



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

MINUTES

June 3, 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, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Shelly Niemi, District Administrator, Indigenous Education , Vicki Hanley, Recorder

Rightsholders Present: Chief Rob Thomas, Esquimalt Nations, Kristely Kelly, Esquimalt Nations

Stakeholders Present: Jeanette Alexander, ASA, Connor McCoy, President, VPVPA, Joan Axford, Independent Advisory, Kristil Hammer, President, VCPAC, Winona Waldron, President, GVTA

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

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 Leonard

That the June 3, 2021 agenda be approved.

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

Against (2): Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (7 to 2)

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1 May 28, 2021, Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to SD61, Budget Response

B.2 May 30, 2021, BCEdAccess to SD61, Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

B.3 May 31, 2021, VCPAC to SD61, Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

B.4 June 1, 2021, GVTA to SD61, Proposed 2021-2022 Budget

C. 2021-2022 ANNUAL BUDGET

Secretary-Treasurer Morris stated that she provided Trustees with answers to questions that were asked during the June 2, 2021 Budget meeting (emailed earlier). Discussion ensued amongst Trustees, Rightsholders and Staff.

Kristely Kelly, Education Director for the Songhees Nation read a letter on behalf of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) recess for five minutes at 7:42 p.m.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Reconvene at 7:48 p.m.

C.1 Final Readings of the Budget Bylaw

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

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 02nd day of June, 2021.

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

Abstain (1): Trustee McNally

Motion Carried (8 to 0)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Budget Bylaw by:

Reducing the Communications Assistant (\$66,945)

Reducing International Student Program (ISP) Travel (\$19,055)

Adding Enhanced Transitional Wrap Around Supports (COMPASS)
\$86,000

For (6): Trustee Watters, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Hentze, Trustee McNally, Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (3): Trustee Leonard, Trustee Ferris, and Trustee Painter

Motion Carried (6 to 3)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Budget Bylaw by:

Reducing the Reserve (\$19,055)

Increasing International Student Program (ISP) Travel \$19,055

Against (8): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee Painter, Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Abstain (1): Trustee McNally

Motion Defeated (0 to 8)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Budget Bylaw by:

Reducing Reserve (\$820,606)

Increasing Gifted \$350,501

Increasing School Clerical \$342,842

Increasing Principal Vice-Principal Admin Time \$127,263

For (2): Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

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

Motion Defeated (2 to 7)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Budget Bylaw by:

Reducing K-5 Literacy (\$210,898)

Reducing Reserve (\$210,898)

Increasing Reading Recovery District \$421,796

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)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) recess for five minutes 8:47 p.m.

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

Against (1): Trustee McNally

Abstain (1): Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (7 to 1)

Reconvene at 8:53 p.m.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Hentze

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Budget Bylaw by:

Placing Reading Recovery Co-Ordinator (0) as a separate line item.

Reducing Reserve (\$56,000)

Increasing 0.5 FTE Teacher for Reading Recovery at Craigflower \$56,000

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the amendment by:

Reducing K-5 Literacy (\$56,000)

Increasing 0.5 FTE Teacher for Reading Recovery at Tillicum \$56,000

For (6): Trustee Leonard, Trustee Duncan, Trustee Ferris, Trustee McNally, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Paynter

Against (2): Trustee Watters, and Trustee Hentze

Abstain (1): Trustee Whiteaker

Motion Carried (6 to 2)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Hentze

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the amendment by:

Reducing Music (\$112,000)

Increasing 0.5 FTE Teacher for Reading Recovery at Craigflower \$56,000

Increasing 0.5 FTE Teacher for Reading Recovery at Craigflower \$56,000

For (5): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, and Trustee Painter

Against (4): Trustee Duncan, Trustee McNally, Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Motion Carried (5 to 4)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the amendment by:

Reducing Escribe (\$32,580)

Increasing Music \$32,580

Motion Carried Unanimously

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Duncan

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the amendment by:

Reducing Travel District (\$80,230)

Increasing Music \$80,230

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)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the amendment by:

Reducing 1.0 FTE Learning Team (\$80,230)

Increasing Music \$80,230

For (2): Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

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

Abstain (1): Trustee Duncan

Motion Defeated (2 to 6)

Chair Watters called the question of the main motion as amended.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Hentze

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend the Budget Bylaw by:

Placing Reading Recovery Co-Ordinator (0) as a separate line item.
Reducing Music (\$80,230)
Reducing EScribe (\$32,580)
Increasing 0.5 FTE Teacher for Reading Recovery at Craigflower \$56,405
Increasing 0.5 FTE Teacher for Reading Recovery at Tillicum \$56,405
For (6): Trustee Watters, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Hentze, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Whiteaker
Against (2): Trustee Duncan, and Trustee McNally
Abstain (1): Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (6 to 2)

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 as amended in the amount of \$254,266,826 be:

Read a second time, passed and adopted the 03rd day of June, 2021.

And that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to sign, seal and execute the bylaw on behalf of the Board.

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

Against (2): Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (7 to 2)

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

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

Read a third time, passed and adopted the 03rd day of June, 2021.

And that the Secretary-Treasurer and Board Chair be authorized to sign, seal and execute the bylaw on behalf of the Board.

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

Against (2): Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (7 to 2)

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Hentze

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) postpone the remainder of the agenda except for C.2 a. to a June Board meeting.

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

Against (2): Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (7 to 2)

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) have a special Board meeting within the next two weeks.

Motion Carried Unanimously

C.2 Business Arising from Budget Bylaw

- a. Trustee Whiteaker - Needs Budget

Trustee Whiteaker provided rationale for the motion.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 direct the Superintendent to create a Needs Budget for the 2021 – 2022 school year and further; that the Chair write a letter in collaboration with our Education Partners, including Songhees and Esquimalt

Nations to the Minister of Education, Premier and community expressing the impacts of underfunding on our school district through the lens of the Needs Budget.

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

Abstain (1): Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (8 to 0)

b. Trustee Paynter - District Hiring Freeze

This agenda item was not discussed and was moved forward to the June 10, 2021 Special Board meeting agenda.

That the Board of Education of School District 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to freeze all district level hiring at current levels until a plan to address the projected budget shortfall for School Year 2022/2023 has been finalized.

c. Trustee Paynter - Expense Payments

This agenda item was not discussed and was moved forward to the June 10, 2021 Special Board meeting agenda.

That the Board of Education of School District 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to suspend exempt and excluded expense payments until after a report detailing exempt and excluded expenses for the School Year 2020/2021 and the Board has determined whether spending caps need to be enacted generally or by expense categories (ex. Travel, mileage, etc.)

d. Trustee Paynter - Enrolment Growth Allocation

This agenda item was not discussed and was moved forward to the June 10, 2021 Special Board meeting agenda.

That the Board of Education of School District 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to apply any funds resulting from higher than expected student population numbers in School Year 2022/2023 be applied as priorities to the following programs:

- Strong Start Learning Centre Supplements

- Early Learning Framework Implementation
 - Enhanced Transition Wrap Around Supports
- e. Trustee Leonard - Budget Working Group: Music

This agenda item was not discussed and was moved forward to the June 10, 2021 Special Board meeting agenda.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) form a Budget working group to discuss music education and how this program might be offered in a more cost- effective manner. This working group will complete its work by January 2022.

D. NEW BUSINESS

D.1 Trustee Paynter

This agenda item was not discussed and was moved forward to the June 10, 2021 Special Board 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.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Hentze

That the meeting be adjourned.

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

Abstain (1): Trustee Paynter

Motion Carried (8 to 0)

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer