



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
April 18, 2016 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 Orcherter, Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Administration:

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools, Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer, Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent, Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent, Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Ball, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Julie Lutner, Senior Manager, Budgets and Financial Analysis, David Loveridge, Director, Facilities Services, Ross Walker, Supervisor of Construction, Karen Walters-Edgar, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 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 April 18, 2016 Agenda be approved with the following additions:

G1. New Business

b) Trustee Watters - Day of Mourning

G2. Notice of Motions

- a) Chair Loring-Kuhanga - Committee Structure
- b) Chair Loring-Kuhanga - First Nations Stakeholders
- c) Trustee Whiteaker - Parent Education Fund

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

a) It was moved and seconded:

That the March 29, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) It was moved and seconded:

That the April 6, 2016 Round Table Public Budget Meeting Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None

A4. Student Achievement

a) **Maggie Wehrle - Student, Daphne Hitchcock - Teacher, Brett Johnson - Principal, Margaret Jenkins Elementary School**

Principal Brett Johnson introduced Margaret Jenkins student, Maggie Wehrle, a blind student who has been working very hard to learn Braille with the support of her EA and classroom teachers. Mr. Johnson then introduced one of Maggie's teachers, Daphne Hitchcock, who spoke about how Maggie participated in the BC Braille Challenge where children from all over the Province come together to complete tests, all in Braille. Maggie was one of 60 children from all over North America who were invited to attend an international Braille challenge in Los Angeles. Maggie participated against 12 other students in her same age group and came in second place.

A short video of Maggie's trip to Los Angeles was presented. Maggie commented that she enjoyed going to Los Angeles to take the Braille challenge and loved having the opportunity to socialize with so many different people who are just like her.

Chair Edith Loring-Kuhanga thanked Maggie and her mom and the attending staff from Margaret Jenkins for coming to the Board meeting.

b) **Michelle McFarlane, Principal - Craigflower Elementary School**

Michelle McFarlane, Principal, and Jana Dick, Vice Principal of Craigflower Elementary School provided information to Trustees on two of the school's goals: improving reading and social-emotional issues. Ms. McFarlane noted that the reading programs in place for the school year have vastly improved student reading abilities since the beginning of the year. Ms. Dick advised that classroom behaviour and ability to appropriately handle emotions are improving and moving in the right direction. Ms. McFarlane added that staff at Craigflower have been working on building community. She spoke about the Christmas dinner held for 250 people and a recent breakfast that hosted the chiefs of both the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

A video highlighting student learning and fun activities at Craigflower Elementary School was presented.

A5. District Presentations

a) **Recognition of Former CUPE 947 President, Brad Hall**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga introduced CUPE 947 former President, Brad Hall and summarized Mr. Hall's work history with the District. Chair Loring-Kuhanga then asked Trustee Orcherton to present a Certificate of Recognition and a school bell to Mr. Hall. Mr. Hall responded that he felt satisfied with the work he has done over the years in the District and thanked everyone for the recognition.

A6. Community Presentations - None

B. TRUSTEE REPORTS

B1. Chair's Report

Chair Loring-Kuhanga highlighted a number of items in her report:

- VISTA Conference and changes to the Executive
- Strategic Plan media launch
- Special Budget Public Meetings on April 6th and 11th
- BCPSEA meeting on April 12th
- BCSTA AGM, resolutions, and re-elected Board of Directors
- BCSTA Provincial Council and Education Committee Minutes

a) Response to BCSTA on MOU

Chair Loring-Kuhanga discussed the Board of Education's response letter to the BCSTA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

B2. Trustees' Reports

a) Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally reported that she attended the BCSTA AGM.

Trustee McNally informed the Board that she has been attending the neighbourhood meetings regarding the transitional shelters, My Place and Choices. Trustee McNally advised that she will continue to attend these meetings and bring information to the Board.

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

C1. Education Policy and Directions Committee

- a) The April 4, 2016 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Trustee Nohr referred to the April 4, 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) refer the matter of Student Transfer to the Policy Sub Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

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

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees with a suggestion being made to refer the motion to the Policy Sub-Committee for further review.

It was moved and seconded:

- ii) That the motion "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Policy 1325 PARTNERSHIP and Attachment." be referred to the Policy Sub-Committee for further review.
Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Nohr, Paynter

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

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called 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) approve Policy 1325 PARTNERSHIP and Attachment.
Motion Carried

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

Against: Trustees Nohr, Paynter

It was moved and seconded:

- iii) 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

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

Against: Trustee Ferris

C2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a). The April 11, 2016 meeting minutes were received for information.

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

D1. Superintendent's Report

a) Superintendent's Report

In his written report, Superintendent Langstraat summarized the highlights of the BCSSA meeting he attended in Vancouver.

Superintendent Langstraat also spoke to his attendance at the following meetings and events:

- Middle school professional development activity
- School of Trades and Technology Dean's Luncheon at Camosun College
- School PAC and VCPAC meetings
- BCPSEA regional meeting
- BCSTA AGM

Superintendent Langstraat also noted that the Strategic Plan kickoff was well attended by the Board. He stated that he is optimistic that the positive vision of the plan will be promoted widely in the months ahead.

D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a) Secretary-Treasurer's Report

In his written report, Secretary-Treasurer Walsh highlighted the various activities of his department as well as meetings attended over the past month.

b) 2016/2017 Annual Facilities Grant - Capital Bylaw No. 127098

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh provided information with regard to the 2016/17 Annual Facilities Grant - Capital Bylaw No. 127098. Secretary-Treasurer Walsh invited David Loveridge, Director of Facilities Services to present the proposed plan for the 2016/17 Annual Facilities Grant.

The following motions were put forward:

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agree to give all three readings of Capital Bylaw No. 127098, being a bylaw for the maximum expenditure of \$3,069,292 for the capital portion of the Annual Facilities Grant allocation.

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved and seconded:

That the Capital Bylaw No. 127098, being a bylaw for the maximum expenditure of \$3,069,292 for the capital portion of the Annual Facilities Grant allocation be:

Read a first time the 18th day of April, 2016;
Read a second time the 18th day of April, 2016;
Read a third time, passed and adopted the 18th day of April, 2016

and that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.

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 Watters - District's Victoria Pride Parade Entry

Trustee Watters presented her motion and rationale.

It was moved and seconded:

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) **Trustee Watters - Day of Mourning**

Trustee Watters presented her motion and rationale.

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) formally recognize the Day of Mourning on April 28, 2016.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Superintendent Langstraat added that an email had been sent to schools regarding flying flags at half-mast and confirmed that the final piece of communication would be a joint media release.

G2. Notice of Motions

a) **Chair Loring-Kuhanga - Committee Structure**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga provided notice of motion for the May 9, 2016 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting. The motion will be to create a standing committee structure with four separate committees.

b) **Chair Loring-Kuhanga - First Nations Stakeholders**

Chair Loring-Kuhanga provided notice of motion for the May 9, 2016 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting. The motion will be to invite the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, as First Nations stakeholders, to attend committee and Board meetings.

c) **Trustee Whiteaker - Parent Education Fund**

Trustee Whiteaker provided notice of motion for the April 20, 2016 Special Board Budget meeting. The motion will be to allocate some VCPAC budget towards a Parent Education Fund in 2016/17.

H. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer