



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
September 28, 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 Orcheron, Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Administration:

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools, Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent, Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent, Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent, Tom Smith, Director of Facilities Services, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 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 September 28, 2015 Agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the June 15, 2015 Regular Board Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None

A4. Student Achievement

a) Tom Aerts, Principal, Reynolds High School attended the Board meeting to speak about the school's fundraising efforts related to the Cops for Cancer campaign. Mr. Aerts stated that the entire school community embraces the fundraiser for two weeks of chaos at the beginning of each school year. Mr. Aerts then introduced three students along with teacher, Dean Norris-Jones.

Grade nine students, Natasha and Eli, spoke about their experiences with the Cops for Cancer fundraising campaign and how much it means to them to be a part of it as cancer affects everyone. Natasha stated that she had raised \$2000 and will be shaving her head on Thursday. Meggin, a grade twelve student, shared her fundraising stories and what it means to raise money for children with cancer.

Dean Norris-Jones shared his story of being a guest rider during last year's Cops for Cancer ride and the pride he felt entering Reynolds gymnasium to receive the funds that were raised by the students.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Mr. Aerts, Mr. Norris-Jones and the students for attending the Board meeting.

A5. District Presentations - None

A6. Community Presentations

- a) Butch Dick Sr., Songhees First Nation, attended the Board meeting to share with Trustees the vision, concept and reality of the Sno'uyuth pole project for the new Oak Bay High School. Mr. Dick spoke about the significance of the project and how it is a symbol of community collaboration.
- b) Gerald Smeltzer, Community Association of Oak Bay, attended the Board meeting to speak about the Sno'uyuth Pole project for the new Oak Bay High School and the vision for the raising, blessing and dedication ceremony.

B. TRUSTEE REPORTS

B1. Chair's Report

Chair Loring-Kuhanga welcomed staff and students back from the summer break and introduced and welcomed new Superintendent, Piet Langstraat. Chair Loring-Kuhanga shared Piet's background prior to arriving in Victoria and thanked Deputy Superintendent, Shelley Green, for being Acting Superintendent over the summer break.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported that she attended the Canadian School Board Association National Trustee Gathering on Aboriginal Education and the Annual Congress in July and was honored to be a guest speaker regarding her residential school motion.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga further reported that Trustees participated in a one day Strategic Planning Workshop in August and anticipates that the 'draft' document will be ready for input by January.

Lastly, Chair Loring-Kuhanga advised that Secretary-Treasurer, Debra Laser, has announced that she will be retiring from the school district in January 2016 and that the Board has contracted with the executive search firm, Davies Park, to recruit for a new Secretary-Treasurer.

B2. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee McNally recognized Chair Loring-Kuhanga as she was recently honored to receive the Inspiration Award from the First Nations Health Directors Association at their Annual General Meeting on September 16, 2015.
- b) Trustee Whiteaker reported that she would be attending the British Columbia School Trustees Association Provincial Council meeting on October 23, 2015 and suggested that if Trustees have any feedback or input to provide it to her prior to the meeting.
- c) Trustee Orcherton reported that she attended a Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting and provided a written report of the items discussed at that meeting.

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

C1. Education Policy Development Committee

- a) The September 14, 2015 meeting minutes were received for information.

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The September 21, 2015 meeting minutes were presented for information.
- b) Trustee Leonard referred to the minutes from the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting and presented the following recommended motions.

It was moved and seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of Capital Amendment Bylaw No.126182, being a bylaw to provide funding for the Building Envelope Project at Esquimalt Secondary School (Facility No. 61048) in the amount of \$750,000.
- Motion Carried Unanimously**

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That Capital Amendment Bylaw No. 126182, being a bylaw to provide funding for the building envelope project at Esquimalt Secondary School (Facility No. 61048) in the amount of \$750,000 be:
- Read a first time the 28th day of September, 2015;
 Read a second time the 28th day of September, 2015;
 Read a third time, passed and adopted the 28th day of September, 2015;
- And that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal 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) approve naming the new theatre at Oak Bay High School "The Dave Dunnet Community Theatre."
- Motion Carried Unanimously**

Trustee Leonard presented the following recommended motion from the Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved and seconded:

- iv) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) establish a working group of senior staff and trustees to examine the current function of the standing committees of the Board and make recommendations on the scope of responsibilities, membership and meeting schedules and other aspects of the conduct of these committees as are deemed appropriate.
- Motion Carried**

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

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

D1. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Langstraat reported that he has had the opportunity and pleasure to visit and meet staff and students at George Jay and Hillcrest Elementary Schools, Glanford Middle School and Lambrick Park, Oak Bay and Reynolds High Schools over the past month.

Superintendent Langstraat further reported that he has met with a number of staff members and stakeholder groups and will continue to schedule visits at schools until he has been to all schools in the district.

D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a) 2014-2015 Audited Financial Statements

Secretary-Treasurer, Debra Laser, thanked Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Katrina Ball and her team for the many hours that they spent preparing for and working with the auditors and then requested Katrina to present the 2014/2015 Audited Financial Statements.

Associate Secretary-Treasurer Ball directed Trustees to the financial statements and provided a high level overview of the financial results for the year ending June 30, 2015.

Secretary-Treasurer Laser provided Trustees with an explanation of the unrestricted and restricted operating surplus and a preliminary operating budget forecast for 2016-2017.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Laser and Associate Secretary-Treasurer Ball.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the internally restricted surplus appropriation of \$17,671,112 as shown on Schedule 2 of the Financial Statements , being held for school level funds \$6,108,287 (Note A), unspent project budgets \$2,579,856 (Note B), purchase order commitments \$682,969 (Note C), and the previously approved budgeted surplus of \$8,300,000 (Note D).

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District (Greater Victoria) approve the June 30, 2015 unrestricted operating surplus of \$4,104,554 (Note E) to be carried forward and applied towards the 2016/2017 projected deficit; (The deficit is forecast to be in excess of \$9.0 million).

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve up to \$800,000 spending for capital assets from the local capital reserve in 2015/2016.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the audited financial statements of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) for the year ended June 30, 2015; and that the Board Chair, the Superintendent and the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to execute these statements, where applicable, on behalf of the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) Statement of Financial Information

Secretary-Treasurer Laser referred Trustees to the Schedules as required by the Financial Information Act for the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. 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) Approve the schedules as required by the Financial Information Act for the period July 01, 2014 TO June 30, 2015.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c) Summer Capital Projects

Tom Smith, Director of Facilities Services, updated Trustees with respect to the work that took place during the summer on major capital projects within the District. Using a slide show, Mr. Smith was able to give Trustees insight into the various projects, such as, playground installations at George Jay, Margaret Jenkins, Tillicum and Central schools. Esquimalt High School received a new science lab, windows and a boiler replacement. George Jay was seismically upgraded and the students have now returned to their school. The new Oak Bay High School was completed and received students on the first day of school.

E. QUESTION PERIOD - None

F. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None

G. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

G1. New Business - None

G2. Notice of Motions - None

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer