



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
October 19, 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 Orcherton, 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, Jim Soles, Supervisor of Building Projects, Facilities Services, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 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 October 19, 2015 Agenda be approved with the following additions/changes:

B2. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee Ferris
- b) Trustee McNally
- c) Trustee Watters
- d) Trustee Paynter

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- b) Recommended Motions
 - v) Ad Hoc Board Standing Committee Review Committee Terms of Reference

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

- a) It was moved and seconded:

That the September 28, 2015 Regular Board Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None

A4. Student Achievement

- a) Superintendent Langstraat advised Trustees that he has created a schedule over the term of the Board that provides an opportunity for each school to attend a Board meeting to present their school goals, successes, and challenges. Superintendent Langstraat then introduced and welcomed Tarj Mann, Principal, Braefoot Elementary.

Mr. Mann thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend and speak about Braefoot Elementary and introduced Vice-Principal, Barb Taylor, PAC President, Sarah Duvall and grade 5 student, Madea. Mr. Mann shared with Trustees that the primary focus at Braefoot Elementary is promoting and enhancing student engagement, self-regulation and mindfulness as a lifelong daily practice.

Vice-Principal and grade 4/5 teacher, Barb Taylor, thanked the Board for the invitation to come and speak about the goals, successes and school growth plan for Braefoot Elementary. Ms. Taylor explained that at Braefoot teaching students comes first and that all staff members are sensitive to each student's abilities and needs.

Sarah Duvall, PAC President, Educational Assistant and parent to a student at Braefoot Elementary, shared with the board her experience and success stories from being involved at Braefoot.

Grade five student, Madea, spoke to Trustees about how students learn in different ways and at different speeds and how the brain is connected to student learning.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Principal Mann, Vice-Principal Taylor, Ms. Duvall and Madea for attending and presenting to the Board.

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

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported that she had the opportunity to visit Craigflower Elementary School on September 28, 2015 and attended a Spectrum Secondary band performance at the University of Victoria on October 16, 2015.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reminded Trustees of the second Strategic Plan workshop scheduled for October 27, 2015.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported that the Ministry of Education has invited Board Chairs to a meeting in Vancouver on October 21, 2015 to discuss such topics as the implementation of the new K-12 curriculum, framework for enhancing student learning and financial accountability. Vice-Chair McNally will be attending on behalf of the Board.

B2. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee Ferris reported that he attended the Spectrum Secondary band performance at the University of Victoria and also a conference/lecture about French immersion.

- b) Trustee McNally reported that she attended the Vancouver Island School Trustees Association fall conference and that she will be attending the Ministry of Education meetings in Vancouver on behalf of Chair Loring-Kuhanga and will report back to Trustees at the next board meeting.
- c) Trustee Watters reported that she attended McKenzie Elementary on October 16, 2015 to assist with a mock student vote for the upcoming federal election.
- d) Trustee Paynter reported that he attended a meeting at Victoria High School with respect to the track revitalization project. Trustee Paynter further reported that he attended a networking meeting for parents with gifted children and participated in a child mental health coalition conference in Vancouver.

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

C1. Education Policy Development Committee

- a) Trustee Nohr presented the October 5, 2015 meeting minutes and highlighted some of the evening's presentations.
- b) Trustee Nohr referred to the October 5, 2015 meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motion. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Superintendent Langstraat.

It was moved and seconded:

- i)

<p>That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) extend the Coastal Kindergarten pilot program of choice at James Bay and South Park by one year to June 2017.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>

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

Against: Trustees Watters, McNally

Trustee Nohr presented the following recommended motion from the October 5, 2015 Education Policy Development Committee meeting.

It was moved and seconded:

- ii)

<p>That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) formally dissolve the District Gay Straight Alliance Advisory Committee in order to reflect that the District GSA currently functions as a club.</p>
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Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a suggestion being made to refer motions C1. b) ii) and C1. b) iii) to a future Education Policy Development Committee meeting.

It was moved and seconded:

- ii)

<p>That the motions "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) formally dissolve the District Gay Straight Alliance Advisory Committee in order to reflect that the District GSA currently functions as a club" and "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) rescind the motion passed May 19, 2015 stating, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to task the District Gay Straight Alliance Advisory Committee with developing a draft policy on Gender Identity and Gender Expression (in accordance with Bylaw 9210 The development of Policy; and Policy</p>
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1163 Consultation) to ensure the safety and support of transgender and gender variant students and their families, and present it to the Education Policy Development Committee with recommendations for implementation," in light of the fact that the District Gay Straight Alliance Advisory Committee has dissolved" be referred to a future Education Policy Development Committee meeting.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Orcherton, Leonard

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

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with the Chair calling for the vote on the main motion.

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) formally dissolve the District Gay Straight Alliance Advisory Committee in order to reflect that the District GSA currently functions as a club.

Motion Carried

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

Against: Trustee Orcherton

Abstain: Trustee Leonard

It was moved and seconded:

- iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) rescind the motion passed May 19, 2015 stating, *"That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to task the District Gay Straight Alliance Advisory Committee with developing a draft policy on Gender Identity and Gender Expression (in accordance with Bylaw 9210 The development of Policy; and Policy 1163 Consultation) to ensure the safety and support of transgender and gender variant students and their families, and present it to the Education Policy Development Committee with recommendations for implementation,"* in light of the fact that the District Gay Straight Alliance Advisory Committee has dissolved.

Motion Carried

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

Against: Trustees Orcherton, Leonard

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The October 13, 2015 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Trustee Leonard referred to the October 13, 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) direct the Secretary Treasurer to review Board Bylaw 9360 and recommend changes that would address electronic communication.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive a report at the September 2016 Operations, Policy and Planning Committee meeting showing the disbursements to date from the Parent Education Fund.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

- iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) formally dissolve the Culture and Community Ad Hoc Committee by no later than December 31, 2015.

Motion Carried

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

It was moved and seconded:

- iv) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to complete a draft Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Board Standing Committee Review Committee for the October 19, 2015 Regular Board meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Superintendent Langstraat provided Trustees with a draft copy of the Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Board Standing Committee Review Committee to review. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Superintendent Langstraat.

It was moved and seconded:

- v) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Board Standing Committee Review Committee as presented by Superintendent Langstraat.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

D1. Superintendent's Report

- a) Superintendent Langstraat provided Trustees with a written report and highlighted his visits to schools and meetings with stakeholder groups.

Superintendent Langstraat responded to a Trustee question regarding the use of restraints and seclusion rooms within district schools by advising that the district has quiet rooms and sensory rooms and restraints are not used. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Superintendent Langstraat.

- b) Superintendent Langstraat reviewed the fundraising efforts associated with the Sno'uyuth totem pole that will soon be installed and unveiled at the new Oak Bay High School. Farmer Construction has agreed to pay for the expenses associated with the construction of the base and the final grouting to secure the pole in place. The remaining outstanding cost is approximately \$1,000 for the commemorative plaque. Superintendent Langstraat advised that the capital project budget could cover this remaining expense. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Superintendent Langstraat.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria), in recognition of the \$60,000 cash contribution from the Community Association of Oak Bay, approve the expenditure of \$1,000 from the capital project budget for Oak Bay High School to purchase a commemorative plaque for the Sno'uyutth totem pole project.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Superintendent Langstraat reviewed the wording that has been suggested by the Oak Bay Community Association to appear on the commemorative plaque for the Sno'uyutth totem pole. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Superintendent Langstraat.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the commemorative plaque to be placed on the site of the Sno'uyutth totem pole.

Motion Carried

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

D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a) Oak Bay High School Agreements

Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer and Tom Smith, Director of Facilities Services, presented four agreements between the Board of Education and the Corporation of the District of Oak Bay with respect to the new Oak Bay High School. Secretary-Treasurer Laser provided a high level overview of the Framework Agreement, the Oak Bay High School Neighbourhood Learning Centre Operating Agreement, the Lease Agreement and the Joint-Use Agreement and advised Trustees that the Oak Bay Municipal Council had approved the agreements at their October Council meeting. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Laser and Tom Smith, Director of Facilities Services.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Framework Agreement; the Oak Bay High School Neighbourhood Learning Centre Operating Agreement (Schedule A to the Framework Agreement); the Lease Agreement (Schedule D to the Neighbourhood Learning Centre Operating Agreement; and the Joint Use Agreement (Schedule B to the Framework Agreement) between the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) and The Corporation of The District of Oak Bay and authorize the Board Chair and Secretary-Treasurer to execute the Agreements on behalf of the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) 2015-2016 Capital Plan

Tom Smith, Director of Facilities Services introduced Jim Soles, Supervisor of Building Projects and explained that Mr. Soles was involved in completing the 2015-2016 Capital Plan to be submitted to the Ministry of Education. Mr. Smith provided Trustees with an overview of the Capital Plan and answered questions of clarification.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve for submission to the Ministry of Education, the 2015/2016 Five Year Capital Plan.

Motion Carried Unanimously

E. QUESTION PERIOD - None

F. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None

G. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

G1. New Business

a) Trustee Whiteaker - Parent Education Fund

Trustee Whiteaker presented her motion and rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Trustee Whiteaker.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the application process, selection criteria, and reporting requirements as presented for implementation, and further that these documents be distributed to PACs in the Greater Victoria School District.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Whiteaker, Watters, McNally, Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr

Against: Trustees Ferris, Paynter, Leonard, Orcherton

b) Trustee Whiteaker - Parent Education Fund

Trustee Whiteaker presented her motion and rationale.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) formally dissolve the Parent Education Fund Ad Hoc Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c) Trustee Leonard - GVTA Meeting Request

Trustee Leonard presented her motion and rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with clarification regarding the invitation being provided by the GVTA President, Benula Larsen.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair of the Board to write a letter to the GVTA President Benula Larsen, thanking her for the invitation to attend a meeting with her executive on October 29th, but declining the offer to have the Board meet with any one group presenting an agenda with the intent to advance any single issue forward. The Board Chair should extend an invitation to the GVTA to place an item on one of our standing committee agendas so any issue(s) can be debated in the public.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Ferris, Whiteaker, Watters, McNally, Leonard, Orcherton

Against: Trustees Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Paynter

d) Trustee Nohr - Technology Stewardship Committee

Trustee Nohr presented her motion and rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Trustee Nohr. It was noted that the terms of reference already include posting the agendas and minutes on the school district website.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) support the following revisions to the terms of reference for the Technology Stewardship Committee:

- a) Include two students as sitting members of the committee with voting rights to be selected from the Representative Advisory Committee of Students;
- b) Revise the date to June, 2016 for submission of the summary report and implementation plan to the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

G2. Notice of Motions - None

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer