



Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting

REGULAR MINUTES

March 8, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road

Trustees Present: **Operations Policy and Planning Committee members:** Elaine Leonard (Chair), Rob Paynter, Angie Hentze , Ann Whiteaker, Jordan Watters (ex officio)
Education Policy and Directions Committee members: Nicole Duncan, Diane McNally

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, Chuck Morris, Director, Facilities Services, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Lisa McPhail, Communications and Community Engagement Manager, Kelly Gorman, Recorder

Stakeholders: Kristil Hammer, President, VCPAC, Mark Morrison, Second VP & Health & Safety Officer, GVTA, Connor McCoy, President, VPVPA

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Leonard 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

That the March 8, 2021 agenda be approved with the following addition:

New Business

F.6. Public Participation - Trustee Whiteaker

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the March 8, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda be approved, as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3 Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the February 8, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting minutes be approved.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Under B.1. Add: Trustee Whiteaker requested an update on initiatives implemented in 2020-2021 for Vic High students while attending Vic High Topaz Campus.

Motion Carried Unanimously

B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

B.1 Build Seamless Childcare - Jane Massy, President, CUPE 947

Jane Massy, President, CUPE 947, was unable to attend the meeting and she will be invited back to speak at a future meeting.

C. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

C.1 School Closure Process: Craigflower Consultation - Superintendent Green

Superintendent Green spoke to the recommended motion.

Moved by Trustee Hentze

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) suspend the Craigflower School Closure public consultation plan timeline and direct the Superintendent to meet with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to discuss how they would like to proceed.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) suspend the Craigflower School Closure public consultation plan ~~timeline~~ and direct the Superintendent to ~~meet with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to discuss how they would like to proceed.~~ **request to participate in a** ~~abandon the present 4 choice plan for Craigflower and Shoreline and restart the~~ **consultative and** planning process **regarding Craigflower and Shoreline Schools with** ~~under the active and direct~~ guidance from the Lkwungen community **leadership** ~~in order to create a school that honours and highlights the culture, history, and wisdom and decision making processes of the Lkwungen People along with the Nations visions for education in these locations now and into the future.~~

~~in its design, vision, goals, & curriculum and b) T~~ **further that** the Board of Education ~~respectfully request reporting times and methods and timeline of reporting~~ **be established with** ~~to be determined by Chiefs and Councils.~~ **as the first order of business.**

For (2): Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (3): Trustee Leonard, Trustee Hentze, and Trustee Watters

Motion Defeated (2 to 3)

Superintendent Green requested that Trustees carefully consider that she would like to take the lead from the Nations. Superintendent Green wants to know how the Nations would like to proceed and how they want that information shared. Trustees debated the amended motion.

Chair Leonard called for the vote on the main motion as presented.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) suspend the Craigflower School Closure public consultation plan timeline and direct the Superintendent to meet with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations to discuss how they would like to proceed.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D. PERSONNEL

None

E. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

E.1 2021-2022 Budget: Structural Deficit

Secretary-Treasurer Morris presented structural deficit, assumptions and how the budget will align with the Strategic Plan, Board Work Plan, District Operational Plan and School Growth plans for optimal resource allocation and student success. This year will be a shift in the budget process as departments identify initiatives that are of top priority. Ministry funding will be announced March 12, 2021, after which staff will work to balance the \$7 million + structural deficit. Trustees thanked staff for their work. Questions of clarification were asked.

E.2 2020-2021 Monthly Financial Report - January

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided trustees the Monthly Financial Report for January 2021. The yearly revenue and expenses were compared against those from the year prior. Questions of clarification were asked.

F. FACILITIES PLANNING

F.1 Operations Update: March 2021

Trustee Leonard thanked facilities staff for providing barriers to allow for a safe meeting. Director of Facilities Services Morris provided an overview of recent work and progress on major and minor capital projects. Questions of clarification were asked.

F.2 Shops Funding - Trustee Duncan

Secretary-Treasurer Morris spoke to the motion and stated that the 2020-2021 amended budget was approved with \$350,000 for shop updates.

March 8, 2021/Operations Policy and Planning Committee

Additional \$350,000 for shop updates has been referred to the 2021-2022 budget process.

The \$700,000 total that has been budgeted over the next two fiscal school years will ensure that all outstanding health and safety remediation's will be resolved in that time.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request a shop update at the October 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting, at which time Trustee Duncan's January 2021 motion will be reviewed.

Motion Carried Unanimously

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Before and After School Care - Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally presented the rationale for the motion. Superintendent Green stated that the Ministry of Education will bring childcare under education as a mandate in very short order, potentially in the fall of 2021.

Moved by Trustee McNally

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to staff early child care / child care before and after school programs with first consideration to CUPE 947 members who apply for the positions.*

AND FURTHER,

That CUPE 947 EAs immediately / as soon as possible be offered the positions at their current hourly wage before wide advertisement or SD61 staff contracting with other community provider(s)" be postponed until the fall of 2021.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H.2 Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference - Trustee Whiteaker

Trustee Whiteaker presented the proposed Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference. Trustees and Stakeholders discussed the Terms of Reference and amendments were made as follows:

- 1). **Membership:** 4th bullet: add "*and stakeholders*"
- 2). **Reporting:** change "*established*" to "*convened*"

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference, as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H.3 COVID-19 Related Health and Direction, Rob Paynter

Trustee Paynter provided rationale for the motion. Trustees debated the motion.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to write jointly to both the Provincial Health Officer and the Minister of Education requesting a clear answer on whether or not Boards of Education have the authority to exceed COVID-19 related health direction established by the Public Health Officer, the Minister of Education or any other provincial entity.

For (2): Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (3): Trustee Leonard, Trustee Hentze, and Trustee Watters

Motion Defeated (2 to 3)

H.4 Mask Mandate for Schools - Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally provided rationale for the motion. Superintendent Green stated that she has weekly meetings with the Deputy Minister for updates on COVID 19 protocols. Trustees and stakeholders debated the motion.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

That the Board direct the Board Chair to write a letter to Dr. Henry expressing support for a broadened mask mandate for schools that includes mask wearing by students K-12, staff, and any adults in school buildings in all school spaces, with exceptions on a case by case basis. to be made by principals, with a documented reason for an exemption.

For (1): Trustee Paynter

Against (4): Trustee Leonard, Trustee Hentze, Trustee Whiteaker, and Trustee Watters

Motion Defeated (1 to 4)

H.5 Craigflower Consultation - Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally withdrew the following motion from the agenda, given the motion carried in agenda item C.1.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 Greater Victoria
a) That the Superintendent abandon the present 4 choice plan for Craigflower and Shoreline and restart the planning process under the active and direct guidance from the Lkwungen community in order to create a school that honours the culture, history, and wisdom of Lkwungen People in its design, vision, goals, & curriculum and b) That the Board of Education respectfully request direct updates from the Chiefs or delegates of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, reporting times and methods of reporting to be determined by Chiefs and Councils.

H.6 Public Participation in Standing Committees - Trustee Whiteaker

Trustee Whiteaker provided rationale for the motion. Trustees and Stakeholders debated the motion.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education direct the Superintendent to implement a process to allow active public participation in all standing committees as per our bylaws while meetings are conducted under Covid 19 health and safety guidelines for April 2021 Ed Policy meeting.

For (3): Trustee Paynter, Trustee Hentze, and Trustee Whiteaker

Against (2): Trustee Leonard, and Trustee Watters

Motion Carried (3 to 2)

I. NOTICE OF MOTION

I.1 Suspend the Work of the Policy Sub Committee - Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education suspend the work of the Policy Sub Committee until the Board has had an opportunity to review and debate the "Review of SD 61 Policies" as presented to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee for information on November 9, 2020 and approve, amend or reject the plan.

I.2 George Jay Naming Committee Terms of Reference - Trustee Hentze

Trustee Hentze provided an informal notice of motion to bring forward the George Jay Naming Committee Terms of Reference to the April 12, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer