



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
December 10, 2014 Inaugural Board Meeting – Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road**

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**INAUGURAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Present:

Trustees: Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard, Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr, Rob Paynter, Peg Orcheron, Jordan Watters, Ann Whitaker

Administration: Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools, Katrina Ball, Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Shelley Green, Associate Superintendent, Cam Pinkerton, Associate Superintendent, Ted Pennell, Director of Information Technology, Mark Walsh, Manager of Labour Relations, Deb Whitten, District Principal of Student Services, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Superintendent Bell recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

Superintendent Bell thanked the Oak Bay High School jazz quartet students and band teacher for attending the Inaugural meeting and playing for everyone.

Superintendent Bell welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that the agenda would be modified to move the motion to appoint Katrina Ball as Acting Secretary-Treasurer after the new Trustees have been officially sworn in and are able to conduct business.

Superintendent Bell introduced and welcomed Mr. Butch Dick.

**2. Traditional Greeting**

Mr. Butch Dick, a member of the Songhees Nation and currently the Songhees Nation Education Liaison, provided a traditional aboriginal greeting.

**3. Trustee Election Report**

Superintendent Bell reported that local Municipal Elections were held on November 15, 2014 and thirteen candidates ran for school trustee within our district. The nine Trustees elected to the Board of Education for the term of office to expire on December 2, 2018 are Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard, Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr, Peg Orcheron, Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters and Ann Whiteaker.

**4. Swearing-In Ceremony - Oath of Office**

Superintendent Bell introduced the Honorable Mr. Justice Evan Blake, who administered the Oath of Office to Trustees in accordance with the *School Act*. The newly elected Trustees made their declaration by reciting the Oath individually and affixing their signatures as required.

## 5. Motion to Appoint Acting Secretary-Treasurer

Superintendent Bell advised the newly sworn in Trustees that in the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer, Debra Laser, the following recommended motion would need to be moved and seconded.

It was moved and seconded:

That Katrina Ball be appointed Acting Secretary-Treasurer for the duration of the December 10, 2014 Inaugural Board meeting.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

## 6. Election of Chair

Acting Secretary-Treasurer Ball called for nominations for Chair of the Board of Education for the term of one year ending December 5, 2015. Nominations were received for Trustees Leonard, Loring-Kuhanga and Orcherton. Trustees Leonard, Loring-Kuhanga and Orcherton accepted the nomination. A ballot vote was taken and Trustee Loring-Kuhanga was declared the Chair of the Board of Education.

Acting Secretary-Treasurer Ball invited Chair Loring-Kuhanga to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Butch Dick for the traditional greeting and her colleagues for their confidence to vote her as Board Chair. Chair Loring-Kuhanga stated that she is committed and looking forward to working with everyone to support the students in the Greater Victoria School District.

## 7. Election of Vice Chair

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called for nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Board of Education for the term of one year ending December 5, 2015. Nominations were received for Trustees Ferris, Leonard and McNally. Trustees Ferris, Leonard and McNally accepted the nomination. A ballot vote was taken and Trustee McNally was declared the Vice-Chair of the Board of Education.

## 8. Election of the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association Representative

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called for nominations for the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) representative for the term of one year ending December 5, 2015. Nominations were received for Trustees Ferris, Orcherton and Watters. Trustees Ferris, Orcherton and Watters accepted the nomination. A ballot vote was taken and Trustee Orcherton was declared the BCPSEA representative.

## 9. Election of the British Columbia School Trustees Association Provincial Councillor

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called for nominations for the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Provincial Councillor for the term of one year ending December 5, 2015. Nominations were received for Trustees Ferris, Nohr and Whiteaker. Trustees Ferris and Nohr declined the nomination and Trustee Whiteaker accepted. Trustee Whiteaker was declared the BCSTA Provincial Councillor by acclamation.

**10. Election of the Vancouver Island Labour Relations Association Representative**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called for nominations for the Vancouver Island Labour Relations Association (VILRA) representative for the term of one year ending December 5, 2015. Nominations were received for Trustees Ferris, McNally, Paynter and Whiteaker. Trustee Ferris declined the nomination and Trustees McNally, Paynter and Whiteaker accepted. A ballot vote was taken and during that vote a majority vote was not reached. A second ballot vote was taken and Trustee McNally was declared the VILRA representative.

**11. Appointment of the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Members / Election of Chair**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga appointed Trustees Leonard, McNally, Paynter and Whiteaker to the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee for the term of one year ending December 5, 2015. The Committee elected Trustee Leonard to serve as Chair.

**12. Appointment of the Education Policy Development Committee Members / Election of Chair**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga appointed Trustees Ferris, Nohr, Orcherton and Watters to the Education Policy Development Committee for the term of one year ending December 5, 2015. The Committee elected Trustee Nohr to serve as Chair.

**13. Motion to Destroy Ballots**

It was moved and seconded

That the ballots be destroyed.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**14. New Business/Notices of Motion****a) Trustee Watters - Increased Funding to K-12 Education in the 2015 Provincial Budget**

Trustee Watters presented her motion and stated that it required immediate attention due to time sensitivity.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the chair to write a letter to the Minister of Finance, copying the Minister of Education, requesting that the Minister of Finance heed the recommendations from the First Report of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services and increase the funding to K-12 education in the 2015 Budget.

Trustee Orcherton stated a "Point of Order" as Trustee Watters did not give proper notice of motion.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees ending with Trustee Orcherton challenging the ruling of the Chair.

It was moved and seconded:

That the decision of the Board Chair to proceed with debating and voting on Trustee Watters motion be sustained.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Paynter, Nohr, Watters, Loring-Kuhanga and McNally  
Against: Trustees Leonard, Orcherton, Whiteaker and Ferris

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with concern expressed that Trustees had not had an opportunity to review, discuss or debate the Report on the Budget 2015 Consultations from the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the chair to write a letter to the Minister of Finance, copying the Minister of Education, requesting that the Minister of Finance heed the recommendations from the First Report of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services and increase the funding to K-12 education in the 2015 Budget.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Paynter, Nohr, Watters, Loring-Kuhanga, McNally and Ferris  
Against: Trustees Leonard, Orcherton and Whiteaker

## 15. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer