



**Education Policy and Directions Committee
September 12, 2016 – Tolmie Building Board Room**

Regular Minutes

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

ADMINISTRATION

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools
Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent
Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent
Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent
Ted Pennell, Director, Information Technology
Katie Hamilton, Manager, Community Engagement and Communications
Maryanne Trofimuk, VPVPA President
Sean McCartney, VPVPA Vice President
Ilda Turcotte, GVTA Representative
Audrey Smith, VCPAC President
Dawson Gittens, Student Representative
Karen Walters-Edgar, Recording Secretary

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

Chair Nohr welcomed everyone back to the start of the new school year.

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 and seconded:

<p>That the September 12, 2016 regular agenda be approved with the following addition: F (b) Trustee Whiteaker Motion to review Regulation 3510.2 - <i>Stray Animals in Schools.</i> Motion Carried Unanimously</p>

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved and seconded:

<p>That the June 6, 2016 Minutes of the Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting be approved. Motion Carried Unanimously</p>
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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, Dawson Gittens, from Lambrick Park Secondary School. Dawson is a returning Student Representative from last year who will be attending scheduled Board meetings for September 2016.

B. Technology Stewardship Committee Report

Superintendent Piet Langstraat explained that the Technology Stewardship Committee met last year regarding all aspects of technology. The Superintendent wished to thank everyone around the Committee table for their input. These meetings were very fruitful, with a wide range of subjects being discussed. The Superintendent then asked Ted Pennell, Director of Information Technology, to speak to the five recommendations developed by the Committee on the use of technology for students and staff.

Mr. Pennell explained the five recommendations highlighted in the Technology Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee Report.

The Superintendent added that an updated technology information plan will be presented in November for the Board's consideration.

Trustee Whiteaker put forward the following motion:

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Technology Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee Report.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustee Whiteaker also put forward the following motion:

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) dissolve the Technology Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee since they have now completed their work.

Motion Carried

For: Trustee Ferris, Trustee Loring-Kuhanga, Trustee McNally, Trustee Nohr, Trustee
Orcherton, Trustee Watters, Trustee Whiteaker

Against: Trustee Paynter

C. Student Transfer Policy

Superintendent Langstraat stated that with a growing student population the student transfer issue is becoming more complex. The Superintendent stated the February/March period was difficult with regard to the number of requests for people wanting to move and the limited number of spaces. The Superintendent added that the Policy Sub Committee suggested a broader perspective needs to occur, that is, a need for truly greater representation from all partnership groups. The Superintendent stated that we need to look at the transfer process and ask ourselves is it really doing what we want it to do.

D. Equity Committee

Superintendent Langstraat, presented his report on the Equity Committee. The Superintendent explained the need for equity of resources for students in our district. Because of this need, two key values were included in the Board's Strategic Plan:

- Equity - We give each student the opportunity to fulfill their potential;
- Integrity - We are ethical and fair.

The Superintendent stated that in order to achieve equity with our practices and procedures, the District will need to examine many aspects of its operations. Through an established committee, dedication to this work can be achieved.

Trustees asked questions.

The following motion was then put forward:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to develop a draft Terms of Reference of the Equity Committee.
Motion Carried Unanimously

E. Policy Sub Committee Monthly Report and Policy and Regulation 4305 - *Gender Identity and Gender Expression*

Associated Superintendent Deb Whitten spoke to the Policy Sub Committee's recommendation in the creation of the draft policy and regulation, 4305 - *Gender Identity and Gender Expression*, as presented to them by the District Gender and Sexuality Alliance. Associate Superintendent Whitten stated the rationale was passed at the March 29, 2016 Board meeting. Associate

Superintendent Whitten added that this draft policy and regulation will continue to be developed and discussed with partner groups for broader consultation.

Trustees discussed the documents and made further editing suggestions.

The following motion was put forward:

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) create new Policy and Regulation 4305 - *Gender Identity and Gender Expression*.
Motion Carried Unanimously

F. MOTION

F (a)

Chair Nohr presented the rationale for her motion:

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept and implement the draft proposal *Board of Education - Plan - 2016-17* as a general guideline for the Education, Policy and Directions meetings, the Operations, Policy and Planning meetings and the Board meetings.

Trustee Orcherton moved an amendment to the motion:

Amended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept ~~and implement~~ the draft proposal *Board of Education - Plan - 2016-17* as a general guideline for the Education, Policy and Directions meetings, the Operations, Policy and Planning meetings and the Board meetings.

Further discussion ensued as to whether this motion should be carried when the plan was not attached as a reference to the motion. Trustees agreed that the plan would be referred to the Board at a later date.

The Chair called for a vote on the amended main motion.

Amended Main Motion

It was moved and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the draft proposal *Board of Education - Plan - 2016-17* as a general guideline for the Education, Policy and Directions meetings, the Operations, Policy and Planning meetings and the Board meetings.

Motion Carried Unanimously

F(b)

That the Policy Sub-Committee review Regulation 3510.2 *Stray Animals in Schools* to consider leashing language for dogs during school hours on school property.

Trustee Whiteaker stated that she will refer this motion to the next Education Policy, Planning and Directions Committee meeting for further revision and review.

6. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - none

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.