



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
April 22, 2014 Regular Board 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, Dave Pitre, 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 7:35 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.

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING

A1. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded:

That the April 22, 2014 Agenda be approved with the following changes/additions:

A6. Community Presentations

a) Cindy Graf, Greater Victoria Teachers' Association

A7. Trustees' Reports

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the March 24, 2014 Regular Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) It was moved and seconded:

That the March 26, 2014 Special Board Budget Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c)

That the March 27, 2014 Special Board Minutes be approved.

Trustee Loring-Kuhanga requested that page 6 of the March 27, 2014 Special Board minutes be changed to reflect that she did not support the motion of the relocation of the Sundance program and closure of the facility as she felt that it was a school closure. Chair Orcherton advised that the notes taken by the recording secretary would be reviewed and, if this was said, the minutes would be amended and brought back to the May 20, 2014 Board meeting for approval.

d) It was moved and seconded:

That the April 2, 2014 Special Board Budget Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

e) It was moved and seconded:

That the April 9, 2014 Special Board Budget Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None

A4. Student Achievement

Pat Duncan, Associate Superintendent, introduced and welcomed Randi Falls, Principal of Victoria High School. Ms. Falls introduced Stew Wheeler, Career and Transition teacher along with several students and provided a brief overview of the career programs at Victoria High School and the participation of the students at the Skills Canada South Vancouver Island Regional Competition at Camosun College. Mr. Wheeler gave a brief description of a recent event held at Victoria High School called "Yes to It" which gave grade 8 students from Central Middle School the opportunity to attend and be introduced to the trades offered at Victoria High to assist them in their future course selections.

Students Eric, Kate, Solomon and Hanna introduced themselves and described which trade event they participated in at the Skills Canada competition and the projects that they were involved with.

Chair Orcherton thanked Principal Falls, Mr. Wheeler and the students for attending and presenting to the Board.

A5. District Presentations - None

A6. Community Presentations

a) Petra Eggert, teacher and parent of two children in the District, attended the Board meeting to speak about professional development and student learning. Ms. Eggert expressed her support for the work of the learning mentors and the important role that they play in this District.

b) Cindy Graf attended the Board meeting to speak on behalf of the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association regarding teacher professional development. Ms. Graf acknowledged the work of the Learning Initiatives team but emphasized the importance of teachers selecting their own professional development and the need to increase the joint professional development fund.

A7. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee Horsman reported that she attended Rogers Elementary and sat in on Ms. Ross' grade 3-4 class for their project involving aboriginal cultural storytelling through stones.
- b) Trustee Loring-Kuhanga reported that she attended Strawberry Vale Elementary for Seussical the Musical and McKenzie Elementary for the musical Aristocrats.
- c) Trustee Nohr reported that she attended the Vancouver Island High School Science Fair at the University of Victoria.
- d) Trustee McNally reported that she attended Craigflower Elementary to learn about a speech articulation program based on West Coast Aboriginal stories.

B. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Orcherton reported that Trustee Nohr has stepped down from her role on the Culture and Community Committee and that Trustee Ferris has been appointed to the Committee in her place.

On March 28, 2014 Chair Orcherton attended former Superintendent John Gaipman's retirement celebration along with family, friends and colleagues.

Chair Orcherton reported that she visited teachers and students at Lambrick Park Secondary and on April 12th participated in the opening ceremonies for Lakehill Little League.

Chair Orcherton reported that on April 17, 2014 the British Columbia Teachers' Federation issued 72 hours strike notice for Stage 1 job action and that she conducted an interview with Terry Moore from CFAA answering questions about the teacher job action.

Chair Orcherton reviewed matters pertaining to the functionality and integrity of the Board and made a public statement correcting misinformation related to processes as set out in Board bylaws, policies and regulations with respect to the Board's actions and decisions related to the Sundance program.

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

C1. Education Policy Development Committee

- a) The April 7, 2014 meeting minutes were presented for information.
- b) Trustee Alpha referred to the minutes from the Education Policy Development Committee meeting and presented the following recommended motion. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Rugby Academy at Esquimalt High School.

Motion Carried

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

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The April 14, 2014 meeting minutes were presented for information.

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**D1. Superintendent's Report**

- a) Superintendent Bell provided an update with respect to the relocation of the Sundance Program. The first phase of the transition process is almost complete with most families having made their choice of a school for next year. Superintendent Bell advised the Board that the former Sundance students will be tracked by each school Principal for the first year to be sure that their transition is successful.

D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

- a) Secretary-Treasurer Laser reported out the April 1, 2014 poll vote results for the 3rd reading of the Sundance Elementary School Facility Closure Bylaw 14-01 stating that the motion passed.

E. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES - None**F. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS****F1. Trustee McNally - Motion to Rescind**

Chair Orcherton ruled Trustee McNally's motion out of order since action has already been taken to implement the motion.

That the Board rescind the motion carried at the Special Board Meeting of March 27: *"That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the relocation of the Sundance Elementary School program to Lakehill Elementary School and closure of the current facility effective July 1, 2014"*.

F2. Trustee McNally - Personnel

Trustee McNally presented her motion and provided her rationale. A lengthy discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Superintendent Bell.

It was moved and seconded:

That all personnel accounted for (in addition to the proposed reduction in clerical support and reduction in Learning Mentor FTE) under "Learning Initiatives" be reassigned to appropriate positions in SD61, and the department "Learning Initiatives" be closed.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee McNally

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

F3. Trustee McNally - Wi-Fi Routers

Trustee McNally presented her motion and provided her rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with clarification being provided by Chair Orcherton.

It was moved and seconded:

That SD61 halt implementation of wifi router installation and any related activity in schools immediately and for the 2014-15 school year, and apply the District's share of material, bandwidth and labour savings to the 2014-15 budget plan, savings to be itemized and provided in a detailed spreadsheet to the Board.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees McNally, Loring-Kuhanga and Nohr

Against: Trustees Ferris, McEvoy, Orcherton, Horsman, Alpha and Leonard

F4. Trustee McNally - Board Budget Meeting

Trustee McNally presented her motion and provided her rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with clarification being provided by Secretary-Treasurer Laser.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) delay the final vote on the School District No. 61 budget for 2014-2015 to the May 20, 2014 Board meeting, and in the interim convene the Budget Advisory Committee in the week of April 28th (adding more meetings as needed via the vote of any three Trustees) with expanded attendance to include all interested Trustees.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees McNally and Loring-Kuhanga

Against: Trustees Ferris, McEvoy, Orcherton, Horsman, Alpha, Nohr and Leonard

G. COMMUNICATIONS - None**H. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None****I. ADJOURNMENT**

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer