

**Education Policy Development Committee  
November 4, 2013 – Tolmie Boardroom**

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**REGULAR MINUTES**

**Present:**       **TRUSTEES**  
Bev Horsman, Chair  
Tom Ferris  
Michael McEvoy  
Diane McNally  
Deborah Nohr  
Peg Orcheron

**Regrets:**       Catherine Alpha  
Elaine Leonard  
Edith Loring-Kuhanga

**ADMINISTRATION**

Sherri Bell, Deputy Superintendent  
Deb Courville, Associate Superintendent  
Janine Roy, District Principal of Learning Initiatives  
Simon Burgers, District Vice Principal - Languages and Multiculturalism  
Kristine Marshall, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Chair Horsman 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 November 4, 2013 regular agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved

That the October 7, 2013 Education Policy Development Committee regular minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried**

- 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – none**
- 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. French Immersion at George Jay Elementary

District Vice Principal - Languages and Multiculturalism Simon Burgers spoke about French Immersion at George Jay Elementary. Currently 124 students within the George Jay catchment area attend French Immersion elsewhere in the district. In order to keep these 124 students at George Jay, the District's French Advisory Committee recommended that a French Immersion program be introduced at George Jay by beginning with one Kindergarten class in September 2014. The registration process would follow the already existing District Policy regarding French Immersion registration.

Consultation meetings were held and Simon Burgers, George Jay Principal Leslie Lee, staff, PAC and parents met to discuss becoming a dual track school.

The George Jay community expressed their excitement about having French Immersion at George Jay Elementary. Principal Leslie Lee spoke about George Jay being a multi-cultural track school and how having French Immersion would be a good fit for George Jay where the focus is on understanding diversity and tolerance of different cultures and languages. It would add another dimension to a school that focuses on inclusion, vitality and sustainability.

Every trustee spoke in favor of offering an immersion program at George Jay. Simon Burgers thanked everyone who was involved for their help and dedication. Trustees thanked the presenters and asked questions.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the addition of a French Immersion program at George Jay Elementary School, beginning September 2014 with the introduction of a kindergarten class

**Carried Unanimously**

**FOR:** Ferris, Horsman, McEvoy, McNally, Nohr, Orcheron

### B. Revision to Regulation 2123.022: Coordinator – Languages and Multiculturalism

Deputy Superintendent Sherri Bell presented the revision to Regulation 2123.022: Coordinator – Languages and Multiculturalism – presented for information only.

### C. K - 9 Revised Curriculum

Deputy Superintendent Sherri Bell presented the K - 9 Revised Curriculum. Presently the Ministry has redesigned four curricular areas: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. This is a first draft and the Ministry will be asking for feedback. The changes focus on three core competencies - thinking, personal and social, and communication. The revisions allow for flexible learning with fewer learning standards, support inquiry and problem-solving, and have Aboriginal Education as a key area of focus.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved

That the meeting adjourn.

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 8:26p.m.