



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

MINUTES

October 28, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

Trustees Present: Jordan Watters, Board Chair, Ann Whiteaker, Vice-Chair, Nicole Duncan, Tom Ferris, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Rob Paynter, Ryan Painter

Trustee Regrets: Diane McNally

Administration: Shelley Green, Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Deb Whitten, Deputy Superintendent, Greg Kitchen, Associate Superintendent, Colin Roberts, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Shelly Niemi, District Principal, Aboriginal Education, Lisa McPhail, Communications Officer, Vicki Hanley, Executive Assistant

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Introductions were made around the board table.

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

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

A.2 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the October 28, 2019 agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3 Approval of the Minutes

- a. Approval of the September 23, 2019 Regular Board Minutes

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the September 23, 2019 Regular Board Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4 Business arising from the Minutes

Trustee Duncan requested information as to whether the Policy Sub-Committee reports back to the Board. Trustee Paynter provided a verbal Policy Sub-Committee report, noting that a number of policies are currently being worked on, including Superintendent Evaluation and Trustees' Code of Ethics'.

A.5 Student Achievement

- a. Sir James Douglas Elementary School

Principal, Murray Harris, Vice-Principal, Jeni Scott and Teachers Sarah Paulson & Colleen Pommelet provided a presentation to the Board titled "Supporting Literacy Development at Sir James Douglas" using a research based approach.

Chair Watters thanked Principal Murray, Vice-Principal Scott and staff for their attendance and presentation.

A.6 District Presentations

- a. Acting Secretary-Treasurer Acknowledgement – Chair Watters

Chair Watters recognized and thanked Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Katrina Stride for her time and dedication as Acting Secretary-Treasurer during the search for a new Secretary-Treasurer.

A.7 Community Presentations (5 minutes per presentation)

- a. Grace Golightly, Community Trees Matter Network – Acknowledged the Board's declaration of a climate emergency and

outlined the benefits of planting more trees on School District properties.

- b. Christine Culham, Capital Regional Housing Corporation, Caledonia Project - attended the Board meeting along with CRHC staff members Rob Fowles & Paul Kitson to provide information on the proposed Caledonia Project.
- c. Chris Grieve, community member, attended the Board meeting to speak to Trustees about his concerns regarding the proposed land disposal at Victoria High School.
- d. Corey Kowal, community member, attended the Board meeting to speak to Trustees about her concerns with regards to the proposed land disposal and development at Victoria High School.
- e. Scott Fox, community member, attended the Board meeting to speak to Trustees about his concerns with regards to the proposed land disposal at Victoria High School.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1 Letter sent to BCSTA re Climate Action

A letter sent to BCSTA regarding Climate Action was received for information.

B.2 Letter from Vancouver School Board re Climate Crisis and Climate Action

A letter from the Vancouver School Board regarding Climate Crisis and Climate Action was received for information.

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1 Chair's Report

Chair Watters referred to her written report included in the agenda package and highlighted the importance of supporting climate literacy in our communities. Chair Watters also welcomed the new Secretary-Treasurer, Kim Morris, to the District and Senior Leadership Team.

C.2 Trustees' Reports (2 minutes per verbal presentation)

- a. Trustee Hentze provided a written report of her meetings and activities for the month of October.
- b. Trustee Duncan provided a copy of the BCSTA Trustee Representative Report for review. Furthermore, she recently attended a Provincial Council meeting and plans to circulate a report in the near future.

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1 Education Policy and Directions Committee

- a. The draft minutes from the October 7, 2019 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting were received for information.
- b. Recommended motions from the October 7, 2019 meeting.

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 involved relevant stakeholders prior to implementing a change to the program, in line with Policy 1163 – Consultation.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D.2 Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a. The draft minutes from the October 21, 2019 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting were received for information.

D.3 Audit Committee Report

Trustee Paynter presented the Audit Committee Report and the following recommended motions from the October 21, 2019 meeting.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the September 2019 Quarterly Financial Report as

presented to the Audit Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the Living Wage, Living Hours Report as presented to the Audit Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1 Superintendent's Report

a. Monthly Report

Superintendent Green referred Trustees to her written report in their agendas, highlighting a few of the meetings and agenda items that arose from those meetings. Superintendent Green answered questions of clarification.

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

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 Green and Deputy Superintendent Whitten responded to questions from Trustees with regards to the Health and Safety Committee, water quality testing, preschool and playground at Macaulay Elementary and Strong Start Program at George Jay Elementary.

E.2 Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. Monthly Report

Secretary-Treasurer Morris referred Trustees to her written report in their agenda packages, providing clarification where needed.

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Secretary-Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. Enrolment Update

Secretary-Treasurer Morris referred Trustees to the information contained in their agenda packages with regards to the enrolment numbers. Questions of clarification were asked of Secretary-Treasurer Morris.

F. QUESTION PERIOD

The following questions were received at the *September 23, 2019* Board Meeting and formally answered at the October 28, 2019 meeting:

1. Detail the District's investment holdings?

Answer: The School District has invested cash balances in interest-bearing bank accounts, the Provincial Government's Central Deposit Program, and in a Province of Ontario bond that expires in 2027.

2. The 2018-2019 Financial Statements shows \$407,145 in federal funding for French Immersion under the official languages in Education protocol. What is the breakdown to a per student amount? Is this in addition to the FTE?

Answer: The Federal Government funds the School District as per the French Funding Guide located at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/french-programs/policies-funding-and-statistics/french-federal-funding>. The School District has received Federal French funding of \$398,099 based on September 2013 enrolment numbers in each year since 2013-2014 as per an agreement between the Ministry of Education and the Government of Canada, with an additional grant of \$9,046 provided in 2017-2018 to recognize student enrolment growth. The Provincial Government funds the School District on a per student basis for all school-aged students, including those enrolled in French Immersion. As per the 1701 Report from September 30, 2018, there were 3,988.5020 FTE of school-aged students enrolled in French Immersion (out of a total of 19,507.4416 FTE school-aged students) in the School District.

The following questions were received at the October 28, 2019 Board Meeting:

1. What data did the District use to support the shutdown of the Behavioural Program at Braefoot, and the Low Incident Program at Lansdowne, Shoreline and Arbutus? If none was used, what was the basis for closing these two programs?
2. Please clarify the process for publishing correspondence in the Board meeting minutes.
3. Did the 2018 review of French Immersion consider access of students with special needs, vulnerable students and aboriginal students to French immersion programming? If yes, what were your findings?

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

G.1 Motion from In-Camera Meeting re: Vic High Consultation Process

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H.1 New Business - None

H.2 Notice of Motions - None

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer