



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
May 21, 2013 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:

John Gaipman, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Sherri Bell, Deputy Superintendent, Pat Duncan, Associate Superintendent, Deborah Courville, Associate Superintendent, Ted Pennell, Director, Information Technology, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 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 May 21, 2013 Agenda be approved with the following changes/additions:

A6. Community Presentations

- d) Karen Weiss, Bullying
- e) Peter Milne, Conflict of Interest

A7. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee Horsman
- b) Trustee McNally
- c) Trustee Nohr

Motion Carried

A2. Approval of the Minutes

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the April 15, 2013 Regular Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried

b) It was moved and seconded:

That the April 17, 2013 Special Board Budget Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried

A3. Business arising from the Minutes

None.

A4. Student Achievement

Tina Horwood, Director of Island Ukuleles, attended the Board meeting and introduced the Senior Performing Ensemble which is comprised of students in grades 7 to 12 from 17 local middle and high schools. Ms. Horwood provided a brief history of Island Ukuleles after which the students performed and sang a variety of pieces for the Board including a very upbeat piece called "Here comes the Sun".

Chair Orcherton thanked Ms. Horwood, Matthew Martin, Matthew Russell and her ensemble for attending and performing for the Board.

A5. District Presentations

Trustee Ferris introduced and welcomed Donald Adams, Oaklands Elementary School Kindergarten Teacher and recipient of the 2013 Todd Rogers Research Award. The award is presented by the Canadian Educational Researchers' Association and recognizes an individual's leadership and achievement in the field of evidence based research. Trustee Ferris presented Mr. Adams with a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the Board of Education.

Chair Orcherton thanked Mr. Adams for his dedication to the students of School District 61.

A6. Community Presentations

- a) Clint Lalonde, parent, attended to speak in favour of Wi-Fi. Mr. Lalonde was speaking on behalf of his elementary school children in the District and expressed his frustration about the barriers that are in place for educators by placing moratoriums on installing any new routers in schools.
- b) Dr. Valerie Irvine, parent, attended to speak in favour of Wi-Fi. Dr. Irvine was representing her children in the District and voiced her belief that Wi-Fi benefits children with respect to the mobility afforded them to move around in classrooms and schools rather than being stationary due to fixed wired internet access.
- c) David Leach, parent, attended on behalf of his children at Willows Elementary and spoke in favour of Wi-Fi. Mr. Leach spoke about the precautionary principle with regards to the safety of Wi-Fi.
- d) Karen Weiss, attended to voice her concerns with respect to bullying on social media as it relates to the current Wi-Fi issue.
- e) Peter Milne, parent, expressed concern over perceived conflicts of interest within the District as it relates to the current Wi-Fi issue.

A7. Trustees' Reports

Trustee Horsman reported that she attended the Reynolds High School graduation transition fair and the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Annual General Meeting in Kelowna.

Trustee McNally reported that on May 4th she attended an urban study walk called Jane's Walk in the Tillicum School area, visited Craigflower Elementary School and attended the musical production of Guys and Dolls at Esquimalt High School.

Trustee Nohr reported that she will be attending the Special Education Parent Network Day on Saturday at Central Middle School and the Mt. Douglas High School graduation celebration on Wednesday night.

B. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Orcherton reported that she attended the annual Oak Bay Municipal dinner along with Trustees McEvoy and Horsman, to acknowledge and thank volunteers and organizations in the community.

Chair Orcherton reported that she attended the 2013 Success by 6 Early Years Awards ceremony and along with School District 62 and 63, accepted an award for outstanding work by teachers and Principals who work and support this initiative.

On May 16, 2013 Chair Orcherton attended Claremont Secondary School to judge the semi-finals of the 2013 Rotary Club of Royal Oak Public Speaking Contest. Eleven contestants from School Districts 61 and 63 were chosen to compete with two of our District students being chosen to move on to the finals on May 30th.

Chair Orcherton thanked Trustee McEvoy for his commitment and work as President of the British Columbia School Trustees Association.

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

C1. Education Policy Development Committee meeting

a) The May 6, 2013 meeting minutes were presented for information.

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting

a) The May 13, 2013 meeting minutes were presented for information.

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

a) Learning Improvement Fund – 2012/2013 Summary

Deputy Superintendent Bell provided a summary to the Board with respect to the 2012/2013 Learning Improvement Fund and how the grant funds were allocated to schools. The grant totaled \$1,923,524 and has been spent by providing additional teachers, educational assistants and professional development.

E. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Trustee McNally reported that she attended a Saanich Healthy Advisory Committee meeting on May 16, 2013.

F. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

F1. Needs Budget – Trustee Ferris

Trustee Ferris presented his motion and provided a brief overview of the Needs Budget Committee meetings. A discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with Superintendent Gaipman providing some answers of clarification.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) submit the District Needs Budget as well as our balanced budget.

Motion Carried

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

Abstain: Trustee Leonard

F2. Technology Installation – Trustee McNally

Chair Orcherton asked Trustee McNally if she would like to withdraw her motion as it was already discussed at the May 13, 2013 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting. Trustee McNally did not wish to withdraw but was willing to defer the motion. Deputy Superintendent Bell advised that this issue has already been discussed by the Sub-Committee on Public Engagement and recommendations will be brought forward in September 2013.

It was moved and seconded:

That the SD61 IT department research and report back to the Board on costs for purchase, setup and maintenance of a live feed camera(s) in the Board room, the objective being live streaming and archiving (archive function to include keyword searchable and RSS function) of Board meetings online.

Motion Tabled

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

G. COMMUNICATIONS

Superintendent Gaipman reported that by wearing jeans this evening, the Board is supporting the CURE Foundation which raises money for breast cancer research and education.

H. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

The following item was reported out from the In-Camera portion of this evening's meeting:

- i) Superintendent Gaipman reported that retired Principal, Maeva Sundher passed away suddenly while on vacation.

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer