



**Education Policy and Directions Committee
January 6th, 2020 – Tolmie Board Room**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Nicole Duncan - Chair, Tom Ferris, Ryan Painter, Diane McNally,

Other Trustees Present: Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters – Board Chair

Administration: Shelley Green - Superintendent, Deb Whitten – Deputy Superintendent, Greg Kitchen – Associate Superintendent, Colin Roberts - Associate Superintendent, Leonie Ebert – Student Representative, Louise Sheffer – Director, District Team, Harold Caldwell – Director, District Team, Cindy Graf - GVTA Representative, Jane Massy - CUPE 947 Representative, Kristil Hammer - VCPAC President, Vicki Roberts – VPVPA Representative, Denise Wehner – VPVPA Representative, Andree Porter – Executive Assistant (recorder)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chair Duncan 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

Trustee McNally requested that a motion be added to the agenda under New Business (Agenda Item C6).

It was moved by Trustee Painter

That the January 6, 2020 Education Policy and Directions agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A2. Approval of the Minutes

It was moved by Trustee Watters

That the December 2, 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. Reading Recovery / Ameer Ballantyne (GVTA)

B2. Reading Recovery / Audra Cullen (GVTA)

B3. Reading Recovery / Shari Worsfold (GVTA)

C. NEW BUSINESS

C1. Introduction of Student Representatives

Superintendent Shelley Green introduced and welcomed Student Representative, Leonie Ebert, Lambrick Park Secondary, to the Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

C2. Board/Authority Authorized Courses – Colin Roberts

Associate Superintendent Colin Roberts, presented the committee with 14 BAA course outlines for review. Discussion ensued amongst trustees with questions of clarification asked of Mr. Roberts. Mr. Roberts requested that an amendment be made to the presented motion to include “Brazilian Jiu Jitsu 10” prior to voting.

The amended motion was moved by Trustee Watters:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the new Board/Authority Authorized courses: Automotive Service Technician 12a, 12b, 12c and 12d; Professional Cook 11a, 11b, 12a and 12b; Reconnecting Youth 11; Brazilian Jiu Jitsu 10, 11 and 12; Explorations in Computers 11 and 12

Motion Carried

C3. Learning Support Team Annual Report

Harold Caldwell, Director of District Team, provided the committee with a walkthrough of the Learning Support Team’s Annual Report, noting a merge between the Learning Support Team and Learning Team (now called the District Team). The group reviewed the status of main goals and the strategies related to each goal, highlighting the work being done in regards to Diversity, Inclusivity and Mental Health Literacy. Questions of clarification were asked and Trustees provided kudos to the District Team for their on-going work.

C4. Learning Team Annual Report

Louise Sheffer, Director of District Team, provided the committee with an overview of the Learning Team’s Annual Report, also noting the recent merge with the Learning Support Team. Mrs. Sheffer walked the group through the main goals and related strategies, highlighting the work being done in regards to Literacy, Numeracy, Implementation of Gr. 9-12 Curriculum, Early Learning Transitions and Learning through use of technology. Questions of clarification were asked and Trustees again provided kudos to the District Team for their on-going work.

C5. Reading Recovery – Trustee Painter

Trustee Painter provided the committee with his rationale for putting forward the recommended motion in regards to the Reading Recovery program. Questions of clarification were asked and a group discussion took place.

It was moved by Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of Greater Victoria (School District 61) instruct the Equity Committee to make recommendations for making reading recovery available to all elementary schools in the district.

Motion Carried Unanimously

C6. Request for Funding – Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally put forward the following motion for consideration:

That the Board of Education of Greater Victoria (School District 61) instruct the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education, the Premier and the Treasury Board, asking the government to increase public education funding via a significant increase to the per pupil amount in the 2020 Provincial Budget in order to realistically meet the needs of students in BC Public Schools.

The group discussed the proposed motion and the importance of advocacy, but noted that the motion might need some refinement before being actioned. A recommendation to refer the motion to the Ad-Hoc Advocacy Committee was made.

It was moved by Trustee Painter:

That the motion:

“That the Board of Education of Greater Victoria (School District 61) instruct the Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education, the Premier and the Treasury Board, asking the government to increase public education funding via a significant increase to the per pupil amount in the 2020 Provincial Budget in order to realistically meet the needs of students in BC Public Schools.”

be referred to the Ad-Hoc Advocacy Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D. NOTICE OF MOTION

E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

F. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Trustee Ferris :

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.