



**Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting
May 12, 2014 – GVSD Board Office, Boardroom**

REGULAR MINUTES

Present:

Elaine Leonard, Chair, Catherine Alpha, Tom Ferris, Bev Horsman, Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr, Peg Orcherton

Absent:

Michael McEvoy

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, Kim Munro, Director of Human Resource Services, Ted Pennell, Director of Information Technology, Katie Dragert, Human Resources Advisor, Wellness and Attendance Support, Doreen Hegan, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

Chair Leonard 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 May 12, 2014 regular agenda be approved with an addition to #10 New Business/Notice of Motions by Trustee Ferris - Trustee Reimbursement.

Motion Carried

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved:

That the April 14, 2014 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting regular minutes be approved.

Motion Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – None

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Camille Victoire and Janice Boothman - Wi-Fi

Camille and Janice, both parents of children attending Margaret Jenkins, expressed concern about the installation of Wi-Fi at elementary schools. They requested that the Board

designate one English/French elementary school as a low electromagnetic field (EMF) and suggested that Margaret Jenkins be designated as that school.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees with Trustee Orcherton asking Superintendent Bell for clarification on the status of Wi-Fi installations in elementary schools. Superintendent Bell confirmed that all elementary schools, except Rogers Elementary School, are currently in the consultation process.

Barb Hardy, Principal of Margaret Jenkins Elementary School, informed Trustees that their school began the consultation process in February 2014 with a survey. Of the 182 families who responded to the survey, 147 families were in favour of Wi-Fi installation and 35 families were not. Staff members were also surveyed and 24 of the 25 staff members who responded were in favour of Wi-Fi installation. Margaret Jenkins currently has no routers installed, but will be proceeding to purchase the routers required to implement Wi-Fi in the school.

B. Peter Milne, Regulation, Accommodation and Accountability - Wi-Fi and Technology Use

Mr. Milne presented Trustees with a handout containing several questions he would like answered. Discussion ensued amongst Trustees and it was suggested that responses be made in writing and copied to all Trustees.

Superintendent Bell confirmed that the Board would get back to Mr. Milne with answers to his questions.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Sub-Committee on Public Engagement

Chair Leonard informed Trustees that page 13 showing the recommendations of the sub-committee with respect to the digital recording of meetings would be reviewed this evening, pages 14 and 15 would be reviewed at the June OPPs meeting, and the complete document would hopefully be reviewed at the September OPPs meeting.

The following items were agreed upon by Trustees:

- Board meetings will be digitally recorded by school district personnel.
- The digital recording will be posted on the district website as soon as possible after the board meeting.
- The digital recording will remain on the district website until the next Board meeting and will then be archived.
- The number of site visits will be tracked.
- Live streaming will be considered after the digital recording process is in place for a period of one year.

It was decided that further discussion was needed on the following recommendations:

- No other recordings will be permitted except media outlets.
- In order to support and encourage dialogue that occurs during Board Committee meetings, those meetings will not be recorded.

6. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

A. Policy and Regulation 5131.5 Smoking

Kim Munro, Director of Human Resource Services presented Policy and Regulation 5131.5 Smoking which now reflect the changes suggested by the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Policy 5131.5, Smoking.

Motion Carried

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

Against: Trustee Loring-Kuhanga

B. Delete Policy 1330.4 School Facilities - Use of Tobacco

Kim Munro, Director of Human Resource Services informed the committee that Policy 1330.4 School Facilities - Use of Tobacco should be deleted as it has been made obsolete by Policy 5131.5 Smoking.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) delete Policy 1330.4, School Facilities - Use of Tobacco.

Motion Carried Unanimously

C. Delete Policy and Regulation 4219.1 Retirement - All Board Employees

Kim Munro, Director of Human Resource Services informed the committee that Policy and Regulation 4219.1 Retirement - All Board Employees should be deleted as it is discriminatory according to the Human Rights Code.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) delete Policy and Regulation 4219.1, Retirement - All Board Employees.

Motion Carried Unanimously

7. PERSONNEL

A. Attendance Support

Kim Munro, Director of Human Resource Services introduced Katie Dragert, Human Resources Advisor, Wellness and Attendance Support.

Ms. Dragert provided information to Trustees about the three key aspects of her role: wellness, disability management, and attendance support. She detailed a number of initiatives that she is currently working on, including implementing a district-wide wellness program, and creating a collaborative, supportive framework that will help employees return to work and perform their roles to the best of their abilities. Trustees asked questions of clarification of Ms. Dragert and thanked her for her presentation.

8. FACILITIES PLANNING

A. Capital Projects Update

Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities Services presented an overview of several capital projects that are in progress within the School District. These projects include the seismic upgrade nearing completion at Quadra, as well as two newly approved seismic upgrades at Tillicum and George Jay. Mr. Howley explained that the Tillicum project will impact one wing of the school, while the George Jay project will be more intrusive and will require the school to relocate to the Richmond School location for the next school year. Mr. Howley added that George Jay also received carbon neutral capital program funding to have its boilers replaced during the seismic upgrade.

Mr. Howley presented an update on the progress at the new Oak Bay High School. He explained that the gymnasiums will be ready for occupation in September 2014 with the remainder of the school building completed by September 2015. A time lapse video of the construction of the new Oak Bay School can be located on the school's website.

9. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None

10. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

A. Trustee Ferris - Trustee Remuneration

Trustee Ferris presented his motion and rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Chair ask three members of the public to establish an ongoing mechanism for the remuneration of trustees for the duration of their term and that it be initiated in December for each new board.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Orcherton, Horsman, Loring-Kuhanga, Ferris, Leonard

Against: Trustee Alpha

Abstained: Trustees Nohr and McNally

B. Trustee Nohr - Class Size and Composition

Trustee Nohr presented her motion and rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that senior administration provide a detailed summary of the 2013-2014 Class Size and Composition Report.

Motion Defeated

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

Against: Trustees Orcherton, Horsman, Ferris, and Leonard

C. Trustee McNally - Support openStudent

Trustee McNally presented her motion and rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

Associate Superintendent Duncan informed Trustees that the first phase of schools are being prepared for the conversion and will be ready to proceed once the Ministry of Education releases the MyEducationBC application. He also explained that the openStudent product was assessed, but did not meet the needs of our school district, and that continued work on the openStudent product has now ceased. Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) encourage the Ministry of Education to support openStudent and abandon their commitment to MyEducationBC / Aspen.

Motion Defeated

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

D. Trustee McNally - MyEducationBC

Trustee McNally presented her motion and rationale.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) express in a public statement deep concern with the privacy breach and data control implications of MyEducationBC and withdraw from further integration with this data base.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with Trustee McNally revising her motion to delete the word "breach" and the words "and withdraw from further integration with this data base".

Chair Leonard called for a vote on the revised motion.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) express in a public statement deep concern with the privacy and data control implications of MyEducationBC.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Alpha, Horsman, Leonard, Loring-Kuhanga, McNally, Nohr, Orcherton
Abstained: Trustee Ferris

11. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

12. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.