



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
June 26, 2017 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

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**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Elaine Leonard, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr, Peg Orcherton, 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, Katie Hamilton, Manager, Community Engagement and Communications, David Loveridge, Director, Facilities Services, Simon Burgers, District Principal, Languages and Multiculturalism, Jeff Davis, Director, International Student Programs

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.

**A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING**

**A1. Approval of the Agenda**

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

That the June 26, 2017 Agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A2. Approval of the Minutes**

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

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

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A3. Business arising from the Minutes**

a) 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of amended Bylaw 9360, *General Meeting of the Board*

It was moved by Trustee Ferris and seconded:

That amended Bylaw 9360 – *General Meeting of the Board* be:

Read a third time, passed and adopted the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017 and that the amended Bylaw 9360 be enacted effective June 26, 2017.

**Motion Carried**

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

Against: Trustees Nohr and Paynter

**A4. Student Achievement**

- a) Renee Pick, Principal, Cloverdale Traditional School, Sandra Jost Vice-Principal and students, Hannah and Ryan presented highlights of Cloverdale School's 100 year anniversary celebrations.

**A5. District Presentations**

- a) Melanie Houston, Allied Specialists' Association, was honored and recognized by Chair Loring-Kuhanga for her time as the President of the Allied Specialists' Association.

**A6. Community Presentations**

- a) Darren Companion, Vice-President, GVTA – Restored Contract Language

Mr. Companion expressed concerns about the pace of implementation of the restored contract language.

- b) Joyce Preston – Enrolment Priorities

Ms. Preston expressed support for the revised proposed enrolment priorities as recommended to the Board.

- c) Katy Smith – Enrolment Priorities

Ms. Smith expressed support for the revised proposed enrolment priorities as recommended to the Board.

- d) Suzette Goldsworthy – Macaulay Elementary – Computer Lab

Ms. Goldsworthy expressed concerns about the dismantling of the Macaulay computer lab and presented a copy of a petition to the Board.

**B. CORRESPONDENCE****B1. Letter from the Mayor of the City of Victoria**

A letter was received from the City of Victoria for information. Superintendent Langstraat responded to Trustee questions.

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

Chair Loring-Kuhanga recognized the work and accomplishments of the Board and staff over the last year.

**C2. Trustees' Reports**

- a) Trustee McNally presented the Aboriginal Nations Education Council Committee report.
- b) Trustee Ferris advised that the French Immersion Advisory Committee will be meeting in the fall.

- c) The Needs Budget Ad Hoc Committee will meet once the Classroom Enhancement Funding is confirmed by the Ministry of Education.
- d) Trustee McNally reviewed the Saanich Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee report.
- e) Trustee Whiteaker presented the Saanich Parks, Trails & Recreation Advisory Committee report.
- f) The Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee report was presented at the April 2017 Board meeting.
- g) Trustee Orcheron presented the Public Engagement Ad Hoc Committee report.
- h) Trustee McNally reviewed her various activities over the past month.

## D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

### D1. Education Policy and Directions Committee

- a) The June 5, 2017 meeting minutes were received for information.

### D2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The June 12, 2017 meeting minutes were received for information.
- b) Recommended Motions:

It was moved by Trustee Ferris and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the recommended motions (ii) and (iii) from the June 12, 2017 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Trustees asked questions of clarification.

It was moved by Trustee Ferris and seconded:

- i) That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Equity Ad Hoc Committee's Terms of Reference to a) extend the timeline of the Committee through the 2017/2018 school year, and to b) add that the Committee will provide recommendations in advance of the 2018/2019 budget process.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

- ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to review the Greater Victoria Foundation for Learning mandate and bring recommendations back to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

- iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) delete Policy 2127.060 Psychologist, Policy 2127.062 Speech and Language Specialist, and Policy 2127.063 District Counsellors.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Trustees asked questions of clarification of Superintendent Langstraat and Secretary-Treasurer Walsh.

It was moved by Trustee Ferris and seconded:

- iv) That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) accept the Long Term District Facilities Plan report in draft format.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

Superintendent Langstraat provided an overview of the issues associated with student registration priorities. Jeff Davis, Director, International Student Programs presented items associated with registration priorities. Trustees asked questions of clarification.

The Superintendent confirmed that the Superintendent would have discretion in extraordinary circumstances to allow for an exception to the priorities.

It was moved by Trustee Ferris and seconded:

- v) That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) accept the recommendations of the Student Registration and Transfer Ad Hoc Committee as follows:

- 1) That the Board of Education approve the following student enrolment priorities and corresponding considerations to take effect for student enrolment during the 2018-2019 school year:

1. re-enrolling students
2. a catchment area sibling
3. a new catchment area child
4. a non-catchment sibling
5. a non-catchment area child
6. a non-school district child

- 2) That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to revise the appropriate policies and regulations to reflect changes to the student enrolment priorities and process, including:

English and French program families who could not access their catchment school will have the first right of refusal at their catchment school when, or if, a seat becomes available. Should the family choose to stay in their present non-catchment school, or a seat does not become available at their catchment school, they will be treated as a catchment student at their non-catchment school and pathway.

A student leaving a French Immersion program at a school that is not their English catchment school will have to apply for a transfer to attend the English program. This practice will also apply to any student attending a program of choice at a non-catchment school (e.g. sports academy or leadership program).

The enrolment priorities apply to all students in transition from elementary to middle school, and from middle school to high school. In the event space is limited and a school cannot accept all non-catchment

student requests, priority will be given to those non-catchment students currently in the determined pathway of schools over other non-catchment, non-pathway students.

In recognition of a growing student population and to ensure an equitable placement of international students at schools across the District, the number of international student registrations will be capped at 1,050 FTE for 2017-2018 and will be reviewed annually by the Superintendent and Director of International Student Programs, based on annual enrolment projections.

- 3) That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to review the current registration process to improve registration information and documentation requirements for registration, as well as identify possible options for online registration.

Superintendent Langstraat provided general thoughts on the impact of grandfathering in response to Trustee questions. An amendment was proposed.

It was moved by Trustee Leonard and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Student Registration Priority recommendation to add the statement "*and that all families registered for September 2017-2018 shall have their families grandfathered for five years*" after section 1.6.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Leonard, Whiteaker, and Paynter

Against: Trustees Loring-Kuhanga, McNally, Ferris, Watters, Nohr, and Orcherton

Trustees continued to debate the motion.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Student Registration Priority recommendation to delete the words "*from elementary to middle school, and*" from the fourth paragraph in section 2.

**Motion Defeated**

For: Trustees Whiteaker, Leonard, and Paynter

Against: Trustees Loring-Kuhanga, Ferris, McNally, Watters, Nohr, and Orcherton

Trustees continued the debate on the main motion. Trustees provided their feedback and expressed appreciation for the work of the Ad Hoc Committee as well as the feedback from parents.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga called for the vote on the main motion.

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) accept the recommendations of the Student Registration and Transfer Ad Hoc Committee as follows:

- 1) That the Board of Education approve the following student enrolment priorities and corresponding considerations to take effect for student enrolment during

the 2018-2019 school year:

1. re-enrolling students
2. a catchment area sibling
3. a new catchment area child
4. a non-catchment sibling
5. a non-catchment area child
6. a non-school district child

- 2) That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to revise the appropriate policies and regulations to reflect changes to the student enrolment priorities and process, including:

English and French program families who could not access their catchment school will have the first right of refusal at their catchment school when, or if, a seat becomes available. Should the family choose to stay in their present non-catchment school, or a seat does not become available at their catchment school, they will be treated as a catchment student at their non-catchment school and pathway.

A student leaving a French Immersion program at a school that is not their English catchment school will have to apply for a transfer to attend the English program. This practice will also apply to any student attending a program of choice at a non-catchment school (e.g. sports academy or leadership program).

The enrolment priorities apply to all students in transition from elementary to middle school, and from middle school to high school. In the event space is limited and a school cannot accept all non-catchment student requests, priority will be given to those non-catchment students currently in the determined pathway of schools over other non-catchment, non-pathway students.

In recognition of a growing student population and to ensure an equitable placement of international students at schools across the District, the number of international student registrations will be capped at 1,050 FTE for 2017-2018 and will be reviewed annually by the Superintendent and Director of International Student Programs, based on annual enrolment projections.

- 3) That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to review the current registration process to improve registration information and documentation requirements for registration, as well as identify possible options for online registration.

**Motion Carried**

For: Trustees Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Watters, McNally, Ferris, and Orcherton,

Against: Trustees Paynter, Leonard, and Whiteaker

## E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

### E1. Superintendent's Report

- a) Superintendent Langstraat presented his monthly report and responded to Trustee questions.

It was moved by Trustee Nohr 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) Specialty Academy Fees

It was moved by Trustee Leonard and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) makes available to the public via the District website, the schedules of fees that have been approved by the School Planning Councils for the District's Specialty Academy programs.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

- c) 2017/2018 Board of Education and Standing Committee Meeting Dates

It was moved by Trustee Leonard and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the 2017/2018 Board of Education Proposed Dates and the Standing Committee meeting dates.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

- d) Trustee Questions

Trustees asked questions of the Superintendent regarding the Classroom Enhancement Funding.

### E2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

- a) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh presented his monthly report and responded to Trustee questions.

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) 2018/2019 Capital Plan

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh provided an overview of the 2018-2019 Five Year Capital Plan and responded to Trustee questions.

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve for submission to the Ministry of Education, the 2018/2019 Greater Victoria School District No. 61 Five Year Capital Plan.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

c) Classroom Enhancement Fund Update

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh provided an overview of the Classroom Enhancement funding received from the Ministry of Education based upon a review of the school district staffing, capital and overhead cost submission. Trustees asked questions of clarification.

**F. QUESTION PERIOD**

F1. The Public asked questions regarding alternative programming.

**G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None**

**H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

H1. **New Business** – None

H2. **Notice of Motions** - None

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT**

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer