



**Combined Education Policy Development Committee  
and  
Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting  
September 9, 2013 – GVSD Board Office, Boardroom**

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**REGULAR MINUTES**

**Present:**

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

**Administration:**

John Gaipman, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Sherri Bell, Deputy Superintendent, Pat Duncan, Associate Superintendent, Deb Courville, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Kim Munro, Director, Human Resource Services, Stephen Bennett, District Principal, Educational Staffing, Amanda Stuyt, Senior Health and Safety Advisor, Janine Roy, District Principal, Learning Initiatives, Doreen Hegan, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Chair Alpha 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 September 9, 2013 regular agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved

That the June 10, 2013 combined Education Policy Development and Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting regular minutes be approved.

**Motion Tabled**

Trustee Nohr asked that the following line be removed from page 4 under **5. D. 3. Trustee McNally - Trustee Representation to the District Health and Safety Committee**: "It was stated that the role of the Board is to make policy decisions and not to be involved in day-to-day operational matters."

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

Trustee Leonard suggested that the approval of the minutes be tabled to the October 15, 2013 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting so that the notes can be reviewed.

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES - None**

**4. EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Trustee Alpha, Chair**

**A. SUICIDE PREVENTION**

Deputy Superintendent Bell reminded the Committee that the suicide motion was presented in June and was tabled to September to allow time for research. Ms. Bell stated that the District takes the issue of suicide prevention seriously and reported that there is some method of suicide prevention being used in each middle and secondary school. Methods of prevention vary from the Whole School Suicide Prevention Model to the use of school counselors and psychologists.

Nella Nelson, Coordinator, Aboriginal Nations Education shared with the District that she is aware of 4 completed suicides in her 34 years with the District. Ms. Nelson spoke to the Committee about the importance of educating our children about grief as a rite of passage and instilling in them a sense of hope.

**B. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Justine Thomson, NEED2 Suicide Education Awareness Manager, attended to speak in favour of the Whole School Suicide Prevention Model. Ms. Thomson spoke of the benefits of the Suicide Awareness for Youth (SAY) program, including removing the stigma that surrounds suicide by encouraging meaningful conversation and creating a safe environment for youth to disclose suicidal thoughts and access needed support.
2. William Norris (Tsartlip) and Bonnie Joe (Tsawout) attended to speak about Gathering Strength, a community-driven initiative focused on achieving health and healing in First Nations communities. Mr. Norris and Ms. Joe spoke about their experience working with partners to create a successful alternative education program for First Nations youth dealing with grief and loss with the goal of reintegrating them back into the school system.
3. Rob Paynter, member of the public, attended to speak in favour of the Whole School Suicide Prevention Model. Mr. Paynter spoke about schools being the ideal venue for youth suicide prevention education and recommended that the Board take a whole school approach to youth mental well-being.

Trustees asked questions and thanked the presenters.

### C. Trustee Loring-Kuhanga - Suicide Prevention

Trustee Loring-Kuhanga presented her motion and provided her rationale.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) adopt the "Whole School Suicide Prevention Model" for all middle and secondary schools and provide annual presentations to students and staff in order to increase an awareness, education and prevention of suicide amongst our youth.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with concern expressed regarding a mandate to use a specific model.

Trustee Leonard moved an amendment to the main motion.

It was moved

To amend the main motion to remove *"adopt the "Whole School Suicide Prevention Model" for all"* and add the words *"support the Suicide Program in each"* and remove *"and provide annual presentations to students and staff"* after "schools".

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Leonard, Horsman, McEvoy and Ferris

Against: Trustees Orcherton, Nohr, Alpha, Loring-Kuhanga and McNally

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

Trustee Orcherton moved an amendment to the main motion.

It was moved

To amend the main motion to add the words "encourage middle and secondary schools to review and consider adopting the" before the word "Whole" and removing "for all middle and secondary schools" after the word "Model".

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Chair Leonard called for a vote on the amended main motion.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District 61 (Greater Victoria) encourage middle and secondary schools to review and consider adopting the "Whole School Suicide Prevention Model" as well as providing annual presentations to students and staff in order to increase an awareness, education and prevention of suicide amongst our youth.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

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

### A. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

#### 1. Sub-Committee on Public Engagement

Deputy Superintendent Bell distributed the *Report to the Board of Education* submitted by the Sub Committee on Public Engagement and provided an overview of the work completed by the Sub-Committee. Ms. Bell asked that the report be reviewed by the Board for discussion at the next Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting scheduled on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

#### 2. Policy and Regulation 4300 - District Health and Safety Committee, 4300.1 - Health and Safety, and 4300.2 - Site-Based Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees

Kim Munro, Director of Human Resource Services, reviewed the revised Policy 4300 - District Health and Safety, 4300.1 - Health and Safety, and added a new Policy 4300.2 - Site-Based Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Policy 4300 - District Health and Safety Committee.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Orcherton, Horsman, McEvoy, McNally, Ferris and Leonard

Against: Trustees Nohr, Alpha and Loring-Kuhanga

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Policy 4300.1 - Health and Safety.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Orcherton, Nohr, Alpha, Horsman, McEvoy, McNally, Ferris and Leonard

Abstained: Trustee Loring-Kuhanga

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the new Policy 4300.2 - Site-Based Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Orcherton, Nohr, Alpha, Horsman, McEvoy, McNally, Ferris and Leonard

Against: Trustee Loring-Kuhanga

Regulation 4300 - District Health and Safety Committee, Regulation 4300.1 - Health and Safety and Regulation 4300.2 - Site-Based Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees were provided for information.

## **B. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

### **1. Cooperative Gains Savings Plan**

Trustee Orcherton stated that the Board is in support of CUPE Support Staff and is looking for Government to resolve the situation. Government's current mandate is placing extreme pressure on next year's budget. As per the usual process, the Board will fully engage in public consultation in preparation of the 2014-2015 budget.

### **2. 2013-2014 Annual Facilities Grant Capital Amendment Bylaw No. 126650-02**

Secretary-Treasurer Laser explained that the total Annual Facility Grant has not changed but that the Ministry has amended the split between the capital and the grant portion of the funding. The increase in the capital portion requires a capital amendment bylaw.

The Committee supported that the following motions be brought forward to the September 16, 2013 Board of Education meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of Capital Amendment Bylaw No. 126650-02, being a bylaw for the maximum expenditure of \$2,931,347 for the capital portion of the Annual Facility Grant allocation.

Motion to be Carried Unanimously

That Capital Amendment Bylaw No. 126650-02, being a bylaw for the maximum expenditure of \$2,931,347 for the capital portion of the Annual Facility Grant allocation be:

Read a first time the 16th day of September, 2013;

Read a second time the 16th day of September, 2013;

Read a third time, passed and adopted the 16th day of September, 2013;

And that the Secretary-Treasurer and the Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.

### **3. Cloverdale Capital Project Bylaw No. 114493**

Secretary-Treasurer Laser explained that the Capital Project Bylaws for Cloverdale Elementary, Tillicum Elementary and George Jay Elementary Schools need to be approved to receive the reimbursement of funds spent on Seismic Project Identification Reports.

The Committee supported that the following motions be brought forward to the September 16, 2013 Board of Education meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of Capital Project Bylaw No. 114493, being a bylaw for the Cloverdale Elementary School Seismic Project Identification Report cost in the amount of \$14,070.  
Motion to be carried unanimously

That Capital Project Bylaw No. 114493, being a bylaw for the Cloverdale Elementary School Seismic Project Identification Report cost in the amount of \$14,070 be:

Read a first time the 16th day of September, 2013;  
Read a second time the 16th day of September, 2013;  
Read a third time, passed and adopted the 16th day of September, 2013;

And that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.

#### **4. Tillicum Capital Project Bylaw No. 116652**

The Committee supported that the following motions be brought forward to the September 16, 2013 Board of Education meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of Capital Project Bylaw No. 116652, being a bylaw for the Tillicum Elementary School Seismic Project Identification Report cost in the amount of \$11,865.  
Motion to be carried unanimously

That Capital Project Bylaw No. 116652, being a bylaw for the Tillicum Elementary School Seismic Project Identification Report cost in the amount of \$11,865 be:

Read a first time the 16th day of September, 2013;  
Read a second time the 16th day of September, 2013;  
Read a third time, passed and adopted the 16th day of September, 2013;

And that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.

#### **5. George Jay Capital Project Bylaw No. 115114**

The Committee supported that the following motions be brought forward to the September 16, 2013 Board of Education meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of Capital Project Bylaw No. 115114, being a bylaw for the George Jay Elementary School Seismic Project Identification Report cost in the amount of \$34,270.

Motion to be carried unanimously

That Capital Project Bylaw No. 115114, being a bylaw for the George Jay Elementary School Seismic Project Identification Report cost in the amount of \$34,270 be:

Read a first time the 16th day of September, 2013;

Read a second time the 16th day of September, 2013;

Read a third time, passed and adopted the 16th day of September, 2013;

And that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.

## 6. 2013-2014 Capital Plan

Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities Services, provided an overview of the Ministry of Education's capital plan instructions and reviewed the list of projects that have been included in the 2013/2014 Capital Plan. Trustees asked questions and provided comments.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve for submission to the Ministry of Education the 2013/2014 Five Year Capital Plan.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## 7. Summer Projects

Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities Services, presented a slide show of the construction work and preparation that was done over the summer for the September 2013 school start up. Highlights included the beginning of construction of the new Oak Bay High School; energy projects at Lake Hill Elementary and Tillicum Elementary Schools; and seismic upgrades to Quadra Elementary (students are currently housed at Richmond School), Victoria West Elementary and Lansdowne Middle School.

Trustees thanked Mr. Howley for his presentation and commended the Facilities staff for their excellent work over the summer and throughout the school year.

**C. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None**

**D. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS - None**

**E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None**

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved

That the meeting adjourn.

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.