



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
March 29, 2016 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, Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters (exited meeting at 10:20 p.m.), Ann Whiteaker

**Regrets:**

Trustee Peg Orcheron

**Administration:**

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools, Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer, Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Julie Lutner, Manager, Financial Services, Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent, Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent, David Loveridge, 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.

Introductions were made around the Board table.

**A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING**

**A1. Approval of the Agenda**

It was moved and seconded:

That the March 29, 2016 Agenda be approved with the following additions/changes:

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

c) Bays United Artificial Turf Field

**G2. Notice of Motions**

c) Trustee McNally

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A2. Approval of the Minutes**

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the February 15, 2016 Regular Board Minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

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

**A4. Student Achievement - None****A5. District Presentations**

- a) Mr. Bill Valentine attended the Board meeting on behalf of DASH BC to present one of the 2015 After School Sports and Arts Initiative (ASSAI) Premier's Awards to the School District. The award is funded by the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and implemented by DASH BC. Superintendent Langstraat thanked Mr. Valentine for attending the Board meeting and accepted the award on behalf of the District.

**A6. Community Presentations**

- a) Mitchel du Plessis, a youth and family counselor in the School District, attended the Board meeting to speak to Trustees about the proposed Gender Identity and Gender Expression policy. Ms. Du Plessis urged the Board to vote in favour of the motion.
- b) Jillian Wedel attended the Board meeting on behalf of Out in Schools to speak to Trustees about the proposed Gender Identity and Gender Expression policy. Jillian spoke of her experiences working with students in our District and urged Trustees to vote in favour of the motion.

**B. TRUSTEE REPORTS****B1. Chair's Report**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga referred Trustees to information contained in their agenda with respect to a survey regarding the Co-Governance Memorandum of Understanding between the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) and the Ministry of Education. A discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with feedback being provided to Chair Loring-Kuhanga in order to complete and submit the survey on behalf of the Board.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported that she attended the Vancouver Island School Trustees Association conference in the Cowichan Valley on March 4 and 5<sup>th</sup>, Campus View Elementary School on March 10 to participate in reading week and attended a student led Town Hall meeting at Esquimalt Secondary School where students were able to ask questions of Superintendent Langstraat and Secretary-Treasurer Walsh.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga welcomed the new Director of Facilities Services, David Loveridge, to the District.

**B2. Trustees' Reports**

- a) Trustee Whiteaker reported that she attended BCSTA Provincial Council meetings and provided a written report of the items discussed at that meeting.
- b) Trustee Orcherton reported that she attended a Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting and provided a written report of the items discussed at those meetings.
- c) Trustee Whiteaker reported that she attended a Saanich Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting and provided a written report of the items discussed at that meeting.
- d) Trustee McNally reported that she attended a VISTA island meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, a musical concert for Lambrick family of schools and meetings with respect to the My Place and Choices shelters.

## C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### C1. Joint Education Policy and Directions and Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The March 7, 2016 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Trustee Nohr referred to the March 7, 2016 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) accept the policy and regulation proposal on Gender Identity and Gender Expression presented by the District Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) and refer it to the Policy Sub-Committee for further development and consultation with partner groups as per Bylaw 9210 (*The Development of Policy*) and Policy 1163 (*Consultation*).

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a suggestion being made to amend the motion.

It was moved and seconded:

- i) That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the policy and regulation proposal on Gender Identity and Gender Expression presented by the District Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) and refer it to the Policy Sub-Committee for further development and consultation with partner groups as per Bylaw 9210 (The Development of Policy) and Policy 1163 (Consultation)*" be amended to replace the word "accept" with "refer" and strike the words "and refer it".

**Motion Carried**

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

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called for the vote on the main motion as amended.

It was moved and seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) refer the policy and regulation proposal on Gender Identity and Gender Expression presented by the District Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) to the Policy Sub-Committee for further development and consultation with partner groups as per Bylaw 9210 (*The Development of Policy*) and Policy 1163 (*Consultation*).

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Trustee Leonard referred to the March 7, 2016 meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motion. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a request being made to Superintendent Langstraat to provide information on how the educators support funding of \$10,000 was used and allocated at the schools.

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve up to \$1,900,000 spending for fixed projection devices as identified in the Technology for Learning Strategy from the Local Capital Reserve.
- Motion Carried Unanimously**

**D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**

**D1. Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Langstraat provided Trustees with a written report and highlighted some of his meetings and schools visits over the past month.

Superintendent Langstraat reminded Trustees of the Strategic Plan media launch on March 30, 2016 and provided brochures that had been printed to launch the plan. Deputy Superintendent Shelley Green shared a large poster of the graphic that was used on the front of the brochure for the new plan.

Superintendent Langstraat provided further recommendations to Trustees regarding his professional growth evaluation and stated that he would be coordinating with Chair Loring-Kuhanga to provide further information prior to June 30, 2016.

- a) Superintendent Langstraat presented the following 2016/2017 proposed School Year calendar.

That the following dates be approved:

**2016/2017 School Year Calendar\***

School Opening	September 6, 2016
First non-instructional day	September 19, 2016
Thanksgiving	October 10, 2016
Second non-instructional day wide)	October 21, 2016 (Province
Remembrance Day	November 11, 2016
Third non-instructional day	November 18, 2016
Schools close for Winter vacation	December 16, 2016
Schools re-open after Winter vacation	January 3, 2017
Fourth non-instructional day	February 10, 2017
Family Day	February 13, 2017
Fifth non-instructional day	February 24, 2017
Schools close for Spring vacation	March 10, 2017
Schools re-open after Spring vacation	March 27, 2017
Good Friday	April 14, 2017
Easter Monday	April 17, 2017
Sixth non-instructional day	May 19, 2017
Victoria Day	May 22, 2017
Administrative Day and School Closing	June 30, 2017

\*Seventh non-instructional day to be chosen by each school

Associate Superintendent Greg Kitchen provided Trustees with a revised proposed 2016/2017 school year calendar and advised Trustees that feedback had been received via the District website indicating that the public was not in favour of the proposed dates for spring break as they did not align with the other two school districts the area. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a suggestion being made to accept the revised calendar as proposed by Associate Superintendent Kitchen.

It was moved and seconded:

That the following dates be approved:

**2016/2017 School Year Calendar\***

School Opening	September 6, 2016
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\*Seventh non-instructional day to be chosen by each school

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

- b) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh reminded Trustees of a motion that was passed at the January 19, 2015 Board of Education meeting with respect to the Foundation Skills Assessment testing and then provided feedback he obtained from the British Columbia School Trustees Association. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with it being decided that no action will be taken at this time.

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

- a) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh provided Trustees with a written report and highlighted some of his meetings and schools visits over the past month.
- b) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh reviewed the three funds that will be included in the Budget Bylaw, and informed that the presentation this evening was specific to the Operating Fund. Secretary-Treasurer Walsh reviewed the forecasted school-age student enrolment of 18,831 FTE and the \$8 increase in the basic allocation per school-age student FTE. He also shared the assumptions made in preparing the 2016-2017 operating budget, which included incremental and statutory wage increases, contractual obligations, and areas of budget realignment. Secretary-

Treasurer Walsh advised that when budgeted revenue is compared to budgeted expenditures, there is an operating budget shortfall of \$6.9M. He explained that the budget shortfall had been estimated at \$8.5M in January 2016, but that there had been some significant changes since then, including a decrease in the teacher pension plan rate and an increase in supplemental grants.

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh advised that all of the items previously identified to offset the \$8.5M budget deficit would not be required to offset the reduced budget deficit. It was proposed that the \$1.6M not required to balance the 2016-2017 budget be used to eliminate the approved \$800K transfer from Local Capital in 2015-2016 and to offset the anticipated budget deficit in 2017-2018 with the remaining \$800K.

Trustees asked questions of clarification of Secretary-Treasurer Walsh.

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh reminded Trustees of upcoming opportunities for the public to provide input about the proposed budget. Meetings are scheduled for April 6, 2016 at the S.J. Willis Auditorium and April 11, 2016 in the Tolmie Board Room. The Board will debate and vote on the 2016-2017 budget on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 in the Tolmie Board Room.

- c) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh directed Trustees to a letter received from the Ministry of Education regarding the 2016/17 School Enhancement Program. Secretary-Walsh advised Trustees that the Director of Facilities Services, David Loveridge, will be providing further information at the April 11, 2016 Operations Policy and Planning Committee.
- d) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh provided Trustees with an update with regard to the proposed changes to the in-fill for the artificial turf field at Oak Bay High School and to the current agreement with Bays United Football. Secretary-Treasurer Walsh recommended to the Board that an addendum be made to the current agreement to incorporate a new payment schedule taking into account the increased costs for the different in-fill. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Walsh.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to negotiate an addenda to the current Agreement with Bays United that incorporates a payment schedule to the Board of Education for the increased costs associated with Bays United Football Club's proportional contribution to the Oak Bay Artificial Turf Field.

**Motion Carried**

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

**E. QUESTION PERIOD - None**

**F. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None**

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

**G1. New Business**

**a) Trustee Ferris - Victoria High School Turf Field**

Trustee Ferris presented his motion and rationale.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Secretary-Treasurer to investigate the process by which the Board, in conjunction with the Victoria High School Alumni Association, might apply for federal infrastructure money for the development of the new field at Victoria High School.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**G2. Notice of Motions**

- a) Trustee McNally provided the following Notice of Motion for the April 4, 2016 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to a) report on District support in place, if any, for students who no longer have youth bus passes as a result of government action and who use public transportation to get to any Academy or BAA course, including the new Aviation course at Mt. Douglas High School, b) report the number of students who need this support to access District and c) effects if any on attendance at programs, particularly the SJ Willis Alternative program.

- b) Trustee McNally provided the following Notice of Motion for the April 4, 2016 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to report to the Board on the number of mental health initiatives and providers in schools in SD61, including

- a) a list of all single program (one-off) presentations to students in SD61 schools by school and by presenter for 2014-15 and 2015-16
- b) a list of ongoing provision of "mental health" service to students contracted by SD61 in entirety or as a partnership, including social workers consulting to schools (if any), number of counsellors at schools and numbers of that group who do mental health counselling for students, psychiatric nurses visiting schools (if any)
- c) background information on funding for all the above
- d) stated objectives of any program or service above
- e) how efficacy of change in students from mental illness to mental health is measured
- f) the District's accepted definition of mental illness
- g) the District's accepted definition of mental health

- c) Trustee McNally provided the following Notice of Motion for the April 4, 2016 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request that the Superintendent call for a report to the Board on, a) Reading Recovery enrolment in SD61 and in the South Island Consortium, and b) achievement in SD61 as well as any pertinent data provision from the South Island Consortium Reading Recovery Teacher Leader.

## H. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

## CERTIFIED CORRECT

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer