



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
October 23, 2017 Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

MINUTES

Present:

Edith Loring-Kuhanga, Chair, Tom Ferris, Vice-Chair, Elaine Leonard, Diane McNally, Deborah Nohr, Peg Orcherton, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

Regrets: Trustee Rob Paynter

Administration:

Piet Langstraat, Superintendent of Schools, Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer, Shelley Green, Deputy Superintendent, Deb Whitten, Associate Superintendent, Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent, David Loveridge, Director, Facilities Services, Lisa McPhail, Communications Officer, Vicki Hanley, Recording Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 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 October 23, 2017 Agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

It was moved by Trustee Nohr and seconded:

That the September 25, 2017 Regular Board Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried

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

A3. Business arising from the Minutes - None

A4. Student Achievement - None

A5. District Presentations

Secretary-Treasurer, Mark Walsh, introduced the Director of Facilities Services, David Loveridge, who presented to the Board an overview of the projects undertaken by facilities staff over the summer break. Trustees asked questions of clarification of Mr. Loveridge.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked Mr. Loveridge for his presentation.

A6. Community Presentations

- a) Jady Marshall, a 2016 graduate of Oak Bay High School, attended the Board meeting to speak to Trustees about dress codes.

B. CORRESPONDENCE**B1. Letter from Minister of State for Child Care**

A letter from the Ministry of State for Children and Family Development in British Columbia was presented for information purposes.

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

Chair Loring-Kuhanga reported to the Board her various activities over the past month including a PAC meeting at Margaret Jenkins Elementary School, the fall conference of the Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association and a meeting with MLA, Mitzi Dean.

Chair Loring-Kuhanga thanked parent volunteers for all that they do and the facilities staff for creating 84 new classrooms this summer.

C2. Trustees' Reports

- a) Trustee McNally provided a written report of her activities over the past month.
- b) Trustee Watters provided a written report of her activities over the past month.

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

- a) The October 2, 2017 meeting minutes were received for information.

D2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The October 10, 2017 meeting was held but no business was conducted due to a lack of quorum. The meeting agenda was discussed and is available on the District website

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**E1. Superintendent's Report**

- a) Superintendent Langstraat presented his monthly report.

It was moved by Trustee Orcheron 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) Trustee Questions

Superintendent Langstraat responded to Trustee questions regarding food purchases and catering for meetings and advised Trustees he would obtain additional information and report back at a future Board meeting.

E2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a) Secretary-Treasurer Walsh presented his monthly report.

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton 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) Facilities Plan Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh provided an update on the status of the Facilities Plan Ad Hoc Committee and the revised Terms of Reference.

It was moved by Trustee Ferris and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Facilities Plan Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a recommendation being made to amend the Terms of Reference to include one VCPAC representative plus one parent representative from each elementary, middle and secondary school and invite any other interested parties.

It was moved by Trustee Nohr and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Facilities Plan Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference to include one VCPAC representative plus one parent representative from each elementary, middle and secondary school and invite any other interested parties.

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a recommendation being made to amend the amendment.

It was moved by Trustee Leonard and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Facilities Plan Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference to include three VCPAC representatives, one from each elementary, middle and secondary school.

Motion Carried

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

Against: Trustees Nohr and McNally

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a recommendation being made to amend the first amendment by striking the words "*and invite any other interested parties.*"

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Facilities Plan Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference to strike the words "*and invite any other interested parties*" from the amended motion, "*one VCPAC representative from each elementary, middle and secondary school and invite any other interested parties.*"

Motion Carried Unanimously

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

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Facilities Plan Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference and to include the words "*three VCPAC representatives, one from each elementary, middle and secondary school.*"

Motion Carried Unanimously

c) 2017-2018 Enrolment Update

Secretary-Treasurer Walsh directed Trustees to their agendas and the update provided with regards to student enrolment. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Walsh.

F. QUESTION PERIOD - None

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H1. New Business

a) Trustee Watters – SD61 Dress Codes

Trustee Watters presented her motion and provided a rationale.

It was moved by Trustee Watters and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to instruct Principal's to suspend the enforcement of school dress codes pending the One Learning Community Ad Hoc Committee consultation and recommendations on dress codes.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a recommendation being made to amend the motion.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker and seconded:

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to instruct Principal's to suspend the enforcement of school dress codes pending the One Learning Community Ad Hoc Committee consultation and recommendations on dress codes*" be amended to strike the words "*suspend the enforcement of school dress*"

codes” and replace with “report any enforcement of school dress codes to the Superintendent’s office.”

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Whiteaker, Watters, and McNally

Against: Trustees Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Orcherton, Ferris, and Leonard

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees followed by the Chair calling for the vote on the main motion.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to instruct Principal’s to suspend the enforcement of school dress codes pending the One Learning Community Ad Hoc Committee consultation and recommendations on dress codes.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Whiteaker, Watters, and McNally

Against: Trustees Ferris, Loring-Kuhanga, Nohr, Leonard, and Orcherton

b) Trustee Watters – SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity)

Trustee Watters presenter her motion and provided a rationale. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with direction being given to post the letter in the Times Colonist as well as on the District website and social media.

It was moved by Trustee Watters and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) publish a letter, as per the BCSTA message of support to Boards of Education, for SOGI policies and initiatives in fostering safer and more inclusive communities for all British Columbians.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H2. Notice of Motions - None

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Trustee Ferris and seconded:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer