ADVOCACY/NEEDS LETTER TO THE MINISTER SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENT

Chair Orcheron provided Trustees with a 'draft' letter to be sent to the Honourable Peter Fassbender, Minister of Education which states the views of the Board with respect to the underfunding of public education. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with feedback being given Chair Orcheron.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) send a letter to the Minister of Education, Peter Fassbender that will state the views of the Board with respect to the underfunding of public education.

Motion Carried Unanimously

E. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer