



**Education Policy and Directions Committee
September 10th, 2018 – Tolmie Board Room**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Deborah Nohr - Chair, Tom Ferris, Peg Orcherton, Ann Whiteaker

Other Trustees Present: Diane McNally, Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters

ADMINISTRATION: Shelley Green - Superintendent, Deb Whitten - Deputy Superintendent, Colin Roberts - Associate Superintendent, Greg Kitchen - Associate Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Director, Learning Support Team, Pam Halverson, District Administrator - Learning Support Team, Carey Nickerson, District Vice Principal - Learning Team, Louise Sheffer, Director - Learning Team, Sean McCartney - VPVPA Representative, Ilda Turcotte - GVTA Representative, Jane Massy - CUPE 947 Representative, Audrey Smith - VCPAC Representative, Jeanette Alexander - ASA Representative

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Chair Nohr welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

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

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Ferris

That the September 10th, 2018 Education Policy and Directions agenda be approved with the following amendments:

C5. Title change from Monthly Reports Re Special Needs Students to Reports to Trustees on Inclusion / Exclusion Practices;

Add **C6. Motion by Trustee Whiteaker - Reports for Special Needs Students,**

Add **C7. Motion by Trustee Whiteaker - Surveying Schools Regarding Space Pressures.**

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the June 4th, 2018 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

a) None

C. NEW BUSINESS

C1. Literacy for All (PowerPoint)

Louise Sheffer, Pam Halverson and Carey Nickerson provided highlights of their *Literacy for All* PowerPoint presentation.

Trustees asked questions of the Learning Team and Inclusive Learning Team presenters.

C2. Parent Education Fund (PEF)

Deputy Superintendent Whitten presented a memo and backup information in regard to last year's Parent Education Fund grants and school participation. Ms. Whitten stated that the PEF grant applications will also be made available to school parent advisory committees for the 2018-19 school year.

Trustees asked questions of clarification and made suggestions in regard to this year's grant process and application form information.

C3. Strategic Plan

Superintendent Green presented her motion and rationale.

Trustees discussed the motion.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to strike a committee to develop a process to review the Strategic Plan in the fifth year of implementation (2019-2020).

Motion Carried Unanimously

C4. Informing Parents Regarding Counselling

Trustees Ferris acted as Chair of the Ed Policy Committee so that Trustee Nohr could present her motion and rationale.

Trustees discussed the motion.

After much discussion, Trustee Nohr withdrew her motion.

It was moved by Trustee Nohr and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide a report on school counseling processes, including the process for informing parents, and report out at the October 1st, 2018 Ed Policy and Directions meeting.

Motion Withdrawn

Trustee Nohr resumed her position as Ed Policy Chair.

C5. Reports to Trustees on Inclusion/Exclusion Practices

Trustees McNally presented her motion and rationale.

Trustees discussed the motion at length.

That the Board of Education of School District #61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide a monthly report to trustees on students with special needs that specifies the number of incidents, as per each point: 1. Being asked to stay home; 2. Being sent home; 3. Being dropped off late and/or picked up early by bussing services; 4. Being excluded from field trips; 5. Being sent out of the regular classroom to the Resource Room, or Sensory /Isolation Room, or other space, if no breakout room is available.

Motion Carried Unanimously

C6. Reports for Special Needs Students

Trustee Whiteaker presented her motion and rationale.

That the Board of Education of School District #61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to ensure all absences be recorded appropriately for all special needs students, including absences due to being asked to stay home, excluded from class field trips, or sent home due to lack of appropriate care.

Trustees discussed the motion at length. A proposed amendment was made to the main motion.

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton:

That the Board of Education of School District #61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to ensure all absences be recorded appropriately for all special needs students. ~~including absences due to being asked to stay home, excluded from class field trips, or sent home due to lack of appropriate care.~~

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee Orcherton, Whiteaker

Against: Trustee Nohr, Ferris

After discussions on item **C7.**, trustees returned to discussing the **C6.** main motion. A second proposed amendment was made to the main motion.

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton and seconded.

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

That the Board of Education of School District #61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to ensure all absences be recorded appropriately for all ~~special needs students~~ **students with special needs**, including absences due to being asked to stay home, excluded from class field trips, or sent home due to lack of appropriate care.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Ferris, Orcherton, Whiteaker

Against: Trustee Nohr

C7. School Survey Regarding Space Pressures

Trustees Whiteaker presented her motion and rationale.

That the Board of Education of School District #61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to survey schools in November regarding space pressures and use of resource, sensory and breakout rooms.

Trustees discussed the motion and proposed an amendment:

It was moved by Trustee Orcherton and seconded:

That the Board of Education of School District #61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to survey schools in **each** November regarding space pressures and use of resource, sensory and breakout rooms.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D. NOTICE OF MOTION - None

E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

F. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.