

## Greater Victoria School District No. 61 Appoints New Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer of the Greater Victoria School District, Ms. Debra Laser, has announced her retirement effective January 31, 2016. Ms. Laser has been with the school district for over fifteen years and has brought a tremendous amount of knowledge and financial expertise to her role. "We will truly miss Debra and the vast experience she brought to the Greater Victoria School District. On behalf of the Board, we wish Debra all the best in the next part of her journey" said Board Chair Edith Loring-Kuhanga.

An extensive search was conducted to find a replacement for Ms. Laser and the Board of Education is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Mark Walsh as the new Secretary-Treasurer effective January 25, 2016. Mr. Walsh began his career in 2000 at RBC, Royal Bank in Victoria. Mark was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2008 and a Juris Doctor (formerly LLB) degree in 2011, both from the University of Victoria. Mark has been a member of the University of Victoria Senate, has served on the executive of the Canadian Bar Association Freedom of Information and Privacy Law Section, and has presented to the British Columbia Association of School Business Officials and the University of Victoria Faculty of Education. In 2012, Mark joined the Greater Victoria School District as the Manager of Labour Relations and Legal Services. Mark also served the Greater Victoria School District from 2002 – 2008 as a School Trustee.

"The Board is looking forward to continuing to work with Mr. Walsh in his new role as the Secretary-Treasurer of the school district" said Board Chair Edith Loring-Kuhanga.

"I'm very pleased to welcome Mark to our Senior Leadership Team and wish him the best in his new role" said Superintendent, Piet Langstraat.

-30-

For more information contact: Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Board Chair eloring@sd61.bc.ca

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools Phone: 250-475-4162 plangstraat@sd61.bc.ca