



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
February 16, 2015 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

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**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Trustees Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Chair, Diane McNally, Vice-Chair, Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard, Deborah Nohr, Peg Orcherter, Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

**Administration:**

Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Pat Duncan, Deputy Superintendent, Shelley Green, Associate Superintendent, Cam Pinkerton, Associate Superintendent, Deb Whitten, District Principal, Student Services, Seamus Howley, Director, Facilities Services, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 p.m.

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

**A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING**

**A1. Approval of the Agenda**

It was moved and seconded:

That the February 16, 2015 Agenda be approved with the following changes/additions:

**C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee**

b) Recommended Motions:

- vi) Motion moved to F. Public Disclosure of In-Camera Items - F1.
- vii) Motion moved to F. Public Disclosure of In-Camera Items - F2.

**D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

a) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126182

**F. Public Disclosure of In-Camera Items**

F3. Report out motion from In-Camera Board meeting

**G2. Notice of Motions**

a) Trustee Whiteaker - Trustee Reports

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A2. Approval of the Minutes**

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the January 19, 2015 Regular Minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None**

#### **A4. Student Achievement**

Lansdowne Middle School Principal, Louise Sheffer, introduced grade eight teacher, Mark Gerhardt and six grade 8 students. Ms. Sheffer explained to Trustees that the students had been participating in a project called Innovative Learning. English students Marek and Quinn described their project to create a video using Veescape called "Great White North" and played it for Trustees. French Immersion students Hugo, Owen, Jolan and Evan introduced themselves and described and played their video project called "Happy" which will be shown to grade 5 students who will attend Lansdowne Middle School next year.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Ms. Sheffer, Mr. Gerhardt and Lansdowne grade 8 students for attending the Board meeting and sharing their video projects.

#### **A5. District Presentations**

Quadra Elementary School Principal, Marilyn Campbell, attended the Board meeting to acknowledge the Director of Facilities Services, Seamus Howley and facilities staff for their outstanding work on the seismic upgrade of Quadra Elementary School. Ms. Campbell stated that the transition between moving out of Quadra School into Richmond School for one year and then back into Quadra was stressful at times; however, Mr. Howley and the facilities staff made it seem effortless. Ms. Campbell wanted to personally thank the facilities team for always being available and keeping the entire process running smoothly.

#### **A6. Community Presentations**

- a) Stewart Wheeler, a Victoria High School teacher, attended the Board meeting to thank the Director of Facilities Services, Seamus Howley, for his support and mentorship of the apprenticeship programs at Victoria High School and all schools in the District.
- b) Brad Hall, President of CUPE Local 947, attended the Board meeting to speak to Trustees about the Cooper Smith Music Library located in the basement at the SJ Willis Education Centre. Mr. Hall encouraged Trustees to consider increasing clerical staff hours at the music library.
- c) Sally Murphy, Oak Bay High School music teacher, attended the Board meeting to speak to Trustees about the Cooper Smith Music Library located at SJ Willis. Ms. Murphy stated that the library contains an enormous amount of material that is utilized by many music teachers in the District and encouraged Trustees to consider increasing the clerical support to catalogue and keep track of these materials.

### **B. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

#### **B1. Chair's Report**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga recognized and honored Mr. Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities Services, as he is set to retire from the District at the end of February. Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Seamus for his dedication and commitment to the District and wished him a healthy, safe and well deserved retirement.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Superintendent Bell and District staff for working so hard to keep up with the many motions that have required follow through over the past few months.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported that she had been invited and would be attending the Provincial Budget speech at the Legislature on February 17<sup>th</sup> and that she had been involved in a Robert's Rules of Order workshop along with her fellow Trustees.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga provided copies of correspondence that she received from the Ministry of Education to all Trustees.

## B2. Trustees' Report

- a) Trustee Whiteaker reported that she attended Campus View Elementary School on February 3, 2015 and enjoyed reading with grade three and four classes for reading week. On February 4, 2015 Trustee Whiteaker attended a memory project which is a federally funded project bringing war veterans' into classrooms to share their experiences.

Trustee Whiteaker advised Trustees that she will be attending the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting as the Board representative on February 21, 2015 and that she requires some direction from the Board with respect to voting.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) support Resolution 9.1 - 2015/2016 BCSTA Draft Budget - *"That Provincial Council receive the 2015/2016 BCSTA Draft Budget and provide any additional input to the Finance Committee prior to adoption of the final budget by the April 2015 Provincial Council"* and direct Trustee Whiteaker to vote in favour of this motion at the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting on February 21, 2015.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) support Resolution 10.1 - Increase in Funding for Educational Programs - *"That BCSTA request: (a) that each Board of Education develop a rationale for an immediate increase in funding for support for educational programs in their school districts; (b) that Boards ask to meet with their local MLAs prior to the end of February 2015; and, (c) that each Board and/or Branch Association present their requests for increased funding to their local MLAs during these meetings"* and direct Trustee Whiteaker to request an amendment to change February to March and then vote in favour of this motion at the BCSTA Provincial Council meeting on February 21, 2015.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

- b) Trustee Orcherton reported that she had been involved in a regional conference call on January 26, 2015 facilitated by the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) and the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA). The discussion centered on recent collective bargaining processes.

Trustee Orcherton further reported that she attended a new trustee orientation facilitated by BCPSEA in Vancouver on January 29, 2015 and then their AGM on January 30, 2015.

Lastly, Trustee Orcherton reported that over the past month she attended a Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting, a professional development session at Eagle View Elementary, a VCPAC meeting and visited McKenzie Elementary School and Glanford Middle School.

## C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### C1. Education Policy Development Committee

- a) The February 2, 2015 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Trustee Nohr referred to the February 2, 2015 meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) delete Policy 4210.2, School Aides.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The February 10, 2015 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Trustee Leonard referred to the February 10, 2015 meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motions.

It was moved and seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves up to \$800,000 spending for capital assets from the local capital reserve.

**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 the 2014/2015 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw at the meeting of February 16, 2015.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

That the School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2014/2015 in the amount of \$212,943.661 be:

Read a first time the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015;  
Read a second time the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015;  
Read a third time, passed and adopted the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015;

And that the Chairperson and the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign, seal and execute this Bylaw on behalf of the Board.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

- iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) delete Policy 4144.1, Workmen's Compensation.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

- iv) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the revised Policy 2120.025, Director of Human Resource Services.  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

- v) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Bylaw 9368 Procedure, Article 107.00, to replace the word "*challenge*" with "*appeal*" and to insert before the last sentence "*The Chair will call for debate on the merit of the appeal according to Robert's Rules of Order.*"  
**Motion Carried**

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

It was moved and seconded:

- That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings to the revised Bylaw 9368 *Procedure* at the February 16, 2015 Board of Education meeting.  
**Motion Carried**

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

It was moved and seconded:

- That the revised Bylaw 9368 *Procedure* be:  
Read a first time the 16th day of February, 2015;  
Read a second time the 16th day of February, 2015;  
**Motion Carried**

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

**D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**

**D1. Superintendent's Report**

- a) Superintendent Bell referred Trustees to a memo that was distributed and reviewed the proposed 2015/2016 school year calendar. The motion allows the calendar to be placed on the school district website for a period of one month to be viewed and commented on by the public. It will come back to the March 23, 2015 Board meeting for final approval.

It was moved and seconded:

- That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the posting of the following 2015/2016 school year calendar on the school district's website for a period of one month:  
  
**2015/2016 School Year Calendar\***  
  

School Opening –	September 8, 2015
First non-instructional day –	September 21, 2015
Thanksgiving –	October 12, 2015
Second non-instructional day –	October 23, 2015

(Province wide)	
Remembrance Day –	November 11, 2015
Third non-instructional day –	November 20, 2015
Schools close for Winter vacation –	December 18, 2015
Schools re-open after Winter vacation –	January 4, 2016
Family Day –	February 8, 2016
Fourth non-instructional day –	February 19, 2016
Schools close for Spring vacation –	March 11, 2016
Schools re-open after Spring vacation –	March 29, 2016
Good Friday –	March 25, 2016
Easter Monday –	March 28, 2016
Fifth non-instructional day –	May 20, 2016
Victoria Day –	May 23, 2016
Administrative Day and School Closing –	June 24, 2016
*Sixth non-instructional day to be chosen by each school	
<b>Carried Unanimously</b>	

**D2. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report**

- a) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126182

Secretary-Treasurer Laser advised that the Ministry of Education has approved funding for the design stage of the building envelope remediation project at Esquimalt Secondary School and that approval of the capital project bylaw is required to receive the funding. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Laser.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of Capital Project Bylaw No. 126182, being a bylaw for the Esquimalt Secondary School Building Envelope Remediation Capital Funding in the amount of \$43,700.  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

That Capital Project Bylaw No. 126182, being a bylaw for the Esquimalt Secondary School Building Envelope Remediation Capital Funding in the amount of \$43,700 be:  
  
 READ A FIRST TIME THE 16th day of February, 2015;  
 READ A SECOND TIME THE 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015, and  
 READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015 and that the Secretary-Treasurer and the Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.  
  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**E. QUESTION PERIOD - None**

## F. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

- F1. The following motion was referred from the February 10, 2015 In-Camera Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) support the naming of physical assets in recognition of financial contributions from individuals and families. The opportunity for naming recognition must comply with the Province of British Columbia Naming Privileges Policy.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a recommendation being made to amend the motion by adding the following the words "*and School District No. 61 Naming Policy (to be developed)*" to the end of the last sentence.

It was moved and seconded:

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) support the naming of physical assets in recognition of financial contributions from individuals and families. The opportunity for naming recognition must comply with the Province of British Columbia Naming Privileges Policy*" be amended by adding the words "*and School District No. 61 Naming Policy (to be developed)*" to the end of the last sentence.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Ferris, Whiteaker, Leonard, Nohr

Against: Trustees Watters, McNally, Loring-Kuhanga, Paynter, Orcherton

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with Chair Loring-Kuhanga calling for the vote on the main motion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) support the naming of physical assets in recognition of financial contributions from individuals and families. The opportunity for naming recognition must comply with the Province of British Columbia Naming Privileges Policy.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Ferris, Whiteaker, Leonard

Against: Trustees Watters, McNally, Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Paynter, Orcherton

- F2. The following motion was referred from the February 10, 2015 In-Camera Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) support the naming of physical assets in recognition of financial contributions from businesses/corporations (commercial benefactors). The opportunity for naming recognition must comply with the Province of British Columbia Naming Privileges Policy.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Ferris, Whiteaker, Leonard

Against: Trustees Watters, McNally, Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Paynter, Orcherton

- F3.** Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported out to the public the following motion that was carried at the February 16, 2015 In-Camera board meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association encouraging them to take the September 2014 pay issue to expedited arbitration.

**G. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**G1. New Business**

**a) Trustee Orcherton - Excluded and Exempt Staff Compensation**

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

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 Education and the Minister of Finance requesting the withdrawal of the Excluded and Exempt Staff compensation freeze and further, that increases be funded by the Provincial Government as they have funded other Employee groups.

**Motion Carried**

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

**b) Trustee McNally - Policy 1250 Trustee/School Liaison**

Trustee McNally withdrew her motion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Policy 1250 Trustee/School Liaison to add "*If invited by a teacher, Trustees may visit schools without giving prior notice, but will check in with the Principal at the school office.*"

**Motion Withdrawn**

**G2. Notice of Motions**

- a) Trustee Nohr provided the following Notice of Motion for the March 2, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) establish a Technology Stewardship Committee for the following purposes: review of the current status of technology in our schools, review of the EMF research findings (2011-2015) based on peer reviewed independent scientific studies, review of cost implications for the operating budget based on the goals of the I.T. Department, review of health and safety procedures/directives for all of our schools and consideration for establishing one elementary school that provides technology using hard wired internet connections for student learning; this committee shall meet starting in March, 2015.



**b) Trustee Whiteaker – Trustee Reports**

Trustee Whiteaker will be providing a motion for the March 2, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting related to Trustee Representative reports.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer