



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
February 27, 2017 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

MINUTES

Present:

Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Chair, Diane McNally, Debra Nohr, Peg Orcherton, Rob Paynter, Ann Whiteaker, Jordan Watters, Elaine Leonard

Regrets:

Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair

Administration:

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools, Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer, Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent, Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent, Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent, Katie Hamilton, Manager, Community Engagement and Communications, Julie Lutner, Senior Manager, Budgets and Financial Analysis and Tina Carleton, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 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.

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING

A1. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton and seconded:

That the February 27, 2017 Agenda be approved with the following additions/changes:

Item A3. a) Trustee McNally – Withdrawal from the BCSTA be moved for discussion under New Business as item H1. a)

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

a) It was moved by Trustee Leonard and seconded:

That the January 23, 2017 Regular Board Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. Business arising from the Minutes – None

A4. Student Achievement

a) Joanna Snow, Principal and Melanie Postle, Vice-Principal, of McKenzie Elementary reviewed the areas of focus for their school including improving student engagement in the writing process in an inclusive learning environment and their Early Literacy Pilot Project.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Ms. Snow and Ms. Postle for their presentation.

A5. District Presentations – None

A6. Community Presentations

- a) Colette Baty, President, Vancouver Island School of Art made her presentation in support of overturning the decision to end the lease at 2549 Quadra St.
- b) Wendy Welch, Executive Director, Vancouver Island School of Art made her presentation about the role that their school plays in the community.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Ms. Baty and Ms. Welch for their presentations.

B. CORRESPONDENCE**B1. Letter from Assistant Deputy Minister Farkas**

A letter from Assistant Deputy Minister Farkas was received for information.

B2. Letter from School District No. 62 (Sooke)

A letter from School District No. 62 (Sooke) was received for information.

B3. Letter regarding Christie Point

A letter was received regarding the Christie Point re-development plan.

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS**C1. Chair's Report**

- a) Chair Loring-Kuhanga reviewed her various activities over the past month and paid her respects to the late John Bird, former president of the Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils.
- b) Trustee Professional Development

Chair Loring-Kuhanga outlined the request to increase trustee professional development funding for the next school year so that Trustees could have access to attend the Canadian School Boards Association Congress. Trustees provided their comments and it was suggested that the motion be tabled to a future meeting.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga moved and it was seconded:

That the motion "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) increase the trustee professional development allocation for the 2017-2018 school year to ensure that Trustees have access to attend the Canadian School Boards Association Congress" be tabled.

Motion Tabled

C2. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee Watters discussed the work of the Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee.
- b) Trustee Whiteaker reviewed her activities over the past month and presented the BCSTA Provincial Council report.
- c) Trustee McNally reviewed the highlights of the Choices Transitional Home community meeting and provided a handout.

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**D1. Education Policy and Directions Committee**

- a) The February 6, 2017 meeting was cancelled.

D2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The February 14, 2017 meeting minutes were received for information. A correction to the meeting minutes was noted to remove Trustee Whiteaker's name from the voting record on each motion.

- b) Trustee Watters moved and it was seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the recommended motions with the exception of items i) ii) and iii) from the February 14, 2017 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustee Leonard moved and it was seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) agree to give all three readings of the 2016/2017 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw at the meeting of February 27, 2017.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustee Orcherton moved and it was seconded:

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2016/2017 in the amount of \$223,083,534 be:
Read a first time the 27th day of February, 2017;
Read a second time the 27th day of February, 2017;
Read a third time, passed and adopted the 27th day of February, 2017;
And that the Chairperson and the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign, seal and execute this Bylaw on behalf of the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustee McNally moved and it was seconded:

- iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) refer Policy 1240 - *School Volunteers* back to the Policy Sub-Committee for further review.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee McNally

Against: Trustees Leonard, Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Orcherton, Paynter, Whiteaker and Watters

Trustee Leonard moved and it was seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept Policy 1240 - *School Volunteers* as reviewed with no changes.

Motion Carried

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

Against: Trustee McNally

- iv) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to revise the regulation associated with Policy 1240 - *School Volunteers* to bring clarity to the regulation with respect to volunteers in schools.
Motion Carried Unanimously
- v) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide the Board an updated organization chart when changes are made.
Motion Carried Unanimously

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E1. Superintendent's Report

- a) Superintendent Langstraat presented his monthly report.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Superintendent's report as presented.
Motion Carried Unanimously

- b) Syrian Refugees

Superintendent Langstraat provided an overview of the coordination between the Greater Victoria School District and other school districts, Vancouver Island Health, Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria, Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society, and other outside agencies who provide specific counseling services in preparation for welcoming newcomer Syrian students and families. Those schools supporting a larger number of Syrian students new to the school have been given additional English Language Learning teaching time. Trustees asked questions and provided comments.

- c) School Calendars 2017-18 and 2018-19

Associate Superintendent Kitchen reviewed the process undertaken to develop the calendars and the input received. Trustees asked questions of clarification.

It was moved by Trustee Watters and seconded:

That the following dates be approved:

2017/2018 School Year Calendar*

School Opening –	September 5, 2017
First non-instructional day –	September 18, 2017
Thanksgiving –	October 9, 2017
Second non-instructional day – (Province wide)	October 20, 2017
Remembrance Day –	November 13, 2017
Third non-instructional day –	November 24, 2017
Schools close for Winter vacation –	December 22, 2017
Schools re-open after Winter vacation –	January 8, 2018
Family Day –	February 12, 2018
Fourth non-instructional day –	February 23, 2018
Schools close for Spring vacation –	March 16, 2018
Good Friday –	March 30, 2018
Easter Monday –	April 2, 2018
Schools re-open after Spring vacation –	April 4, 2018
Fifth non-instructional day –	April 20, 2018

Sixth non-instructional day –	May 18, 2018
Victoria Day –	May 21, 2018
Administrative Day and School Closing –	June 29, 2018
*Seventh non-instructional day to be chosen by each school	
2018/2019 School Year Calendar*	
School Opening –	September 4, 2018
First non-instructional day –	September 17, 2018
Thanksgiving –	October 8, 2018
Second non-instructional day – (Province wide)	October 19, 2018
Remembrance Day –	November 12, 2018
Third non-instructional day –	November 23, 2018
Schools close for Winter vacation –	December 21, 2018
Schools re-open after Winter vacation –	January 7, 2019
Family Day –	February 11, 2019
Fourth non-instructional day –	February 22, 2019
Schools close for Spring vacation –	March 15, 2019
Schools re-open after Spring vacation –	April 1, 2019
Good Friday –	April 19, 2019
Easter Monday –	April 22, 2019
Fifth non-instructional day –	May 17, 2019
Victoria Day –	May 20, 2019
Administrative Day and School Closing –	June 28, 2019
*Sixth non-instructional day to be chosen by each school	

Motion Carried Unanimously

d) Interim Funding update

Superintendent Langstraat explained that the school district received \$1.7 million to begin to address the outcome of the Supreme Court of Canada ruling and presented a spreadsheet showing the allocation by school and teaching category. Trustees asked questions of clarification.

e) Field trips to the United States

Superintendent Langstraat reviewed the planned student travel to the United States between March and June and responded to questions from Trustees.

f) Student Enrolment Priorities Public Consultation

Katie Hamilton, Manager, Community Engagement and Communications updated the Board on the public consultation process to be undertaken in March to solicit input about priorities for student enrolment. Upon conclusion of the consultation period, a summary "What We Heard" document outlining the process, input collected and analysis will be developed for the Board's review. Trustees provided comments.

g) Trustee Questions

There were no questions asked by Trustees of Superintendent Langstraat.

E2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh presented his monthly report.

It was moved by Trustee Leonard and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Secretary-Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) 2549 Quadra Street – Quadra Warehouse

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh outlined the current terms of the lease and the condition assessment of the property and stated that all school district sites are being reviewed for potential district use. Trustees asked questions of clarification.

F. QUESTION PERIOD

Collette Baty, President, Vancouver Island School of Art asked for an explanation of how the District came to the determination of fair market value of the property located at 2549 Quadra St.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS – None**H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS****H1. New Business**

a) Trustee McNally – Withdrawal from the BCSTA

Trustee McNally presented her motion and her rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

It was moved by Trustee McNally and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) instruct the Chair to prepare the necessary documents to effect withdrawal of this Board from the BCSTA as soon as possible.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr and McNally

Against: Trustees Orcherton, Leonard, Paynter, Watters and Whiteaker.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) extend the board meeting time past 11:00 p.m.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b) Trustee Whiteaker – Substantive Motions to BCSTA AGM

Trustee Whiteaker presented her motion and rationale. Trustees asked questions and provided comments.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) provide the following motion to the BCSTA AGM: “That the BCSTA Board of Directors request the legislative Committee to review the BCSTA current bylaws to ensure they continue to best serve the membership and current organizational structure.”

Motion Carried Unanimously

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

- ii) That the motion “That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) provide the following motion to the BCSTA AGM: “That the BCSTA urge government to bring Early Childhood Development and the appropriate full funding under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education” be withdrawn.

Motion Withdrawn

H2. Notice of Motions – None

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer