



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
April 20, 2015 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

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, Tom Smith, Director of Facilities Services, Deb Whitten, District Principal, Student Services, Ted Pennell, Director, Information Technology, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 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.

Introductions were made around the Board table.

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING

A1. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded:

That the April 20, 2015 Agenda be approved with the following additions/changes:

B2. Trustees' Report

- b) Trustee Watters
- c) Trustee Nohr

Motion Carried

A2. Approval of the Minutes

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the March 23, 2015 Regular Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) It was moved and seconded:

That the March 25, 2015 Special Board Budget Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None

A4. Student Achievement

Associate Superintendent, Shelley Green, welcomed and introduced Eagle View Elementary Principal and Vice-Principal, Brent De Nat and Jennifer MacDonald and three grade five students.

Makenna, Maddy and Dylan played a video showing each of them as reporters interviewing fellow students and staff about why they like attending Eagle View Elementary School. All interviewees voiced the same words of feeling a sense of respect, community, acceptance, belonging and being able to shine at Eagle View Elementary School. A video entitled "Walking on Sunshine" involving the entire school was played for the Board.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Principal De Nat, Vice-Principal MacDonald and the students for attending and presenting for the Board.

A5. District Presentations - None**A6. Community Presentations - None****B. TRUSTEE REPORTS****B1. Chair's Report**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga introduced and welcomed Tom Smith, the new Director of Facilities Services, to the School District.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported that she attended the British Columbia School Trustees' Association AGM and provided highlights of the conference including the names of the new Board of Directors.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga further reported that Mr. Malcolm Weinstein has been hired by the District to facilitate the development of a Strategic Plan. Chair Loring-Kuhanga referred Trustees and Education Partner Groups to the 'draft' letter that will be sent to Education Partner Groups. The Education Partner Groups will be asked for feedback by way of a question about what they think the top three priorities of the District should be. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Superintendent Bell.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) moves the discussion of the Strategic Plan to G1. New Business c) Strategic Plan, for further discussion and debate.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reminded Trustees of a motion that was passed at the March 23, 2015 Board meeting with respect to supporting a BCSTA request that each Board meet with their local MLA's to discuss the need for increased funding to support educational programs in schools. Chair Loring-Kuhanga advised Trustees that she has been in contact with MLA, Rob Fleming and is endeavoring to set a meeting date as soon as possible. Chair Loring-Kuhanga requested Trustees to send agenda ideas to her via email.

B2. Trustees' Report

- a) Trustee McNally reported that she attended a Macaulay PAC meeting.
- b) Trustee Watters reported that she attended a Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) Committee meeting and that the GSA Committee will be hosting a conference at Lambrick Park Secondary on Monday, April 27, 2015 entitled "Love is Love".
- c) Trustee Nohr provided Trustees with an update about the fundraising activities for the Oak Bay High School Totem Pole project through the Oak Bay Community Association. The final fundraiser is scheduled for May at UVIC and more details will be forthcoming.

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

- a) The April 7, 2015 meeting minutes were received for Information.

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The April 13, 2015 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Trustee Leonard referred to the April 13, 2015 meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motion.

It was moved and seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) delete Policy and Regulation 2123.047 Personnel Assistant.
Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustee Leonard referred to the April 13, 2015 meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motion.

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) establish an Ad Hoc committee as per Bylaw 9140, 'Technology Stewardship' for the purpose of developing guidelines for the use of technology for our students and staff.
Motion Carried

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

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**D1. Superintendent's Report - None****D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

- a) Secretary-Treasurer Laser reminded Trustees that two readings were given to revised Bylaw 9140, *Ad Hoc Committees of the Board* at the March 23, 2015 meeting and as such, in order to revise Bylaw 9140, a final reading must be given and voted on.

It was moved and seconded:

That the revised Bylaw 9140 *Ad Hoc Committees of the Board* be:
 Read a third time, passed and adopted the 20th day of April, 2015.
Motion Carried

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

b) 2015/2016 Annual Facilities Grant - Capital Bylaw No. 126863

Secretary-Treasurer Laser explained that a capital bylaw is required to access the capital portion of the Annual Facilities Grant 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 Bylaw No. 126863, being a bylaw for the maximum expenditure of \$3,306,904 for the capital portion of the Annual Facilities Grant allocation.
Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

That Capital Bylaw No. 126863, being a bylaw for the maximum expenditure of \$3,306,904 for the capital portion of the Annual Facilities Grant allocation be:
 READ A FIRST TIME THE 20th day of April, 2015;
 READ A SECOND TIME THE 20th day of April, 2015, and
 READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 20th day of April, 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

E1. Chair Loring-Kuhanga read the following question which was received via the District website:

What is the rationale behind Trustee Nohr's motion to establish a Technology Stewardship Committee, specifically:

- how would this committee be qualified to assess the validity of any scientific studies on EMF, why are the assessments of Health Canada and the Chief medical officer insufficient?
- Would this committee attempt to set policies in opposition to the recommendations of legitimate scientific bodies who actually are qualified to assess said studies?
- Will this committee attempt to overrule the democratic decision of parents and teachers who have clearly stated that they do want WIFI in their schools?

Superintendent Bell advised that she would follow up with a response to the individual who emailed this question by advising that these questions will be discussed at the May 11, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

F. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

Chair Loring-Kuhanga advised the public that the lease agreement between the Greater Victoria School District and the Burnside Gorge Community Association for the former Burnside Elementary School has been renewed for a period of one year.

G. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

G1. New Business

- a) Trustee McNally - Courier Delivery of Agendas

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) end the practice of courier delivery of agendas to Trustees as soon as possible, continue to post agendas on the SD61 meetings page, and email both in camera and regular meeting agendas as documents to Trustees.

Trustee Leonard moved to refer the motion to the May 11, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting for a full discussion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) end the practice of courier delivery of agendas to Trustees as soon as possible, continue to post agendas on the SD61 meetings page, and email both in camera and regular meeting agendas as documents to Trustees*" be referred to the May 11, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Orcherton, Leonard, Ferris, Whiteaker

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

Trustee Leonard requested that it be noted in the meeting minutes that proper process is not being followed in that motions should first be going to Committee meetings for a full discussion prior to Board meetings.

Trustee McNally presented her motion and rationale.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) end the practice of courier delivery of agendas to Trustees as soon as possible, continue to post agendas on the SD61 meetings page, and email both in camera and regular meeting agendas as documents to Trustees.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Watters, McNally, Paynter, Nohr

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

Abstain: Trustee Whiteaker

b) Trustee Paynter - Trustee Professional Development Funds

That commencing at the end of FY2015/16 the Trustee Professional Development Fund allocations will be returned to general revenue for allocation in the next fiscal year.

Trustee Leonard moved to refer the motion to the May 11, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with Trustee Paynter stating that he had no objection to referring the motion to the May 11, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

It was moved and seconded:

That the motion "*That commencing at the end of FY2015/16 the Trustee Professional Development Fund allocations will be returned to general revenue for allocation in the next fiscal year*" be referred to the May 11, 2015 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c) Strategic Plan

Trustees engaged in a full discussion and debate regarding the proposed Strategic Plan process and more specifically the sample question that will be sent to Education Partner Groups. The sample question that has been provided by the consultant, Dr. Weinstein, is as follows "*Over the next three years, what do you think the top 3 priorities should be for our School District, keeping in mind that our current vision is to provide quality education for all of our students?*"

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accepts the question as presented by the Strategic Plan consultant, Dr. Weinstein, and place it on the District website and communicate it by other means to stakeholders.

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a recommendation being made to amend the question to read: "*Over the next three years, what do you think the top 3 priorities should be for our School District, keeping in mind that our mission is for the educational success of each student within a responsive and safe environment.*"

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the question provided by the Strategic Plan consultant, Dr. Weinstein to read "*Over the next three years, what do you think the top 3 priorities should be for our School District, keeping in mind that our mission is for the educational success of each student within a responsive and safe environment*" and place it on the District website and communicate it by other means to stakeholders.

Motion Defeated

Against: Trustees Ferris, Whiteaker, Watters, Nohr, Loring-Kuhanga, McNally, Leonard, Orcheron

Abstain: Trustee Paynter

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called for the question on the main motion.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accepts the question as presented by the Strategic Plan consultant, Dr. Weinstein, and place it on the District website and communicate it by other means to stakeholders.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Ferris, Whiteaker, Watters, Nohr, Loring-Kuhanga, McNally, Orchardton
Abstain: Trustees Leonard, Paynter

G2. Notice of Motions - None

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer