



**Education Policy and Directions Committee
April 4, 2016 – Oak Bay High School, 2121 Cadboro Bay Road**

Regular Minutes

Present: **TRUSTEES**
Deborah Nohr, Chair
Tom Ferris
Diane McNally
Peg Orcherton
Rob Paynter
Jordan Watters
Ann Whiteaker

ADMINISTRATION

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools
Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent
Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent
Simon Burgers, District Principal, Modern Languages and Multiculturalism
Dave Thomson, Principal, Oak Bay High School
Cindy Graf, GVTA
Ted Godwin, VCPAC
Read Jorgensen, VPVPA
Rebecca Hansen, Student Representative
Connie Schmidt, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Chair Nohr recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories we live, we learn, and we do our work.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved:

That the April 4, 2016 regular agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. APPROVAL OF THE COMBINED MINUTES OF EDUCATION POLICY AND DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING AND THE OPERATIONS POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING – *March 7, 2016*

It was moved:

That the March 7, 2016 combined minutes of the Education Policy and Directions Committee Meeting and the Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

3. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - none

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS - none

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduction of Student Representative

Superintendent Piet Langstraat welcomed Student Representative Rebecca Hansen from Reynolds Secondary and expressed his appreciation of having a student voice at the table. Jaya will be attending the meetings of the board scheduled in the month of April 2016.

B. Student Transfer

Superintendent Piet Langstraat informed trustees of evolving issues with the District student transfer process and his hope that trustees will support the need of changing current transfer procedures in order to develop a fair and equitable process for all students. Simon Burgers, District Principal, and Dave Thomson, Principal of Oak Bay High School, outlined the current issues in more detail.

A discussion followed with District administration answering questions from trustees and clarifying current procedures and future needs.

Superintendent Langstraat recommended the following motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) refer the matter of Student Transfers to the Policy Sub Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

C. BAA Courses

Associate Superintendent Deb Whitten provided trustees with an update of currently offered Board Authority Authorized (BAA) courses. She explained that 141 BAA courses are being offered across the District and 30 BAA courses are inactive. Ms. Whitten advised that a list of all BAA courses will be sent to principals at secondary schools to ensure that schools are aware of all District BAA courses.

A discussion period followed.

D. Ad Hoc Partnership Committee

Associate Superintendent Deb Whitten presented the revisions of Policy 1325 PARTNERSHIP and Attachment. She explained that the revised Policy 1325 reflects the work of the Ad Hoc Partnership Committee.

A discussion ensued and it was suggested that the words "District staff" be added to the forth bullet of the revised Policy to read: *"for large projects, school-based committees will be formed to coordinate the activities and relationships with the business and/or the community organization and District staff."*

Associate Superintendent Whitten recommended the following motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve Policy 1325 PARTNERSHIP and Attachment.

Motion Carried

For: Trustee Ferris, McNally, Nohr, Orcherton, Watters, Whiteaker
Against: Trustee Paynter

E. Motions

- a. Trustee McNally read her motion and made the following amendments:
Replacing the word "government" with the words "B.C. Transit" and adding the word "programs" after the words "to access District."

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~~ *B.C. Transit* 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 *programs* and c) effects if any on attendance at programs, particularly the SJ Willis Alternative program.

Trustee McNally then presented her rationale. After a discussion period, Trustee McNally withdrew her motion.

b. Trustee McNally read her motion and provided her rationale.

A discussion took place.

It was moved:

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

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee McNally

Against: Trustee Ferris, Nohr, Orcheron, Paynter, Watters, Whiteaker

c. Trustee McNally presented her motion along with the rationale. She also amended her motion by replacing the word “date” with the word “data.”

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 ~~date~~ data provision from the South Island Consortium Reading Recovery Teacher Leader.

After a brief discussion it was moved:

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.

Motion Carried Unanimously

6. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Trustee Watters advised that she will bring the following motion to the April 11, 2016 Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) extend formal invitations to all partner groups inviting their participation with the GSA in the District's Victoria Pride Parade entry.

7. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - none

8. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.