



**Education Policy and Directions Committee  
June 6, 2016 – Strawberry Vale Elementary School, 4109 Rosedale Avenue**

**Regular Minutes**

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

**ADMINISTRATION**

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools  
Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent  
Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent  
Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer  
Read Jorgensen, VPVPA  
Cindy Graf, GVTA Representative  
Audrey Smith, VCPAC  
Jeff Davis, Director, International Student Program  
Aaron Maxwell, Vice-Principal, Arbutus Global Middle School  
Cindy Sanderson, Principal, Strawberry Vale Elementary School  
Willow Mak, Student Representative  
Connie Schmidt, Recording Secretary

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 June 6, 2016 regular agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved:

That the May 2, 2016 Minutes of the Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** - none

**4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE** - none

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Introduction of Student Representative**

Superintendent Piet Langstraat welcomed Student Representative Willow Mak from S. J. Willis School. The Superintendent expressed his appreciation of having a student voice at the table. Willow will be attending scheduled Board meetings for June 2016.

Willow provided trustees with a brief update on the BC Transit bus pass issue and shared that students are currently in the process of gathering statements and making videos that will be presented to BC Transit.

**B. Nature Education Presentation**

Superintendent Piet Langstraat introduced Aaron Maxwell, Vice-Principal at Arbutus Global Middle School, and explained that earlier in the year he and Mr. Maxwell began exploring the idea of environmental education across the District.

Supported by a slide show, Mr. Maxwell then presented his research about “Environmental Education – A K-12 Model” designed to “help kids reconnect with nature, starting with the Greater Victoria School District.” He highlighted various nature related programs and projects that are already taking place in the District. Mr. Maxwell outlined the benefits of a K-12 model and how it ties in with the District’s Strategic Plan. He also spoke to topics such as Student Perspectives of Learning; Continuum of Learning K-12; Environmental Education as a Culture that Values Connecting with Nature; Diversity of Roles; Building a Community Beyond School and District Walls; as well as connecting with community agencies and institutions such as Wild BC, University of Victoria, Saanich Parks and Recreation.

A discussion followed and trustees expressed their appreciation of Mr. Maxwell’s presentation.

### **C. BAA Courses - Introduction to the International Certificate 12 - Experiential Learning 12**

Superintendent Langstraat introduced Jeff Davis, Director of the International Student Program.

Mr. Davis explained that the Ministry of Education and the K to 12 International Education Sector have embarked on three projects that support two-way flow of students, one of which is the Global and Intercultural Focus Program. The two proposed BAA courses are directly related to this program. Mr. Davis continued to explain that the aim is for these BAA courses to become Ministry courses in 2017-2018. Greater Victoria School District is among a group of school districts that plan to offer these BAA courses in 2016-2017, pending Board approval. He advised trustees that just recently the proposed two BAA courses have been renamed to *Global and Intercultural Studies 12* and *Global and Intercultural Experience 12*.

A discussion ensued. Trustees agreed that the recommended motions should be amended to reflect the new course titles:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Board Authority Authorized course: ~~*Introduction to the International Certificate 12- Global and Intercultural Studies 12.*~~

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Board Authority Authorized course: *Global and Intercultural Studies 12.*  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Board Authority Authorized course: ~~*Experiential Learning 12- Global and Intercultural Experience 12.*~~

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Board Authority Authorized course: *Global and Intercultural Experience 12.*  
**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### **D. Policy 100 – Philosophy and Goals of Education**

Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the reviewed Policy 100 – Philosophy and Goals of Education.

A discussion ensued and the following edits to the policy were made: 1. Omitting the words “AND GOALS” in the policy title; 2. Adding the words “in 2016” to the first paragraph; Starting a fourth paragraph with the sentence “The Board is committed to the following values:”

Trustee Watters then suggested that the recommended motion be amended to reflect the omission of the words “and Goals”:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve Policy 100 - *Philosophy and Goals of Education*.

It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve Policy 100 - *Philosophy of Education*.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

### **E. Regulation 3545.2 – Field Trips and Attachments**

Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent, presented the revision of Regulation 3545.2 - Field Trips and Attachments for SD 61 Field Trip Regulations. She explained that the revised regulation reflects a change in the supervision requirements for walkabout field trips as well as a change in the wording for the Student Code of Conduct. She also shared that the feedback from all stakeholder groups has been incorporated.

A discussion followed and trustees suggested the following edits to the draft revision: 1. On page 18, adding the words “and needs” to read: “[...] if the following factors are taken into consideration: age and needs of the students, [...]” 2. On page 26, replacing “son/daughter” with “son or daughter or student.” 3. On page 39, replacing “his/her” with “their.”

### **F. Regulation 1325 - Partnership**

Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent, presented the revised Policy 1325 - Partnership.

A short discussed followed.

### **G. MOTION**

Trustee Orcherton assumed the Chair role while trustee Nohr presented the rationale for her motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) initiate a temporary change to the start time for the Education, Policy and Directions meetings in the months of September, October, November and December, 2016 with a new start time of 4:30 - Bylaw 9360.2 (4): a review of the effectiveness of this time change will be undertaken at the December Education, Policy and Directions meeting.

A discussion ensued and it was agreed to amend the motion by omitting the words "Bylaw 9360.2 (4)."

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It was moved:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) initiate a temporary change to the start time for the Education, Policy and Directions meetings in the months of September, October, November and December, 2016 with a new start time of 4:30: a review of the effectiveness of this time change will be undertaken at the December Education, Policy and Directions meeting.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustee Nohr

Against: Trustees Ferris, McNally, Orcherton, Watters, Whiteaker

## 6. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - none

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved:

That the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.