



**Education Policy and Directions Committee
June 5th, 2017 – Tolmie Board Room**

Minutes

Present: **TRUSTEES**
Ann Whiteaker, Chair
Tom Ferris
Edith Loring-Kuhanga
Diane McNally
Deborah Nohr
Peg Orcherton
Rob Paynter
Jordan Watters (arrived at 8:25 p.m.)

ADMINISTRATION

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools
Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent
Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent
Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent
Kyla Cleator, District Vice Principal
Simon Burgers, District Principal, Languages and Multiculturalism
Darren Companion, GVTA Representative
Jeanette Alexander, ASA Representative
Kerrie Proudlove, CUPE 947 Representative

Regrets: Gabrielle Rutman, Student Representative, Esquimalt High School

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Whiteaker welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

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

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton:

That the June 5th, 2017 Education Policy and Directions agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the May 1st, 2017 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting minutes 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 Langstraat stated that Esquimalt High School Student Representative, Gabrielle Rutman, sends her regrets, as she is attending her Grad ceremony tonight.

B. Middle School Review Ad Hoc Committee Update

Associate Superintendent, Deb Whitten, provided an overview of the work to date of the Middle School Review Ad Hoc Committee.

Trustees asked questions of clarification and provided feedback.

C. Inclusive Education Review

District Vice Principal - Inclusive Learning, Kyla Cleator, introduced the team of Inclusive Learning representatives:

- District Learning Support teacher - Teri Bembridge
- Itinerant teacher of DHH students - Suzanne Bancroft
- Elementary Counsellor - Melinda Budgell
- Gifted Education teacher - Mitch Barnes
- Itinerant teacher of the Visually Impaired students - Daphne Hitchcock
- Speech and Language Pathologist - Camille Traverse
- Behaviour Consultant - Dana Marchant
- District Psychologist - Christina Pelletier

Trustees asked questions of clarification and provided feedback.

As there were many questions trustees and the public wanted to ask, the Chair suggested that all outstanding questions be submitted to Deputy Superintendent Shelley Green, who will provide responses at the September Education Policy and Directions meeting.

Chair Whiteaker thanked Kyla and the Inclusive Learning team for their presentations.

D. Partnerships and Pathways

Associate Superintendent, Greg Kitchen presented the plan regarding Partnerships and Pathways. Career and Transition Coordinators, Nicola Priestley and Anna Lisa Bond responded to questions and comments.

Trustee Edith Loring-Kuhanga suggested that for Goal B, Objective 3, the wording should be changed to include Aboriginal Communities: **Strengthen an open and transparent relationship with Esquimalt & Songhees Nations and Aboriginal Communities that supports career and life opportunities for Aboriginal students.**

E. French Advisory - Terms of Reference

Simon Burgers, District Principal, Languages and Multiculturalism explained that historically the establishment of the French Advisory Committee has not been required on an annual basis and it is being proposed that the French Advisory Committee be established on an ad hoc basis when considerations about French language programming arise. He also reviewed the draft Terms of Reference - the Purpose, the Deliverables and the membership composition of the Ad Hoc Committee. An amendment was made to the draft Terms of Reference on page 24 of the Education Policy and Directions Agenda package to add a Greater Victoria Teachers' Association and a Canadian Parents for French representative to the membership list.

Trustee asked questions of clarification and provided feedback.

It was moved by Trustee McNally:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria): 1. No longer require the establishment of an annual French Advisory Standing Committee; 2. Establish a French Advisory Committee on an ad hoc basis when considerations arise.
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A discussion ensued. Input from the public expressed concern about the proposed change from a standing committee to an ad hoc committee.

Clarification was provided by the Superintendent and Simon Burgers.

Trustee Loring-Kuhanga put forth the following motion:

It was moved by Trustee Loring-Kuhanga:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) establish a French Advisory Ad Hoc Committee to meet at least annually, or as required.
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Motion Deferred

Trustee Ferris recommended that the motion be deferred until the September Education Policy and Directions meeting. Trustees agreed to postpone the motion.

6. **NOTICE OF MOTIONS** - None

7. **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.