



**Education Policy and Directions Committee  
October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Tolmie Board Room**

**MINUTES**

**Committee Members Present:** Nicole Duncan - Chair, Tom Ferris, Ryan Painter (via conference phone)

**Regrets:** Diane McNally

**Other Trustees Present:** Jordan Watters (Board Chair), Rob Paynter

**Administration:** Shelley Green - Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Deb Whitten - Deputy Superintendent, Colin Roberts - Associate Superintendent, Louise Sheffer – Director, District Team, Harold Caldwell – Director, District Team, Tammy Renyard – District Principal, Special Education, Tammy Sherstibitoff – District Principal, Human Resource Services, Andy Canty, Director of Information for Technology, Cindy Graff - GVTA Representative, Faith Liddie - CUPE 947 Representative, Jodi Whiteman - VCPAC President, Jeannette Alexander - ASA President, Vicki Hanley – Executive Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m.

Chair Duncan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

**A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**A1. Approval of the Agenda**

*It was moved by Trustee Ferris*

That the October 7, 2019 Education Policy and Directions agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A2. Approval of the Minutes**

*It was moved by Trustee Ferris*

That the September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Education Policy and Directions Committee Minutes be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A3. Business Arising from the Minutes – None**

**B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE**

**B1. View Royal Elementary School / Jen Wark**

**B2. Central Middle School / Farheen HaQ**

- B3. Central Middle School / Angela Carmichael**
- B4. George Jay Elementary School / Brianna Day**
- B5. View Royal Elementary School / Graham Haymes**
- B6. Central Middle School / Carrie Peter**

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

**C1. Introduction of Student Representatives**

Superintendent, Shelley Green, introduced and welcomed Student Representative, Angela Wang, Oak Bay Secondary School, to the Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

**C2. School Support Profiles and Next Steps**

Deputy Superintendent, Deb Whitten, referred Trustees to the information that she provided in their agendas with regards to school support profiles at District schools for students that require additional assistance and have diverse needs. Ms. Whitten further explained for Trustees the guiding principles of inclusive learning within the District and provided historical data on Ministry designations and Educational Assistants hours and the allocation of funding amongst schools. Ms. Whitten advised Trustees and parents that a Inclusion Forum is being planned for the end of November, followed by a high level survey by year end. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions being asked of Deputy Superintendent Whitten.

**C3. Education Assistant Bridge Program**

Tammy Sherstibitoff, District Principal, Human Resource Services, Tammy Renyard, District Principal Special Education/Inclusive Learning and Denise Wehner, District Vice-Principal, Languages and Multiculturalism, attended the committee meeting to provide Trustees with information regarding a new bridge program for Education Assistants which recently ran in the District. The two week program offered classroom work and on site practicum experience and after completing the course the District now has seventeen more EA's on the spareboard. The program was well received and will run again. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions of clarification being asked.

**C4. Late French Immersion Program Review**

Associate Superintendent, Colin Roberts, updated Trustees on the Late French Immersion review process with a summary of findings and advised what the next steps in the process will be. A final decision will be made and the motion will be brought back and presented at the October 28, 2019 Board of Education meeting.

**That the motion** "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to establish and document a process for undertaking a review of Late French Immersion programming that takes into account the current Ministry of Education policy on French Immersion programs and that includes a consultation process which involves relevant stakeholders prior

to implementing a change to the program, in line with Policy 1163 – Consultation, be referred to the May 6, 2019 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.” **be tabled until the Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting of October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

**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 9:38 p.m.