



**Combined Education Policy and Directions Committee and
Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting
November 13, 2018 – Tolmie Boardroom**

REGULAR MINUTES

Education Policy and Directions Committee Members Present:

Nicole Duncan, Committee Chair; Tom Ferris; Diane McNally; Ryan Painter; Jordan Watters, Board Chair (Ex-Officio)

Operations Policy and Planning Committee Members Present:

Rob Paynter, Committee Chair; Angie Hentze; Elaine Leonard; Ann Whiteaker; Jordan Watters, Board Chair (Ex-Officio)

Administration:

Shelley Green, Superintendent of Schools; Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer; Deb Whitten, Deputy Superintendent; Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent; Colin Roberts, Associate Superintendent; Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer; Louise Sheffer, Director, Learning Team; Carey Nickerson, District Vice Principal, Learning Team; Harold Caldwell, Director, Learning Support Team; Sean McCartney, District Principal, Inclusive Learning; Aaron Foster, Project Manager, Facilities Services; Read Jorgensen, District Principal, Human Resource Services; Lisa McPhail, Communications Officer and Karen Walters-Edgar, Meeting Recorder

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Education Policy and Directions Committee Chair, Nicole Duncan, recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the November 13, 2018 combined Education Policy and Directions Committee and Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the October 1, 2018 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustee McNally noted an amendment to item 7A in the October 9, 2018 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting minutes. The amendment changed the mover of the motion from Trustee Paynter to Trustee McNally.

It was moved by Trustee Leonard:

That the October 9, 2018 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting minutes as amended be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES - None

4. EDUCATION POLICY AND DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE – Trustee Duncan, Chair

A. PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEE - None

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Recognition of Student Representative – Annika Weir, Oak Bay High School

Superintendent Green introduced Annika Weir, Student Representative, from Oak Bay High School.

2. School Police Liaison Officers

Superintendent Green provided a brief explanation of the recent erosion of Police Liaison Officers (PLOs) assigned to schools located in Victoria and Esquimalt. Superintendent Green emphasized how valuable PLOs are to our schools, particularly when assisting school communities with sensitive issues.

Superintendent Green introduced Staff Sergeant Matt Waterman, 2nd Vice President of the Victoria City Police Union, who spoke on behalf of the union regarding the reduction of PLOs in schools. Mr. Waterman stated that the union supports the assignment of its members to schools and recognizes the value of building positive personal connections with students. Mr. Waterman encouraged the Board to reach out to the Chief of Police with its concerns pertaining to the shortage of PLOs.

Trustees asked questions of Staff Sergeant Waterman and Superintendent Green.

3. The Literacy Learning Series (Part 2 of 3)

Louise Sheffer, Director, Learning Team, and Carey Nickerson, District Vice-Principal, Learning Team, presented the Committee with information to deepen understanding of differentiation and tiers of support for literacy learners. Materials outlining the key elements of differentiation were shared.

Trustees asked questions of clarification of Ms. Sheffer and Ms. Nickerson.

4. Foundation Skills Assessment

Trustee Watters presented her rationale.

It was moved by Trustee Watters:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education articulating our opposition to the current approach to the administration, release and use of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA), and advocating: 1) that the administration of the FSA be done via random sampling in order to eliminate the unfair and damaging ranking of schools: 2) that the Ministry undertake an evaluation of the FSA in order to determine its utility within the context of the innovative new BC curriculum.

Discussion ensued and an amendment was proposed.

It was moved by Trustee Watters:

That the motion, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education articulating our opposition to the current approach to the administration, release and use of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA), and advocating: 1) that the administration of the FSA be done via random sampling in order to eliminate the unfair and damaging ranking of schools: 2) that the Ministry undertake an evaluation of the FSA in order to determine its utility within the context of the innovative new BC curriculum." be amended to delete the words "via random sampling in order."

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Duncan called for a vote on the main motion as amended.

It was moved by Trustee Watters:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education articulating our opposition to the current approach to the administration, release and use of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA), and advocating: 1) that the administration of the FSA be done to eliminate the unfair and damaging ranking of schools: 2) that the Ministry undertake an evaluation of the FSA in order to determine its utility within the context of the innovative new BC curriculum.

Motion Carried Unanimously

5. District Code of Conduct

Trustee Paynter presented his rationale.

It was moved by Trustee Paynter:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to form a working group to develop a district level Code of Conduct direction for review at a subsequent Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees and stakeholders. Questions of clarification were asked of Superintendent Green.

Trustee Paynter withdrew his motion without objection.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to form a working group to develop a district level Code of Conduct direction for review at a subsequent Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

Motion Withdrawn

Further discussion ensued amongst Trustees.

It was moved by Trustee Leonard:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to review codes of conduct with a view to tighten the language and content and report back at a subsequent Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

6. Education Policy and Directions Committee Meeting Locations and Presentations

Trustee Painter presented his rationale.

It was moved by Trustee Painter:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) hold Education Policy and Directions Committee meetings for the year ending November 2019, which are not joint meetings, at a school of interest in SD 61 and that as part of these meetings, the Board open them to presentations from students on local education policy issues of interest at the school where the meeting is held.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees and an amendment was proposed.

It was moved by Trustee Ferris:

That the motion, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) hold Education Policy and Directions Committee meetings for the year ending November 2019, which are not joint meetings, at a school of interest in SD 61 and that as part of these meetings, the Board open them to presentations from students on local education policy issues of interest at the school where the meeting is held." be amended to add the word "may" before the word "hold."

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Duncan, Ferris, Painter and McNally

Against: Trustee Watters

Further discussion ensued amongst Trustees and stakeholders.

Chair Duncan called for a vote on the main motion as amended.

It was moved by Trustee Painter:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) may hold Education Policy and Directions Committee meetings for the year ending November 2019, which are not joint meetings, at a school of interest in SD 61 and that as part of these meetings, the Board open them to presentations from students on local education policy issues of interest at the school where the meeting is held.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee Painter

Against: Trustees Duncan, Ferris, McNally and Watters

C. NOTICE OF MOTION

Trustee Whiteaker provided notice of motion for the November 26, 2018 Regular Board Meeting. The motion will pertain to writing a letter of support for the placement of school police liaison officers in our schools.

5. OPERATIONS POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE - Trustee Paynter, Chair

A. PRESENTATIONS - None

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Boundary Review Update

Colin Roberts, Associate Superintendent, provided the Committee with an update on the most significant developments of the district boundary review. Mr. Roberts advised that a community survey and FAQs would be released in mid-November.

Trustees and stakeholders asked questions of clarification of Superintendent Green, Secretary-Treasurer Walsh and Mr. Roberts.

C. PERSONNEL ITEMS

1. Employee Hiring and Recruitment

Read Jorgensen, Director, Human Resource Services, provided the Committee with an overview of the hiring and recruitment data for all employee groups in the District.

Trustees asked questions of clarification of Mr. Jorgensen and requested a further breakdown of CUPE 947 data to be presented at the next Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

Trustees discussed the deferral of remaining information items to ensure the meeting would adjourn before 11:00 p.m.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the deferral of agenda items 5.D.1. 2019-2020 Budget Plan, 5.E.2 Archives Update, and 5.F.4. Trustee Questions to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting to be held on December 10, 2018 in order to conclude the meeting in a timely manner.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

1. 2019-2020 Budget Plan

This agenda item was deferred to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting to be held on December 10, 2018.

2. Aboriginal Education Ad Hoc Committee

Colin Roberts, Associate Superintendent, presented the Committee with the updated Terms of Reference for the Aboriginal Education Ad Hoc Committee as recommended by Superintendent Green.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Terms of Reference for the Aboriginal Education Ad Hoc Committee as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion Carried Unanimously

E. FACILITIES PLANNING

1. Inclusion for Learning Strategy Update

Sean McCartney, District Principal, Learning Support Team, and Aaron Foster, Project Manager, Facilities Services, provided the Committee with an update on the progress of the Inclusion for Learning Strategy. Mr. McCartney and Mr. Foster explained the internal consultation process for the construction work to be completed and the sensory/calming supplies to be acquired within the next 18-24 months.

Trustees asked questions of clarification and requested an update to the chart presented to the Board in May 2018.

2. Archives Update

This agenda item was deferred to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting to be held on December 10, 2018.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Student Education Fund

Trustee Whiteaker presented her rationale.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) create a Student Education Fund similar to the Parent Education Fund to support student-led educational events in our district. Further, that an ad hoc committee be created to establish the process, criteria and distribution of the fund and report back to the Board for final approval.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees and Superintendent Green. An amendment to the motion was proposed.

It was moved by Trustee Leonard:

That the motion, "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) create a Student Education Fund similar to the Parent Education Fund to support student-led educational events in our district. Further, that an ad hoc committee be created to establish the process, criteria and distribution of the fund and report back to the Board for final approval.", be amended to replace the words "similar to the Parent Education Fund" with the words "from within the Superintendent's budget."

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Duncan called for a vote on the main motion as amended.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) create a Student Education Fund from within the Superintendent's budget to support student-led educational events in our district. Further, that an ad hoc committee be created to establish the process, criteria and distribution of the fund and report back to the Board for final approval.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Hentze, Paynter, Watters, and Whiteaker

Against: Trustee Leonard

2. Boundary Review Survey - Middle Schools

Trustee Whiteaker presented her rationale and discussion ensued amongst Trustees.

It was moved by Trustee Whiteaker:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) include questions regarding middle school grade configuration on its boundary review survey.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustee Whiteaker

Against: Trustees Hentze, Leonard, Paynter and Watters

3. Meeting Agendas and Presentations

Trustee Painter presented his rationale and discussion ensued amongst Trustees.

It was moved by Trustee Painter:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request the Superintendent to direct staff to post a draft agenda on the SD61 website prior to each Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting and full meeting of the Board and to direct that staff move the deadline for submitting presentations to the Thursday evening at 4 pm prior to the scheduled meeting.

Motion Defeated Unanimously

4. Trustee Questions

This agenda item was deferred to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting to be held on December 10, 2018.

G. NOTICE OF MOTION - None

H. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Trustee Watters:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 p.m.