

BYLAW 9360

GENERAL MEETING OF THE BOARD

1. The Board of Education of School District 61 shall meet in general session on the fourth Monday of each month except where the fourth Monday is a statutory holiday, in which case the meeting will take place on the next working day, except for the months of July and August, when no meeting will be held and for the month of December, when the meeting shall be on the second Monday of the month.
2. In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board in general session, the Board, as elected, shall meet for the first time within 30 days after the official results of the election of trustees shall have been declared, for the purpose of receiving the results, the swearing in of the new trustees, and the selection of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board. This inaugural meeting of the Board shall be called and chaired by the Secretary-Treasurer of the School District. Each year thereafter during the term of office, the election of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Board representatives to various agencies where the Trustees have regular representation and the appointment of Trustees to internal and external committees shall take place at the November Board meeting.
3. The Chair, the Secretary-Treasurer or any three trustees, may call a special general meeting of the Board, in addition to the regularly scheduled meetings of the Board, upon not less than forty-eight hours' notice in writing to all trustees.
4. A special general meeting of the Board may be called upon less than the normal forty-eight hours' notice, in writing or by telephone, with such meeting being deemed to have been properly convened if a majority of trustees agree to waive the normal forty-eight hours' of written notice.

5. The following procedural matters will be implemented:

- The meetings will be conducted in two major sections:

The first will encompass the agenda, minutes and acceptance of presentations from the public and employee groups;

The second will be for the consideration of Board Committee Reports and Special Reports to the Board.

- The meetings should be conducted in a timely manner and time guidelines and limits adhered to with respect to:
 - * general meetings of the Board of Education commence at 7:30 p.m. and continue until no later than 11:00 p.m., save as may be extended by majority consent
 - * Starting the meeting on time
 - * The Community Presentations period is limited to a maximum of six speakers, each speaking a maximum of five minutes; there can only be three speakers per issue (numbers and time may be extended at the discretion of the Chair)
 - * No public debate with presenters; information only will be received
 - * The Question Period is limited to 15 minutes

6. Wherever possible, the public will be encouraged to attend a Committee meeting rather than a Board meeting in order to facilitate dialogue with the public before decisions are made. Discussion and debate of issues takes place at two regularly scheduled Standing Committee meetings each month. During the Standing Committee meetings, members of the public make presentations and discussions often ensue with committee members, stakeholder groups, and staff.

In addition to the opportunities to present at Standing Committees, employee partner groups including the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association (GVTA), the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 947 and Local 382), the

Victoria Parent Advisory Councils (VCPAC), Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, Youth Representatives Committee, and the Victoria Principals and Vice-Principals Association (VPVPA), are able to provide comment on specific motions prior to them being voted on by the Board. The Board Chair will ask stakeholder representatives whether they would like to provide comment on motions prior to the Board of Education considering the motion. Each stakeholder representative will have up to two minutes to provide comment through the Chair.

7. In the event that the Board shall fail to conclude the business of the agenda by the time of adjournment the Chair may designate not more than one additional meeting, to be held within one week on the day and date designated by the Chair.
8. The agenda shall be prepared and circulated by the Chair of the Board.
9. There shall be an agenda circulated to all trustees not less than three days prior to each regularly scheduled meeting of the Board in general session, and not less than forty-eight hours prior to a special meeting of the Board in general session.
10. The agenda shall be approved by ordinary motion as the first item of business at each meeting.
11. The Agenda shall contain the following:

Guidelines for the meeting format including outlining opportunities for public and stakeholder comments

- A. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories; Approval of the Agenda; Approval of Previous Minutes and Business Arising from the Minutes

Student Achievement Presentations; District Presentations; Community Presentations

- B. Correspondence

- C. Chair's Report; Trustee Reports (including Reports from Trustee Representatives with Other Public Bodies)

D. Board Committee Reports:

- (1) Education Policy and Directions Motions
- (2) Operations Policy and Planning Motions

E. District Leadership Team Reports

F. Question Period

G. Public Disclosure of In-Camera Items

H. New Business/Notice of Motions

I. Adjournment

The order of the Agenda shall be as above, unless varied at the meeting by majority vote.

12. A copy of the Agenda shall be made available to the media, partner groups and the public (website) through the Secretary-Treasurer's office on the day after copies are delivered to trustees, and such Agenda shall have attached the Committee Reports.
13. The Board Chair may reschedule any regularly-scheduled general meeting of the Board to a different time and date in order to meet the business requirements of the Board. The Board may, by ordinary resolution, cancel a regular general meeting of the Board.
14. In accordance with Section 67 of the *School Act*, the Board may allow Trustees to participate in or attend a meeting of the Board by telephone or other means of communication if all Trustees and other persons participating in or attending the meeting are able to communicate with each other. Such attendance shall only be permitted where Trustee participation is prevented by extraordinary circumstances. Trustees wishing to attend electronically must provide a minimum of 48 hours' notice of such attendance.

15. With the exception of poll votes pursuant to Bylaw 9011, the Board shall not conduct meetings electronically. For the purposes of this bylaw, electronic communications that would constitute a meeting include communications shared among all trustees that materially advance a matter before the Board. This Bylaw does not prohibit the electronic provision of information pertaining to a matter before the Board.

Greater Victoria School District

Adopted: April 27, 1981

Various Revisions

Revised: November 25, 1991

Revised: June 23, 1997

Revised: January 16, 2006

Revised: January 19, 2009 (corrected)

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