



Education Policy Development Committee
October 7, 2013 – Tolmie Boardroom

REGULAR MINUTES

Present: **TRUSTEES**
Catherine Alpha, Chair
Bev Horsman
Edith Loring-Kuhanga
Diane McNally
Deborah Nohr
Peg Orcherton

Regrets: Tom Ferris
 Elaine Leonard
 Michael McEvoy

ADMINISTRATION

John Gaipman, Superintendent of Schools
Sherry Bell, Deputy Superintendent
Deb Courville, Associate Superintendent
Nella Nelson, Coordinator, Aboriginal Nations Education
Janine Roy, District Principal of Learning Initiatives
Kristine Marshall, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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 October 8, 2013 regular agenda be approved.	Motion Carried
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2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved

That the September 9, 2013 Education Policy Development Committee regular minutes be approved.	Motion Carried
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3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Trustee Nohr requested a copy of the presentation that was given at the September 9, 2013 combined Education Policy Development Committee and Operations Policy and Planning Committee regular

meeting by Deputy Superintendent Bell summarizing the last 2 years of suicide prevention and training at the middle and high school levels in the district.

4. **PUBLIC REQUEST TO THE COMMITTEE** – none
5. **CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE** – none
6. **MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE** - none
7. **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS** - none
8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Program of Choice Application: Coastal Kindergarten Program Proposal

Deputy Superintendent Sherri Bell and District Principal of Learning Initiatives Janine Roy presented the program of choice application for a Coastal Kindergarten program. Coastal Kindergarten will integrate the provincial full-day Kindergarten program into an outdoor environment. Coastal Kindergarten will be a two year pilot located at James Bay Community School and South Park Family School. James Bay and South Park PAC Presidents were in attendance and expressed their support. Meetings have been held a number of times with staff at both schools. The Songhees and Esquimalt Nations were involved from the beginning of the project and are very excited about the program. A parent information night will be held each January to provide parents who are considering registering their child with a thorough understanding of the program. Registration will take place one week before regular Kindergarten registration. Two seats will be held at each school for children of Aboriginal descent until April. At James Bay, ten seats will be held for James Bay students who live in the school's catchment area.

Trustees asked questions and thanked the presenters.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Program of Choice Application: Coastal Kindergarten Program Proposal for a two year pilot located at James Bay Community School and South Park Family School beginning September 2014.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Alpha, Horsman, Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Orcherton

Against: Trustee McNally

Absent: Trustees Ferris, Leonard, McEvoy

B. Student Trustee

Trustee McNally presented her motion. Trustee McNally would like students to be involved in civic politics. A student trustee could provide a student prospective and input. Other school districts, such as Vancouver, have a student trustee in place.

Trustees asked questions and discussion ensued. Trustee Horsman provided information about student representatives participating in previous years.

Trustee Loring-Kuhanga presented an amendment to the main motion.

Main Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) establish a position of Student Trustee (from Grade 10, 11 or 12, with voice but no vote) on the SD61 Board and Standing Committees, that the position be supported by an honorarium, or credit to be determined by the Board along with the student's school administration annually, that the term be for one school year September 1 - June 30, and that a Student Trustee information handbook be developed.

Amended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request the Superintendent of Schools to explore the idea of having a position of student trustee/representative on School District No. 61 Board of Education and Standing Committees and report back to the Education Policy Development Committee meeting in January 2014.

Motion Carried

Main motion amended unanimously.
Amended motion carried unanimously.

9. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:15p.m.