



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Regular Board Meeting, Monday, January 19, 2015 @ 7:30 p.m.
Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road**

AGENDA

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

- A1. Approval of the Agenda** (p 01-04)
- A2. Approval of the Minutes**
 - a) Approval of the November 17, 2014 Regular Board Minutes (p 05-10)
 - b) Approval of the December 10, 2014 Inaugural Minutes (p 11-14)
- A3. Business arising from the Minutes**
- A4. Student Achievement**
 - a) Central Middle School - School Wide Enrichment
- A5. District Presentations**
- A6. Community Presentations** (5 minutes per presentation)
 - a) Peter Milne, Policy, Practice & Responsibility - A Follow-up
 - b) Jason Gammon, GVTA - 8th day pay
 - c) Kirk Doherty, GVTA - 8th day pay
 - d) David Futter, GVTA - 8th day pay
 - e) Bev Bacon, Teacher - Rebuilding Trust and Loyalty

B. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- B1. Chair's Report**

**Note: This meeting is being recorded
except for A4. Student Achievement.**

B2. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee Orcherton - BCPSEA Proposed Budget/Ordinary Resolution

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**C1. Education Policy Development Committee**

- a) Minutes from the January 5, 2015 meeting – Information only (p 15-19)
- b) Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District 61 (Greater Victoria) select one trustee and direct the Superintendent to appoint two staff members to form a working committee to develop a draft Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol, circulate it to stakeholder groups in draft form for review and comment and report to the March 2015 Education Policy Development Committee with a draft policy and implementation recommendations (as per Bylaw 9210 The Development of Policy).

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) Minutes from the January 12, 2015 meeting – Information only (p 20-26)
- b) Recommended Motions:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request senior administration to provide a report at the earliest possible Operations, Policy and Planning meeting outlining the current and long-term IT directions, priorities, departmental goals and project costs to the District for 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request senior management to provide an update on the initiatives of the Wellness and Attendance Support Advisor to date and going forward including an explanation of Homewood Health and the costs associated as well as cost recovery from the attendance awareness program.

- iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that the Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer provide three possible funding proposals for the teachers' \$400,000 salary / benefits to pay for the eighth day of work in September upon teachers' return to the classroom after the strike settlement.

- iv) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) send a motion to BCSTA to be considered for addition to their upcoming Annual General Meeting (April 2015) agenda requesting that the BCSTA resolve to invite a local First Nations representative to conduct a traditional welcome on their territory at all provincial BCSTA conferences and academies.

Note: This meeting is being recorded except for A4. Student Achievement.

- v) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that the Secretary-Treasurer prepare a report, to be included as an information item for discussion at the February 10, 2015 OPPS meeting, on the financial costs and benefits of BCSTA membership to the district over the last 3 years including all association fees and conferences and the value of any services received.
- vi) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education calling upon him to reverse his December 4, 2014 decision to stop funding graduated Adult upgrading courses offered through the province's K-12 public school system.
- vii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent of Schools to conduct research on examples, costs and process for establishing a Strategic Plan, and report back to the Board with preliminary information at the earliest possible OPPS meeting.
- viii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent of Schools to provide a printed Monthly Progress Report on all motions at Board Meetings attached to the agenda packup so that Trustees and stakeholders can follow the progress of motions that have come to Standing Committees or the Board agendas, record to go back four months in hard copy.
- ix) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent of Schools to construct a web page on the SD61 website to be a running record of disposal of motions at the Board table on an annual basis, organized by month, to be archived on the page in a form easily accessible to all stakeholders, annually in December of each year.

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

D1. Superintendent's Report

- a) Superintendent's Report on Achievement 2014-2015

(p 27-38)

Recommended Motion:

To approve the "Superintendent's Report on Achievement 2014-2015" in accordance with Section 79.3 of the *School Act*.

D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

E. QUESTION PERIOD (15 minutes total)

F. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

Note: This meeting is being recorded except for A4. Student Achievement.

G. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS**G1. New Business**

- a) Trustee Orcherton - Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to form a working committee including a Trustee(s) and representatives from our stakeholder groups to develop a draft Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol (as per Bylaw 9210 The Development of Policy)

- b) Trustee Watters - Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write a letter to the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association asking them to reconsider signing the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement 2013-2018.

- c) Trustee Watters - FSA Testing

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to inform school-based principals to honour parent requests to withdraw their child from the FSA testing and to refrain from contacting them upon receipt of their withdrawal request form.

- d) Trustee Nohr - FSA Reference Materials for Parents

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) provide to all parents the first week of January a point form summary document pertaining to the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) referencing the BCCPAC and BCTF documents on this topic with the goal of presenting a full range of perspectives on the issue for parents' consideration; the document will be drafted under the direction of senior administration and will be reviewed at a future Education Policy Committee meeting.

G2. Notice of Motions

- a) Trustee Paynter - Needs Budget Committee

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Needs Budget Committee to evaluate current district funding levels and allocations in consultation with the Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer and report to the Board with recommendations and rationale for funding levels necessary to meet its operational requirements and to discharge its responsibility for the improvement of student achievement in the school district.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Note: This meeting is being recorded except for A4. Student Achievement.



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
November 17, 2014 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road**

MINUTES

Present:

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

Administration:

Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Pat Duncan, Deputy Superintendent, Shelley Green, Associate Superintendent, Cam Pinkerton, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Seamus Howley, Director, Facilities Services, Mark Walsh, Manager, Labour Relations, Deb Whitten, District Principal, Student Services, Nita McBurney, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Chair Orcherton 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 November 17, 2014 Agenda be approved with the following changes/additions:

A6. Community Presentations

a) Red Cross

A7. Trustees' Reports

a) Trustee Horsman

b) Trustee McNally

F. New Business/Notice of Motions

F1. Trustee Nohr - Teacher Pay

F2. Trustee Orcherton - Concussion Awareness Policy

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the October 20, 2014 Regular Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None

A4. Student Achievement

Rockheights Middle School Principal Maryanne Trofimuk introduced two Grade 6 students, Bekah and Miranda. The students shared information about the opportunity that they had to participate in a “No Stone Left Alone” Remembrance Day ceremony with Retired Major General Cameron Ross. Seventy-five students and staff along with military personnel and a police constable participated in the ceremony which included the students placing poppies on the military headstones in the veteran’s cemetery, taking time at each gravesite to reflect. The students stated that they were very proud for the soldiers who gave their lives for them.

Chair Orcherton thanked Ms. Trofimuk and the Rockheights Middle School students for attending the Board meeting and sharing their experience.

A5. District Presentations

Chair Orcherton presented Trustee Alpha with a gift in recognition of her time on the Board as a Trustee. Chair Orcherton expressed that Trustee Alpha brought a lot of passion to the Board, on behalf of students and that she will be missed. Superintendent Bell thanked Trustee Alpha for her years of service as a Trustee, adding that she has such passion, love for teaching and learning, a huge heart and she will be missed. Trustee Alpha thanked everyone for the past six years, stating that public education is profoundly important and that she feels that the Board has accomplished a lot.

Chair Orcherton presented Trustee McEvoy with a gift in recognition of his time on the Board as a Trustee. Chair Orcherton commended Trustee McEvoy for his leadership as a past Board Chair, as Trustee, as president of BCSTA and the Canadian School Board Association nationally, taking public education to every level. She noted his dedication to students and thanked him for a great job. Superintendent Bell thanked Trustee McEvoy as a colleague and trustee, and commended him on taking big issues and narrowing them down to the core of what is really important which is student learning, adding that he will be missed. Trustee McEvoy stated that so many great things have happened in this district. He expressed thanks to the clerical support at the Board Office and congratulated the winners of the trustee election.

Chair Orcherton presented Trustee Horsman with a gift in recognition of her time on the Board as a Trustee. Chair Orcherton stated that Trustee Horsman began as a trustee when her children were in school and that she has brought a wealth of experience and new ideas to the table while always advocating for students. Superintendent Bell noted that Trustee Horsman has been a trustee for 28 years. She added that Trustee Horsman has such pride in our District and what our students can accomplish and that she will be missed. Trustee Horsman thanked everyone at the Board Meeting and stated that it has been an honour and a privilege to serve the District.

A6. Community Presentations

Chair Orcherton invited Bruce Andrew and Mary Crocker from the Red Cross to celebrate the District and to present an award for their partnership as it relates to a bullying prevention program. Mr. Andrew explained that high school students are trained in bullying prevention and then in turn, provide training to middle school students, noting that peer-to-peer training is very effective. Mr. Andrew acknowledged Marnice Jones, Healthy Schools Co-ordinator, who is now trained and certified to conduct the Red Cross Beyond the Hurt Youth Facilitator Program, noting that she has been instrumental in working with teachers and counselors who work with students. He thanked the Board of Education for supporting the partnership.

Chair Orcherton called upon Marnice Jones to accept the certificate of appreciation presented by Mary Crocker from the Red Cross. Chair Orcherton thanked the Red Cross for initiating the program in the District.

A7. Trustees' Reports

Trustee Horsman reported that she attended Reynolds Secondary School for their Remembrance Day Assembly, stating that it was a wonderful and moving experience of social responsibility and citizenship.

Trustee Ferris acknowledged Trustee Alpha's role as Chair of the Education Policy Development Committee, Trustee McEvoy for his leadership as a school trustee, and Trustee Horsman for her ability to add the historical perspective to the discussion.

B. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Orcherton distributed the "Principles" section from the draft British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Co-Governance Relationship Memorandum of Understanding and requested feedback from Trustees. Chair Orcherton will report the feedback to the BCSTA President and Directors.

Chair Orcherton provided an update on the first consultation meeting held at Victoria High School with respect to the alumni's vision of a Multi-Purpose Sports Facility that the Board approved in principle in 2012. Chair Orcherton advised that the public feedback at the meeting was very positive. The next public consultation meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2014.

Chair Orcherton reported that she attended several Remembrance Day ceremonies, commending our students for understanding what the day is about and for the respect that they convey.

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

C1. Education Policy Development Committee

- a) The November 3, 2014 meeting minutes were received for information.

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The November 10, 2014 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Trustee Leonard referred to the minutes of the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting and presented the following recommended motion.

It was moved and seconded:

- i)

<p>That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings to the revised Bylaw 9360 General Meeting of the Board at the November 17, 2014 Board of Education Meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried Unanimously</p>

It was moved and seconded:

That the revised Bylaw 9360 *General Meeting of the Board* be:

Read a first time the 17th day of November 2014;
 Read a second time the 17th day of November 2014;
 Read a third time, passed and adopted the 17th day of November 2014 and that the revised Bylaw 9360 be enacted effective January 2015.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings to Bylaw 9360.01 *Question Period During General Meetings of the Board of Education* at the November 17, 2014 Board of Education meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

That Bylaw 9360.01 *Question Period During General Meetings of the Board of Education* be:

Read a first time the 17th day of November 2014;
Read a second time the 17th day of November 2014;
Read a third time, passed and adopted the 17th day of November 2014 and that Bylaw 9360.01 be enacted effective January 2015.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

- iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the digital recording of board meetings effective January 2015 using the following criteria:

- 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.
- In order to support and encourage dialogue that occurs during Board Committee meetings, those meetings will not be recorded.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The above motion will be reviewed in one year's time.

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

D1. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Bell reported that the final September 30, 2014 school age enrolment is up over projection by 28 students and is up 29 students as compared to last year. After years of declining enrolment, this has been the first increase in enrolment.

D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Laser advised that in 2005, the Board of Education passed a motion for the Secretary-Treasurer to automatically review, every three years, the remuneration for Trustees and compare the amount to the average total remuneration paid to Trustees in the five British Columbia schools districts closest in student population to the Greater Victoria School District. The current trustee remuneration has been in place since 2009. Based on the average of the five comparable school districts, the recommendation is to increase the Trustee remuneration from \$17,424 to \$20,486 effective December 8, 2014. The stipends for the Chair and Vice-Chair will remain unchanged at \$3,000 and \$1,500 per annum respectively.

A discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

- a) It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) turns down the stipend increase to \$20,486.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees McNally, Nohr, Alpha

Against: Trustees Orcherton, Horsman, Leonard, Loring-Kuhanga, Ferris, McEvoy

The Board of Education will follow the recommendation of the Secretary-Treasurer.

E. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

E1. Trustee Horsman - BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting Motions

Trustee Horsman advised that the summary of the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting motions was included in the board agenda package for information.

F. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

F1. Trustee Nohr – Teacher Pay

Trustee Nohr provided a Notice of Motion for the January 12, 2015 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that the Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer provide three possible funding proposals for the teachers' \$400,000 salary/benefits to pay for the eighth day of work in September upon teachers' return to the classroom after the strike settlement.

F2. Trustee Orcherton – Policy on Concussion Awareness

Trustee Orcherton provided a Notice of Motion for the January 5, 2015 Education Policy Development Committee:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) develop a policy on concussion awareness and care protocols as per policy 9210, Development of Policy.

G. COMMUNICATIONS - None

H. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer



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

INAUGURAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Trustees: Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard, Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr, Rob Paynter, Peg Orcherton, 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 Orcherton, 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 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

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer



**Education Policy Development Committee
January 5, 2015 - Rockheights Middle School**

Regular Minutes

Present: **TRUSTEES**
Deborah Nohr, Chair
Tom Ferris
Diane McNally
Peg Orcherton
Rob Paynter
Jordan Watters
Ann Whiteaker

ADMINISTRATION
Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools
Patrick Duncan, Deputy Superintendent
Nella Nelson, Coordinator, Aboriginal Nations Education
Janine Roy, District Principal of Learning Initiatives
Maryanne Trofimuk, Principal of Rockheights Middle School
Joanna Snow, Vice Principal of Rockheights Middle School
Nadine Naughton, Principal of Shoreline Middle School
Monica Watters, Student Representative
Connie Schmidt, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Elaine Leonard
Edith Loring-Kuhanga

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Chair Nohr 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

Trustee McNally and Trustee Watters asked that the agenda be amended with two additional motions, one with regard to Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) and one with regard to the Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement. It was agreed that both motions be added to the agenda under section 8.G. Motions. Greater Victoria Teachers Association (GVTA) Representative Jason Gammon asked permission to add a presentation under "Public Request to the Committee". It was agreed that the presentation be added to the agenda under "Public Request to the Committee".

It was moved:

That the January 5, 2015 regular agenda be approved with two additional motions under section 8. G. Motions and a presentation added to "Public Request to the Committee".

Motion Carried

For: Trustees McNally, Nohr, Orcherton, Paynter, Watters
Abstain: Trustees Ferris, Whiteaker

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING - November 3, 2014**

It was moved:

That the November 3, 2014 Education Policy Development Committee Meeting regular minutes be approved.

Motion Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - none

4. PUBLIC REQUEST TO THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Jason Gammon, Greater Victoria Teachers' Association (GVTA), shared a letter with the committee outlining the GVTA position with respect to the provincial Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA). After the letter was read to the committee, Trustee Ferris suggested that any comments should be heard when the meeting had proceeded to Section 8.G. Motions of the agenda.

5. CORRESPONDENCE REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE - none

6. MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE - none

7. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - none

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduction of Student Representative

Superintendent Sherri Bell introduced Student Representative Monica Watkins from Victoria High School. She explained that a Representative Advisory Council of Students (RACS) was established with grade 11 and grade 12 students from every secondary school in the District. Student Representative Watkins shared her belief that schools are a great place for every student to learn. She shared that she is enjoying being part of RACS to see the political decision-making process in action.

B. Graduation Rates

Superintendent Bell reviewed the improvements shown in the District's Six Year Completion Rate. She provided data that demonstrated significant improvements in the District's completion rates for all students, Aboriginal students and students enrolled in Special Education programs since 2009. Superintendent Bell explained that the District graduation rates in 20012/13 and 2013/14 exceeded the provincial average; this is a tremendous success, and she praised all District educators for their hard work and continuous efforts to provide students with excellent education.

A brief question and answer period followed.

C. Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement

Superintendent Bell introduced Nella Nelson, Coordinator of Aboriginal Nations Education. Ms. Nelson explained that during her 35 years in the Greater Victoria School District, Aboriginal education has always been greatly supported by District administration. She outlined how the Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement has impacted and shaped education in the Greater Victoria School District since it came into existence seven years ago. Ms. Nelson explained that over the past several years, numerous community groups have become an integral part of our District's education system through the work and connections formed via the Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement. Teachings of Aboriginal cultures, languages and skills have been integrated into the curriculum of all students. The Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement is a living document that is reviewed and updated on a yearly basis.

Chair Nohr thanked Ms. Nelson for her presentation and her dedicated work and contributions. A brief discussion followed.

D. Weaving Aboriginal Ways of Learning and Knowing For All Students

Chair Nohr introduced Ms. Maryanne Trofimuk, Principal of Rockheights Middle School. Ms. Trofimuk described how programs and projects that take place at her school are infused with Aboriginal ways of knowing and learning and this benefits all students. She explained that Aboriginal connectedness is extremely important and provided examples of how Rockheights students learn about Aboriginal culture and teachings. Her presentation was followed by a group of Rockheights students who, along with their teacher and vice-principal, sang and drummed two Aboriginal songs. Some trustees were provided with drums and were able to join in with the drumming as well.

E. Box of Treasures

Leslie McGarry, Culture and Community Liaison with the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, presented a program called First Peoples Box of Treasures. This program is offered to K - 12 students. Through classroom visits and visits to the Royal BC Museum, students are introduced to First Nations people in B.C, learn about their languages and different cultures, take guided tours through the First Nations gallery, complete hands-on First Nations crafts, and learn songs, dances and stories. Ms. McGarry explained that the students develop cultural awareness by learning about living with the earth versus on the earth and by stories that involve lessons they are challenged to discover.

Chair Nohr thanked Ms. McGarry for her presentation and a brief discussion followed.

F. Digital Story-Telling

Nadine Naughton, Principal of Shoreline Community Middle School, introduced Brenda Pohl, teacher at Shoreline Community Middle School. Ms. Pohl shared spotlights of her digital story-telling activities with students. She explained that through digital storytelling, Aboriginal students are engaged and eager to share their newly gained knowledge with other students. As well, digital storytelling provided excellent opportunities to connect with families and the community.

G. Motion

Trustee Orcherton presented her motion and provided her rationale.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 direct the Superintendent to form a working committee including a Trustee (s) and representatives from our stakeholder groups to develop a draft Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol (as per Bylaw 9210 The Development of Policy).

Trustee Paynter proposed an amendment to the motion:

That the Board of Education of SD 61 select one trustee and direct the Superintendent to appoint two staff members to form a working committee including a Trustee (s) and representatives from our stakeholder groups to develop a draft Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol, circulate it to stakeholder groups in draft form for review and comment and report to the March 2015 Education Policy Development Committee with a draft policy and implementation recommendations (as per Bylaw 9210 The Development of Policy).

Trustee McNally proposed an amendment to the amendment to the motion:

That the Board of Education of SD 61 select one trustee and direct the Superintendent to appoint two staff members to form a working committee including a Trustee (s) and representatives from our stakeholder groups to develop a draft Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol, circulate it to stakeholder groups in draft form for review and comment and report to the March 2015 Education Policy Development Committee with a draft policy and implementation recommendations (as per Bylaw 9210 The Development of Policy).

A discussion ensued.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of SD 61 select one trustee and direct the Superintendent to appoint two staff members to form a working committee to develop a draft Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol, circulate it to stakeholder groups in draft form for review and comment and report to the March 2015 Education Policy Development Committee with a draft policy and implementation recommendations (as per Bylaw 9210 The Development of Policy).

Motion Carried

For: Trustees McNally, Paynter, Watters, Nohr

Against: Trustee Ferris

Abstain: Trustees Orcherton, Whiteaker

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of SD 61 select one trustee and direct the Superintendent to appoint two staff members to form a working committee including a Trustee (s) and representatives from our stakeholder groups to develop a draft Policy on Concussion Awareness and Care Protocol, circulate it to stakeholder groups in draft form for review and comment and report to the March 2015 Education Policy Development Committee with a draft policy and implementation recommendations (as per Bylaw 9210 The Development of Policy).

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee McNally

Against: Trustees Nohr, Orcherton, Watters, Whiteaker, Ferris

Abstain: Trustee Paynter

G.1 Motion

Trustee Watters presented her motion and rationale. A discussion ensued.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that the Superintendent review with Principals the need to honour all parent requests to withdraw students from the Foundation Skills Assessment testing, and refrain from contacting parents with regards to their decision.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees McNally, Watters

Against: Trustees Whiteaker, Orcherton, Ferris

Abstain: Trustees Nohr, Paynter

G.2 Motion

Trustee McNally presented her motion and rationale. A discussion ensued.

It was moved:

That the Superintendent bring an information item update to the Board meeting in February regarding the GVTA's status as non-signatory to the Enhancement Agreement

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees McNally, Watters, Nohr

Against: Trustees Whiteaker, Orcherton, Ferris

Abstain: Trustee Paynter

H. Tour of Rockheights Middle School

Committee members and members of the public were invited to join Principal Trofimuk on a tour of Rockheights Middle School.

9. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 pm.



**Operations, Policy and Planning Committee Meeting
January 12, 2015 – GVSD Board Office, Boardroom**

REGULAR MINUTES

Present:

Elaine Leonard, Chair, Tom Ferris, Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr, Peg Orcherton (left 9:30 p.m.), Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Administration:

Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Pat Duncan, Deputy Superintendent, Shelley Green, Associate Superintendent, Cam Pinkerton, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities Services, Mark Walsh, Manager, Labour Relations, Kim Munro, Director of Human Resource Services, Doreen Hegan, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m.

Superintendent Bell introduced Monica Watkins, Student Representative from Victoria High School.

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 January 12, 2015 regular agenda be approved with the addition of a Notice of Motion from Trustee Nohr and Trustee Watters.

Motion Carried

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved

That the November 10, 2014 Operations, Policy and Planning Meeting regular minutes be approved.

Motion Carried

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – None

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Peter Milne - Policy, Practice and Responsibility

Mr. Milne presented information regarding Wi-Fi in schools and provided a handout that included a Wi-Fi reference and resource list. Superintendent Bell informed the Committee that Rogers Elementary School is the only school that at the end of last year had not started the parent consultation process related to implementing Wi-Fi in the school.

5. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

A. 2014-2015 Funding Update

Secretary-Treasurer Laser provided the Committee with an overview of the final 2014/2015 funding announcement received from the Ministry of Education in December 2014.

Secretary-Treasurer Laser stated that the final grant funding shows a net increase of \$2,723,742 as compared to the 2014/2015 preliminary grant and includes the release of provincial holdback funds in the amount of \$1,419,072. The structural deficit for the 2015-2016 school year is estimated to be \$8.3 million; however, after applying the unrestricted operating surplus of \$4.3 million from the 2013-2014 school year and the provincial holdback funds of \$1.4 million, the budget shortfall is estimated to be \$2.6 million. The final grant funding will be reflected in the 2014/2015 Amended Annual Budget which will be presented at the February Board of Education meeting. Trustees asked questions of clarification of Secretary-Treasurer Laser.

B. Yearly Budget Plan and Summary of Partner Group Budget Input 2015-2016

Secretary-Treasurer Laser reviewed the 2015-2016 Budget Plan and explained that the Summary of Partner Group Budget Input reflects the responses received from the input request made to School Planning Councils and Education Partner Groups in October 2014. Included with the summary of responses was a scattergram summary of the priority areas. The documents will be posted to the District website under the Financial section.

6. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None

7. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Chair Leonard suggested that, beginning in February, the Operations Policy and Planning agenda include a section called "*Budget Discussions*" to provide for dedicated time for trustees and stakeholders to engage in discussion about the budget. Trustees agreed with Chair Leonard's suggestion.

A. Trustee McNally - Budget Ad Hoc Committee

Trustee McNally withdrew her motion.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) immediately convene and advertise publicly an ad hoc committee with three tables:

- a) to meet at minimum monthly (more, or less, often by agreement of attendees) until the final budget vote to examine the current budget and any financial information as needed, including the line item budget, in order to propose this year's one time only savings to address the budget's \$8.5 million structural deficit;
- b) one table to be composed of any interested SD61 community members including VCPAC and any interested trustees; one table to be composed of interested SD61 employee groups and any interested trustees; one table to consist of interested members of the

SD61 PVPA and any interested trustees; tables to meet on the same evening, same venue; format of evening as open question period or other format to be decided by the tables;

- c) the Secretary-Treasurer or designate and Superintendent to be present at the meetings;
- d) to report to the Board monthly, method and meeting to be determined by the committee members at each table;
- e) and that the meetings be held at 6:30 pm in school libraries.

Motion Withdrawn

B. Trustee Nohr - IT Directions, Priorities and Goals

Trustee Nohr advised that she wanted to amend her motion to add the words “earliest possible” before Operations, remove the word “and” following the word “priorities”, and add the words “and project costs to the District for 2013-2014 and 2014-2015” after the word “goals”.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request senior administration to provide a report at the Operations, Policy and Planning meeting outlining the current and long-term IT directions, priorities and departmental goals.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees with clarification provided on the types of costs to be included. Chair Leonard called for the vote on the amended motion.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request senior administration to provide a report at the earliest possible Operations, Policy and Planning meeting outlining the current and long-term IT directions, priorities, departmental goals and project costs to the District for 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

Motion Carried Unanimously

C. Trustee Nohr - Initiatives of the Health and Safety Advisor

Trustee Nohr advised that she wanted to amend her motion to replace the words “health and safety” with “Wellness and Attendance Support” and add the words “as well as cost recovery from the attendance awareness program.” after the word “associated”.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request senior management to provide an update on the initiatives of the health and safety advisor to date and going forward including an explanation of Homewood Health and the costs associated.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with concerns raised about the limited amount of information collected at this time due to job action and the fact that the program only started in April 2014. Chair Leonard called for the vote on the amended motion.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request senior management to provide an update on the initiatives of the Wellness and Attendance Support Advisor to date and going forward including an explanation of Homewood Health and the costs associated as well as cost recovery from the attendance awareness program.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Nohr, Watters, Paynter, Loring-Kuhanga, and McNally

Against: Trustees Orcherton, Whiteaker, Ferris, and Leonard

D. Trustee Nohr - Funding Proposal for Teachers

Trustee Nohr presented her motion.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees. Superintendent Bell and Secretary-Treasurer Laser informed Trustees that legal advice had been sought regarding the application of our local collective agreement language with respect to processing the September teachers' payroll. The school district has followed the local collective agreement language. The School District subsequently requested funding from the Ministry of Education to pay an additional day, but the request was denied as the Ministry will not provide funding beyond the local collective agreement language. Secretary-Treasurer Laser advised that the cost of paying an additional day is approximately \$424,000 and would result in increasing the budget shortfall for the next school year.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that the Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer provide three possible funding proposals for the teachers' \$400,000 salary / benefits to pay for the eighth day of work in September upon teachers' return to the classroom after the strike settlement.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Nohr, Watters, Paynter, Loring-Kuhanga, and McNally

Against: Trustees Orcherton, Whiteaker, Leonard, and Ferris

E. Trustee Orcherton - "Fully Funded" Public Education

Trustee Orcherton withdrew her motion.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) set aside an hour on the Operations Policy and Planning Committee Agenda(s) to engage in ongoing discussions with Trustees, stakeholder groups and the Public on defining what "Fully Funded" Public Education is.

Motion Withdrawn

Trustee Orcherton left the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

F. Trustee Watters - BCSTA Motion

Trustee Watters stated that she wanted to amend her motion to replace the words "Provincial Council" with "Annual General Meeting (April 2015)" and add the words "on their territory" after the word "welcome".

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) send a motion to BCSTA to be considered for addition to their upcoming Provincial Council agenda requesting that the BCSTA resolve to invite a local First Nations representative to conduct a traditional welcome at all provincial BCSTA conferences and academies.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees. Chair Leonard called for a vote on the amended motion.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) send a motion to BCSTA to be considered for addition to their upcoming Annual General Meeting (April 2015) agenda requesting that the BCSTA resolve to invite a local First Nations representative to conduct a traditional welcome on their territory at all provincial BCSTA conferences and academies.

Motion Carried Unanimously

G. Trustee Watters - BCSTA Costs and Benefits

Trustee Watters presented her motion. Discussion ensued amongst Trustees. Secretary-Treasurer Laser advised that she would be able to provide the cost of membership and conference attendance but that she would not be able to quantify the value of services received from the BCSTA.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that the Secretary-Treasurer prepare a report, to be included as an information item for discussion at the February 10, 2015 OPPs meeting, on the financial costs and benefits of BCSTA membership to the district over the last 3 years including all association fees and conferences and the value of any services received.

Motion Carried

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

H. Trustee Watters - Letter to Minister re: Graduated Adult Funding

Trustee Watters presented her motion. Discussion ensued amongst Trustees.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education calling upon him to reverse his December 4, 2014 decision to stop funding graduated adult upgrading courses offered through the province's K-12 public school system.

Motion Carried Unanimously

I. Trustee McNally - Strategic Plan

Trustee McNally presented her motion. Discussion ensued amongst Trustees.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent of Schools to conduct research on examples, costs and process for establishing a Strategic Plan, and report back to the Board with preliminary information at the earliest possible OPPs meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

J. Trustee McNally - Monthly Progress Report on Board Motions

Chair Leonard called for a vote as no discussion was required.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent of Schools to provide a printed Monthly Progress Report on all motions at Board Meetings attached to the agenda pickup so that Trustees and stakeholders can follow the progress of motions that have come to Standing Committees or the Board agendas, record to go back four months in hard copy.

Motion Carried Unanimously

K. Trustee McNally - Web Page for Disposed Motions

Chair Leonard called for a vote as no discussion was required.

It was moved

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent of Schools to construct a web page on the SD61 website to be a running record of disposal of motions at the Board table on an annual basis, organized by month, to be archived on the page in a form easily accessible to all stakeholders, annually in December of each year.

Motion Carried Unanimously

L. Trustee McNally - Amendment to Bylaw 9368 - Procedure of Board Meetings

Trustee McNally requested that her motion be deferred to the February OPPs meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Bylaw 9368 Procedure of Board Meetings thus (following process in Bylaw 9010 Bylaws of the Board): 1. To agree to all three readings of this proposed amendment at the Board meeting January 19, 2014; 2. In Article 107.00, to replace "challenge" with "appeal."; 3. To insert before the last sentence "The Chair will call for debate on the merit of the appeal in reference to SD61 Bylaws and Robert's rules of Order, with comment before the vote from the Secretary-Treasurer functioning as the meeting parliamentarian."; and 4. To amend the last sentence to read "A vote to sustain the Chair or the appeal will follow debate and comment from the Secretary-Treasurer".

Motion Deferred to February OPPs

M. Trustees Nohr and Watters provided Notice of Motion for the January 19, 2015 Board of Education meeting regarding Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA).

8. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

9. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

2014-2015

Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement



1. Improving Areas of Student Achievement

What is improving?

Over the past five years we have seen a steady improvement in:

- Dogwood Completion Rate for all students
- Dogwood Completion Rate for all male students
- Dogwood Completion Rate for all female students
- Dogwood Completion Rate for Aboriginal students
- Dogwood Completion Rate for Special Needs students
- Transition Rates for students in grades 9 to 11

Over the last five years we have exceeded the Provincial FSA results in:

- Grade 4 male and female students in Reading

In the past 10 years our Grade 4 male, female and Aboriginal groups have all shown improvement in Reading. The Grade 4 males have improved by 6.5% and our Grade 4 Aboriginal students have improved by 13.9%.

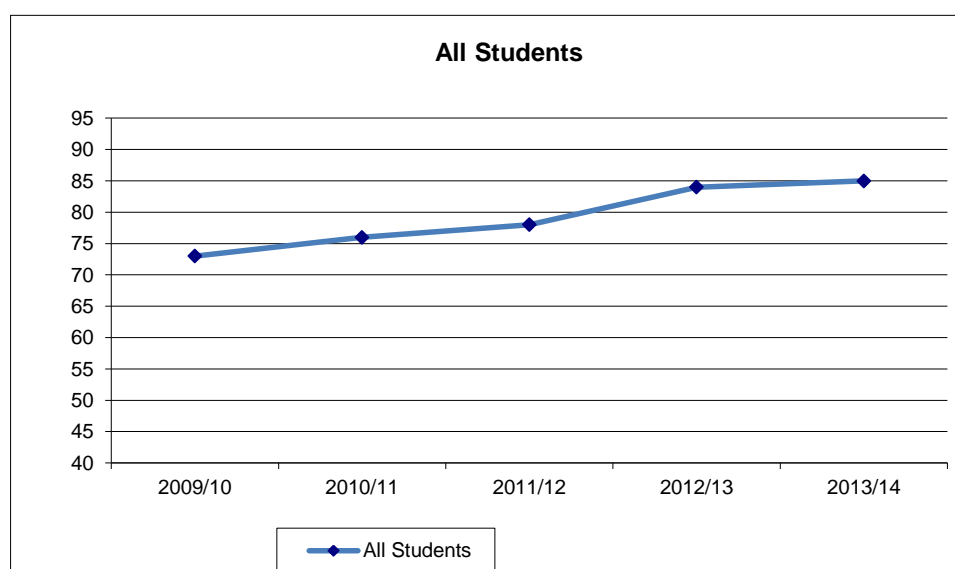
This year our Aboriginal FSA results have exceeded the Provincial results in:

- Grade 4 Reading
- Grade 4 Writing
- Grade 4 Numeracy

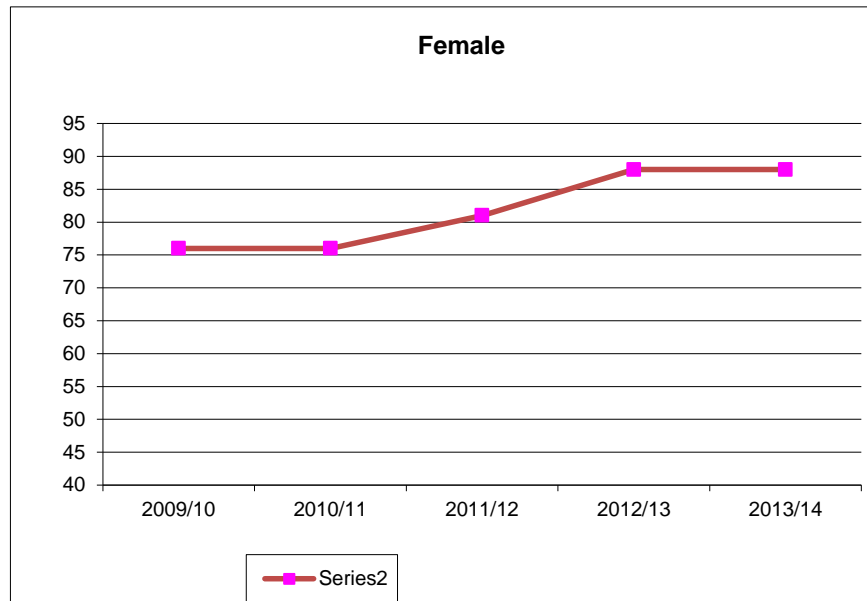
What evidence confirms areas of improvement?

Dogwood Completion Rates

The Dogwood Completion Rate for all students was 85.3%. This completion rate is the highest on record for our District. Our Dogwood Completion Rate improved by an outstanding 12.4% over the past five years from 2009-2010.



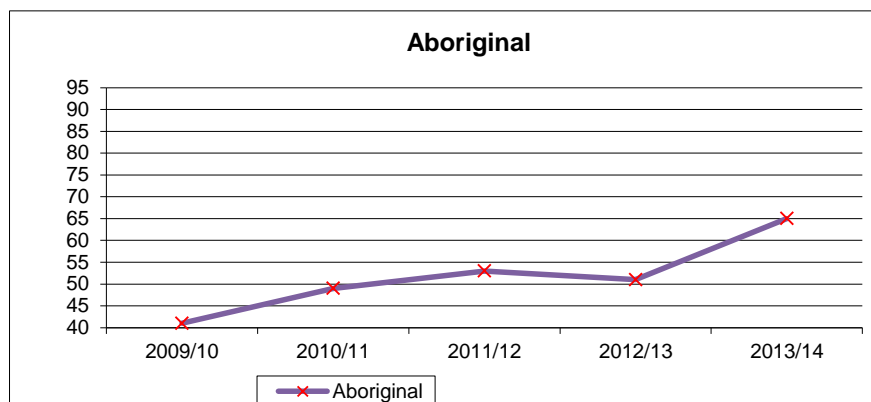
The Dogwood Completion Rate for all female students was 87.8%. This completion rate shows an 11.7% increase since 2009-2010.



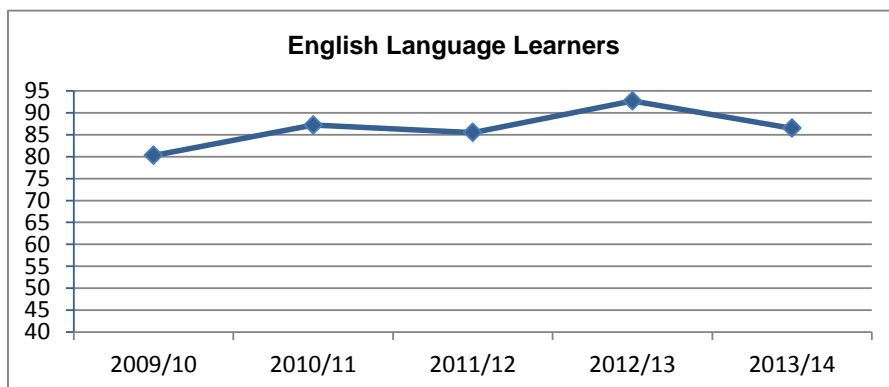
The Dogwood Completion Rate for all male students was 82.8%. This is a 12.8% increase over the past five years.



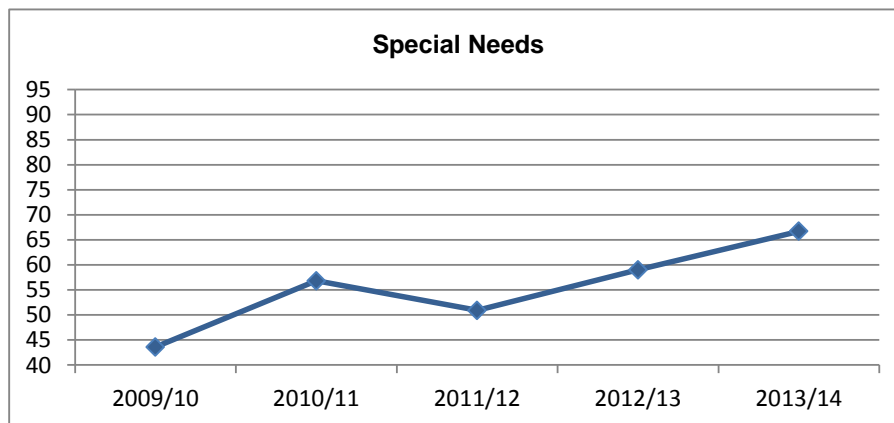
Since 2009-2010 we have shown progress in our Dogwood Completion Rates for Aboriginal students, moving from 40.6% in 2009-2010 to 64.5% in 2013/14. This is an increase of 23.9% over the past five years.



The Dogwood Completion Rate for ELL was 86.5%. This is a 6.2% increase since 2009-2010.



The Dogwood Completion Rate for Special Needs students was 66.7%. This is a significant increase of 23.1% since 2009-2010 when our Dogwood Completion Rate was 43.6%.



Transitions Rates

In 2012/13 the Transition Rates for all students improved over the previous year's results. This is the percentage of students who successfully transitioned to the next grade level.

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11
2008/09	95%	89%	81%
2009/10	96%	92%	81%
2010/11	97%	93%	84%
2011/12	98%	95%	87%
2012/13	98%	96%	89%

FSA Results

(Performance Level Unknown numbers removed):

Grade 4 and Grade 7

Our District has exceeded the Provincial FSA Results for Grade 4 Aboriginal students in Reading, Writing and Numeracy. Other FSA highlights include:

- 85% of male Grade 4 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading; this is 5.6% above the Provincial average.
- 85.4% of female Grade 4 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading; this is 1.1% above the Provincial average.
- 84.9% of male Grade 4 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Writing; this is 4.7% above the Provincial average.
- 72.6% of Grade 4 Aboriginal students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading; this is a 9.3% increase over the past five years and was 5.6% above the Provincial average.
- 74.1% of Grade 4 Aboriginal students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Writing; this is 6.8% above the Provincial average and a 17.3% increase since 2009-2010.
- 67.5% of Grade 4 Aboriginal students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Numeracy; this is 10.2% above the Provincial average.
- 80.2% of male Grade 7 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Writing; this is a 9.2% increase over the past five years.
- 84.2% of female Grade 7 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading; this exceeded the Provincial average by 3.2%.

2. Challenging Areas

What trends in student achievement are of concern to you?

Our data indicates a strong upward trend in student achievement. Since 2009 the Dogwood Completion Rate for all students has improved 12.4% and for Aboriginal students the completion rate has improved 23.9%; however, we continue to be acutely focused on ensuring that each and every student completes graduation requirements.

Our data indicates a gradual improvement in Grade 4 Numeracy levels for males, females and Aboriginal students over the past five years. Numeracy has been identified by most of our middle schools as an area of focus.

What evidence indicates this area of concern?

Although our Dogwood Completion Rate has increased for all students in each of the last five years, we continue to monitor, support and track each individual student. Until we reach our goal of each and every student completing their graduation requirements, our completion rate will continue to be an area of concern.

Our District is concerned about the inconsistency of the Grade 7 Numeracy rates over the past 5 years. We will continue to monitor, track and support our students in Elementary and Middle School in order to improve our Numeracy rates in Grade 7.

3. Progress / Performance / Results & Intervention

Comment on the effect of interventions and programs with specific reference to goals and targets set out in your last Achievement Contract.

Elementary, Middle and Secondary Teacher Inquiry Projects: In 2013-2014, over one hundred and sixty teachers engaged in collective inquiry supported by year-long professional development. This year we have over one hundred and eighty-five teachers involved in Elementary, Middle and Secondary Teacher inquiry projects focused on literacy and numeracy. After completing an assessment of student work, teachers create a goal and implement specific strategies that address a reading and writing connection, a numeracy connection or a science connection. After participating in professional development and facilitated job-embedded learning rounds, teachers report student growth in engagement, achievement and higher order thinking.

Please include comments on the effect of interventions and programs. Based on acquired evidence, what efforts appear to be making a difference?

The Changing Results for Young Readers Project, the K-1 Teacher Inquiry Project, the Engaging Readers and Writers with Inquiry Grades 6 - 12 Project and the Numeracy Teacher Inquiry Grades 4 - 8 Project: All projects use teacher-developed assessment frameworks based on the BC Performance Standards to assess students and formulate an inquiry question which becomes the basis for each teacher's case study. At the end of the project, teachers share qualitative assessment and anecdotal evidence indicating student growth in reading, writing and numeracy. Based on analysis of student data and teacher feedback from last year's completed District projects, the areas that are making a difference in improved student literacy and numeracy achievement are teacher participation in pedagogically-focused professional development and job-embedded collaborative co-planning and co-teaching opportunities with colleagues.

Enhancing Learning Collaborative Inquiry Teams: Regularly since 2008, schools have applied for grants to support teams of teachers, principals and vice-principals working on innovative inquiry projects to improve student learning. School teams share their journey and their results with each other at the end of the school year. This year we have school teams working on 87 inquiry questions. There are a record amount of educators enthusiastically involved in the enhancing learning collaborative inquiry teams. (44 Enhancing Learning Grants, 15 Aboriginal Education Grants, 11 Modern Languages Grants and 17 Project Based Learning Grants for a total of 87 inquiry questions)

List any other Achievement programs you may have implemented in addition to previous years goals and targets and their results.

Changing Results for Young Readers: For the third year, additional Provincial funding provided the structure of year-long modeled professional development and allocated collaborative planning time to K-5 teachers to analyze existing practice in reading and identify elements for change. Teachers used the inquiry process to focus on strategies for supporting learners in reading, strategies for supporting vulnerable learners and examining current research. Teachers were then provided additional time for collaborative co-planning, co-teaching and reflections with colleagues to specifically target vulnerable students in reading. Teachers have indicated that they have observed student growth in reading skills and confidence.

Careers and Transition Programming: Our District Career Coordinator continues to facilitate relationships with community partners to enhance targeted enrolment in TASK, ACE-IT, U-START and

other dual-credit programs. In 2013-14 a plan was implemented to focus on increasing awareness of middle school students of the many benefits of pursuing a technical trade or career. A focus was also put on exposing more girls to careers in the trades. The goals were to increase the graduation rate through increased participation in dual-credit programs and to retain students at risk of withdrawing from school through experimental, high interest trades and academic programs.

4. Targets from the Achievement Contract

I.) Literacy:

- To improve reading success for all students with a particular focus on vulnerable or low performing students

State the specific evidence and measures of student achievement in *literacy* and the results that have been realized.

- 85% of male Grade 4 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading and 85.4% of female Grade 4 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading. Both exceeded Provincial results. (male students by 5.6% and female students by 1.1%)
- 84.9% of male Grade 4 students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Writing which was 4.7% above the Provincial average.
- 72.6% of Grade 4 Aboriginal students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Reading which was 5.6% above the Provincial average.
- 74.1% of Grade 4 Aboriginal students were meeting or exceeding expectations in Writing which is 6.8% higher than the Provincial average.

II.) Completion Rates:

- To continue to improve Grade to Grade Transition rates
- To continue to improve Dogwood Completion Rates for Aboriginal students
- To continue to improve Dogwood Completion Rates for all students

State the specific evidence and measures of student achievement for *completion rates* and the results that have been realized:

This year our Dogwood Completion Rate is 85.3%; the highest it has been, based on the last five years. Our Dogwood Completion Rate has shown continual improvement from 2009-2010, moving from 72.9% in 2009-2010 to 85.3% in 2013-2014. This is an improvement of 12.4% over five years.

This year our Dogwood Completion Rate for Aboriginal students was 64.5%. This is an improvement of 23.9% since the 2009-2010 when the Dogwood Completion Rate was 40.6%.

Our evidence also indicates that the number of students in Grades 9-12 withdrawing from school has shown a continual decline over the last six years moving from 1.6% in 2009 to .8% in 2014.

The number of Aboriginal students in Grades 9-12 withdrawing from school has shown a continual decline over the last six years moving from 1.7% in 2009 to .9% in 2014.

III.) Aboriginal Education:

- To continue to improve Dogwood Completion Rates for Aboriginal students

State the specific evidence and measures of *student achievement for Aboriginal students* and the results that have been realized.

Since 2009-2010 we have shown progress in our Dogwood Completion Rates for Aboriginal students, moving from 40.6% in 2009-2010 to 64.5% in 2013-2014. This is an improvement of 23.9% in five years.

Each of our schools continues to access the District's First Nations curriculum and cultural integration program resources to provide curriculum support for all teachers and create a sense of caring and belonging for our Aboriginal students. In 2009/10 the Aboriginal Nations Division received 137 requests for cultural classroom sessions; in 2013/14 they received 323 requests and students had Aboriginal teachings in their classrooms.

5. Children in Care

Summarize the work and your efforts in meeting the needs of Children in Care.

Each school continues to have an identified contact person to monitor the success of Children in Care. The District Principal of Student Services updates the roster of Children in Care in consultation with the Ministry of Children and Family Development and each school. This ensures that updated and accurate information is available to the school contact person. Discussions at District Principal and Vice-Principal meetings continue to focus on strategies for increasing the success of our most vulnerable students.

What categories of Children in Care have been successfully identified and are being monitored? (*i.e.*) *continuing custody orders, temporary custody orders, other*

The students who have been identified and are being monitored are children with continuing custody orders and temporary custody orders, or have continuing custody orders through the Aboriginal delegated authority Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services.

What structures are in place to provide effective communications among MCFD offices, social workers, foster parents and schools?

The District Principal of Student Services continues to maintain accurate records of our Children in Care by collecting information on students from each school and cross referencing the names of students with the Ministry of Children and Family Development and Surrounded by Cedar. In November 2014, Student Services tracked those students from the September 2013 list to determine their whereabouts and to notify each school of the students so supports and/or mentoring would be in place.

Schools continue to be required to report monthly on the progress of their Children in Care through the District Children in Care web application. Each school also continues to communicate directly with the foster parents and the social workers as necessary to discuss attendance and academic and social progress. Our District Coordinator of Aboriginal Nations Education continues to liaise with Surrounded by Cedar and communicate with Principals who have students with continuing custody orders with Surrounded by

Cedar. The District First Nations counselors continue to be connected to the Surrounded by Cedar students at each of their schools.

In October Surrounded by Cedar hosts an annual meeting for all Principals who have students in their schools in the custody of Surrounded by Cedar. This provides Principals with an opportunity to meet the social workers responsible for their students and continue to build cooperative working relationships.

What results are being achieved by students within the identified categories?

Children in Care continue to be monitored and tracked by the designated contact person for each school. The school contact person is responsible for ensuring that each student receives the support needed for a successful education program.

In 2013/14, there were 117 children in Care, 48 were Aboriginal students. 11 Children in Care were enrolled in Grade 12 (8 non-Aboriginal students and 3 Aboriginal students).

Of those 11 students:

- 6 students graduated in June 2014 (4 non-Aboriginal students and 2 Aboriginal students)
- 4 students returned to school in the District (4 non-Aboriginal students)
- 1 student needs to complete one Provincial exam in order to graduate (Aboriginal). This student was ill in June and is scheduled to write the exam in January.

6. Early Learning

What strategies are in place to address the needs identified in Early Learning?

To support student readiness for Kindergarten, the District has six Strong Start Centers. Our Special Education Department continues to work with Strong Start Leaders to facilitate early identification of visual and auditory problems before children enter school. Strong Start Leaders continue to focus on self-regulation and 'learning through play' facilitated through professional development and new resources.

Every one of our elementary schools has a Ready, Set, Learn plan.

Each elementary school has a School Based Team that discusses and addresses the social, emotional, physical and academic needs for our early learners. Our Special Education Department supports the work of the School Based Team.

In addition to working with community agencies as members of the Saanich/Victoria Early Years Table and the Esquimalt Early Years Table, the work with Success by Six led to a District initiative entitled '1000 x 5' which has our elementary and middle schools collecting gently used books from their parent community. These books are then picked up from the schools, leveled and distributed to the Strong Start Programs and Neighbourhood Houses in our District, with the goal being for each child to read 1000 books before they enter Kindergarten. Since March 2011, over 71,400 books have been collected and distributed through our Strong Start Centers and Neighbourhood Houses.

7. Other Comments

The following are examples of school and District initiatives that have an impact on student success and engagement.

Community and Culture Committee: Now in its third year, the Culture and Community Committee, which is comprised of representatives from our stakeholder groups, has worked collaboratively to develop an understanding of and to promote positive change to District culture. Through the discussion and consultation process, the Committee is developing a statement of principles that identifies the characteristics we value for our school communities and the beliefs we share regarding how we engage with each other as students, parents, employees and members of the community.

ERASE: The District is fully committed to ensuring a safe and caring learning environment. As enthusiastic supporters and participants in the Provincial ERASE Anti-Bullying initiative, Greater Victoria hosts the Threat Assessment training for educators and community partners. In addition, we continue to expand our Provincial network through participation in the twice yearly Safe School Coordinators meetings. Senior District staff monitor and respond immediately to any online reports of bullying from students using the online reporting tool.

Gay Straight Alliances: Student committees implement and support activities within the school that create awareness and understanding concerning gender and sexual orientation issues. All secondary schools participate in GSA activities.

Reading Recovery: Reading Recovery is a short-term early literacy intervention designed for Grade 1 students who are experiencing the most difficulty in learning to read and write. Students meet individually with a specially trained teacher for 30 minutes a day for intensive instruction and the instruction typically ranges from 12 to 20 weeks.

Suicide Prevention: Both middle and secondary school counsellors, Principals and Vice Principals have been provided with information and training by NEED2. NEED2 is an organization that provides suicide prevention and awareness education for youth in our middle and secondary schools. All middle and secondary schools have a plan for suicide prevention.

The Red Cross Beyond the Hurt Youth Facilitator Training: Beyond the Hurt Youth Facilitator training is an award-winning program that prepares high school students to deliver workshops to middle school students about issues related to bullying and strategies to create healthy relationships and schools. To date ninety high school students have participated in the program training.

Trades, Skills, and Careers: The Greater Victoria School District provides our students with many academic and trades-related dual credit pathways. Through ACE IT and SSA programming, students can connect with post-secondary institutions (PSI) and their community while still in high school. Through the SIP and U-Start programs, students have the opportunity to take post-secondary courses at both Camosun College and the University of Victoria that provide them with dual credit – credit at the PSI and credit towards their high school graduation. The TASK Program (Trades Awareness, Skills & Knowledge) is another pathway for students who enjoy hands-on learning but are unsure of which trade area they want to pursue. TASK is a trades awareness program delivered in cooperation with Camosun College. In our third year of implementation, the program is currently being offered at Lambrick Park Secondary for both semesters. TASK provides students with knowledge and hands-on experience in five different trades. TASK students also make invaluable connections with our community through work

experience placements. With a solid foundation in carpentry, electrical, welding, sheet metal and plumbing, several of our TASK students have gone on to participate in ACE IT programs, gain full-time positions within industry, and be indentured as apprentices.

Grade 8 Mini Trades: This three-day intensive mini program was designed for students to participate in activities where they could experience hands-on training in a technical trade. Last year's focus areas included Cosmetology, Sheet Metal, Electrical, Auto Body, Joinery, Carpentry, Welding and Automotive.

Choices: This was a one-day conference at Victoria High School and Spectrum Community School where 120 Grade 8 girls from all ten middle schools focused on careers and pathways in business, trades, health care, advertising, engineering, robotics, recreation, farming and many others. Successful women, in these various career pathways, offered workshops for the girls so they could hear about their life changing choices and the exciting journeys they took in order to reach success. The girls reported that they felt inspired, excited and energized at the end of the day and that their futures had lots of opportunity.

2014 WE Day and Follow Up Activities: Fifteen schools representing 300 youth and educators attended WE Day in Vancouver. By participating in WE Schools in Action, schools are supporting students to participate in this movement of caring and compassionate young people who feel responsible for meaningful change and who are becoming active global citizens by exercising their leadership potential. To date our District has raised a total of \$130,000 for our adopted villages in Ecuador.

Youth for Change and Inclusion: Youth for Change and Inclusion works to create teams of trained student leaders and teachers at secondary schools and to establish and maintain connections between schools and community agencies. School-based teams work together to create and implement school action plans with the goal of increasing the welcoming attitude towards diversity at the school.

Re-Cycling, Waste Management Program: We are proud to announce that all forty seven school sites will have implemented a full recycling/waste management program by the end of January 2015. This involves students and staff, in every school community, recycling and managing waste in order to create a reduced waste environment.