



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

MINUTES

June 2, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

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

Administration: Shelley Green, Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Deb Whitten, Deputy Superintendent, Colin Roberts, Associate Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Julie Lutner, Director of Finance, Financial Services, Shelly Niemi, District Administrator, Indigenous Education , Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

Rightsholders: Chief Rob Thomas, Esquimalt Nation, Kalie Dyer, Esquimalt Nation

Stakeholders Present: Jane Massy, President, CUPE 947, Carolyn Howe, GVTA, Jeanette Alexander, ASA, Connor McCoy, President, VPVPA, Kristil Hammer, President VCPAC

Guests: Teresa Rezansoff, Consultant, Mike McKay, Consultant, Joan Axford, Independent Advisor

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

June 2, 2021/Special Board Budget Meeting

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

Chair Watters expressed her gratitude to the community for all feedback received with respect to the 2021-2022 budget.

Superintendent Green welcomed everyone and stressed the importance of this budget meeting and the challenges and difficult decisions to be made tonight.

Secretary-Treasurer Morris welcomed everyone and expressed her gratitude for the feedback received and acknowledged independent advisor, Ms. Axford, for her support in reviewing the budget, and providing feedback and options.

Secretary-Treasurer Morris shared a letter that she received from Reg Bawa, Assistant Deputy Ministry of the Resource Management Division of the Ministry of Education relative to the Board's June 30, 2021 deadline to submit a balanced budget.

A.2 Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the June 2, 2021 agenda be approved with the following addition:

B.1 June 2, 2021 Letter from 4 Indigenous Houses to Minister of Education and MLA's

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the June 2, 2021 agenda be approved with the following amendment:

C.1 Trustee Paynter Motion to B.2

For (3): Trustee Duncan, Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Against (6): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Motion Defeated (3 to 6)

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the June 2, 2021 agenda be amended by adding the four pieces of correspondence received from Stakeholders and Rightsholders since May 28, 2021.

Further discussion ensued amongst Trustees with a suggestion being made to add the correspondence received from Stakeholders and Rightsholders to the agenda package for June 3, 2021.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker
Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the motion "*That the June 2, 2021 agenda be amended by adding the four pieces of correspondence received from Stakeholders and Rights Holders since May 28, 2021*" be amended to add the correspondence to the June 3, 2021 Special Board Budget meeting agenda package.

For (6): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (3): Trustee Duncan, Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (6 to 3)

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the June 2, 2021 agenda be approved, as amended.

For (8): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee McNally, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (1): Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (8 to 1)

B. 2021-2022 ANNUAL BUDGET

B.1 June 2, 2021 - Letter from Local Indigenous Nations to Local Government

A joint letter dated June 2, 2021 addressed to the Premier of B.C., the Minister of Education and local MLA's from the Songhees Nation, Esquimalt Nation, Metis Nation of Greater Victoria and the Urban/Off-Reserve community was read into the record by Kalie Dyer, Education and Program Manager, Esquimalt Nation.

B.2 Committee of the Whole

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided information and guidelines to Trustees on Committee of the Whole should the Board wish to have informal discussion during budget considerations. Discussion ensued amongst Trustees with questions of clarification being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Morris.

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) move into Committee of the Whole for Trustee discussion relative to budget options and refinement of a preferred option for debate.

A suggestion was made to amend the motion.

Amendment:
Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the motion *"That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) move into Committee of the Whole for Trustee discussion relative to budget options and refinement of a preferred option for debate"* be amended to strike the words *"for Trustee."*

For (8): Trustee Watters, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee McNally, Trustee Painter, Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (1): Trustee Leonard

Motion Carried (8 to 1)

Further discussion ensued amongst Trustees with a suggestion being made to amend the motion.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) move into Committee of the Whole for Trustee discussion relative to budget options and refinement of a preferred option for debate*" be amended to be called "*informal consideration*" rather than "*Committee of the Whole.*"

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Watters called for the vote on the main motion as amended.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) move into informal consideration discussion relative to budget options and refinement of a preferred option for debate.

Motion Carried Unanimously

a. Budget Options Update - Secretary-Treasurer Morris

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided information to date, directed Trustees to the information that was attached to the agenda package and discussed options to move forward in order to balance the 2021-2022 budget.

Trustee Whiteaker shared an additional option 9 and Trustees and the Secretary-Treasurer engaged in discussion with respect to this option.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) move Option 9 out of informal consideration in order for Trustees to engage in debate.

For (7): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee McNally, and Trustee Painter

Against (1): Trustee Paynter

Abstain (1): Trustee Whiteaker

Motion Carried (7 to 1)

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) move out of informal consideration and back into the Special Budget meeting.

For (7): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (1): Trustee Paynter

Abstain (1): Trustee McNally

Motion Carried (7 to 1)

b. Recess

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) take a recess break at 8:43 p.m.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Reconvened meeting at 8:50 p.m.

B.3 Budget Bylaw Readings

Chair Watters opened discussion to stakeholders and Rightsholders.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2021-2022 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$254,266,826 be:

Read a first time the 2nd day of June, 2021.

For (8): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee McNally, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (1): Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (8 to 1)

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2021-2022 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$254,266,826 be:

Read a second time the 2nd day of June, 2021.

Further discussion ensued amongst Trustees with a suggestion being made to amend the motion.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2021-2022 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$254,266,826 be postponed to June 3, 2021.

For (6): Trustee Watters, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (1): Trustee Leonard

Abstain (2): Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (6 to 1)

B.4 Business Arising from Budget Bylaw

This agenda item was not discussed and was moved forward to the June 3, 2021 Special Board Budget meeting agenda.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C.1 Trustee Paynter

This agenda item was not discussed and was moved forward to the June 3, 2021 Special Board Budget meeting agenda.

That the Board of Education of School District 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to make district department heads and school administrators available for scheduled public meetings between June 1, 2021, and June 18, 2021, that are intended to:

- examine considerations included within the report submitted by Joan Axford, Independent Advisor, and
- receive information from, and ask questions of, District Department heads and school administrators,

to identify budget allocation options for School Year 21/22 culminating in a Board meeting on June 18, 2021 to pass the annual budget bylaw for School Year 2021/2022.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer