



Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting

REGULAR MINUTES

May 10, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Broadcasted via YouTube
<https://bit.ly/3czx8bA>

- 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, Ryan Painter
- 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, Budgets and Financial Reporting, Financial Services, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Chuck Morris, Director of Facilities Services, Kelly Gorman, Recorder
- Stakeholders: Kristil Hammer, President, VCPAC, Mark Morrison, Second VP & Health & Safety Officer, GVTA, Jane Massy, President, CUPE 947, Cindy Graf, GVTA Representative.
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A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

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 May 10, 2021 agenda be approved with the following addition:

Finance and Legal Affairs

E.1. Budget 2021-2022 Update - Secretary-Treasurer Morris

Moved by Trustee Watters

That the May 10, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda be approved, as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3 Approval of the Minutes

That the April 12, 2021 minutes be approved with the following addition:

Under G2. Add Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Hentze

That the April 12, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting minutes be approved, as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4 Business Arising from Minutes

None

B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

B.1 Reading Recovery - Erica Groening

Erica Groening presented on Reading Recovery. Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

B.2 Reading Recovery - Bill Whitfield

Bill Whitfield presented on Reading Recovery. Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

B.3 Youth and Family Counselling - Leila Durzi

Leila Durzi presented on Youth and Family Counselling. Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

B.4 Music Proposed Budget Cuts - Emilia Vozian

Emilia Vozian presented on the proposed budget cuts to music. Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

B.5 Clerical Budget Cuts - Blanche Philip

Blanche Philip presented on proposed budget cuts to clerical staff. Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

B.6 Greater Victoria Acting Together - Matthew Cook

Matthew Cook presented on Youth and Family Counselling. Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

C. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

C.1 Compost and Recycling

Manager Building Operations Baggott spoke to the positive diversion rate of waste over the past five years in School District No. 61, (Greater Victoria). Superintendent Green stated that student representatives are engaged in compost and recycling and will be recommending a motion to the board next month.

D. PERSONNEL ITEMS

None

E. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

E.1 Budget 2021-2022 - Secretary-Treasurer Morris

Secretary-Treasurer Morris presented on the current proposed budget. Staffing for Teachers, CUPE 947 and Principals/Vice-Principals, highlighting the 2020-2021 one-time federal funding that are not available in 2021-2022 and subsequent years. Secretary-Treasurer Morris also summarized impacts of the budget to classroom, realignment to strategic plan, shift toward equity, data relative to indigenous learners and upcoming pressures to 2022-2023 and subsequent years.

E.2 Policy Sub-Committee Report

- a. Revised Bylaw 9140, Ad Hoc Committee of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer Morris presented the revised Draft Bylaw 9140, Ad Hoc Committee of the Board. Revised Bylaw 9140 was reviewed and amendments were made.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Duncan

Add 14. "Ad Hoc Committee meeting materials including agendas, minutes, reports and up to date Terms of Reference for all Ad Hoc Committees will be posted to the District website."

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

Against (2): Trustee Leonard, and Trustee Watters

Motion Carried (3 to 2)

Moved by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve revised Bylaw 9140, Ad Hoc Committee of the Board, as amended.

For (4): Trustee Leonard, Trustee Paynter, Trustee Hentze, and Trustee Whiteaker

Abstain (1): Trustee Watters

Motion Carried (4 to 0)

E.3 Monthly Financial Report - March 2021

Secretary-Treasurer Morris presented the monthly budget review for March 2021. Questions of clarification were asked.

E.4 Energy Manager Presentation

Energy Manager Leslie presented on Energy Management in the school district. 90% of greenhouse gas is coming from buildings. Buildings are the largest opportunity for savings because of heating demands. LED lighting upgrades have resulted in 1,886,150 kWh per year savings, and approximately \$208,000 per year savings. Secretary-Treasurer Morris thanked him for his first presentation to the committee. Trustees provided thanks for the report.

F. FACILITIES PLANNING

F.1 Operations Update: May 2021

Director of Facilities Services Morris presented the May, 2021 report. Trustee Duncan requested an update on air quality at Cedar Hill Middle School and Macaulay Elementary School at the June 14, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

None

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Working Committee and Consultation on Compost and Waste - Trustee Whiteaker

Trustee Whiteaker provided rationale for her motion. A video was played of local students in support of the motion.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to oversee the creation of a Working Committee and consultation process, as outlined in Bylaw 9210, to prepare a draft *Compost and Waste* policy proposal to ensure consistent practices and supports across the district which are in alignment with our environmental values and goals.

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a recommendation being made to refer the motion.

Moved by Trustee Watters

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to oversee the creation of a Working Committee and consultation process, as outlined in Bylaw 9210, to prepare a draft Compost and Waste policy proposal to ensure consistent practices and supports across the district which are in alignment with our environmental values and goals.*" be referred to the June 14, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

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

Against (2): Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

Motion Carried (3 to 2)

H.2 Addendum to Bylaw 9360 - Correspondence Treatment - Trustee Watters

Trustee Watters presented rationale for the motion. Trustees debated the motion.

Moved by Trustee Watters

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Policy Development Sub-Committee to develop an addition or addendum to Bylaw 9360 addressing the how Board correspondence is managed in order to provide clear direction and transparency around Board processes.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H.3 Annual Salary Increments for Senior Administrative Staff - Trustee Paynter

Trustee Paynter presented rationale for the motion. Superintendent Green spoke to the motion. Trustees debated the motion.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to engage in discussion with staff in senior administrative positions to voluntarily suspend their annual salary increments for the school year 2021/2022 to signal their commitment to share in the impacts resulting from budget cuts necessary to enable the district to function within its annual budget.

Motion Defeated Unanimously

H.4 Reduce Trustee Stipends - Trustee Paynter

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

Moved by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent direct financial staff to reduce trustee

stipends by 25% for the school year 2021/2022 to signal our commitment to share in the impacts resulting from budget cuts necessary to enable the district to function within its annual budget.

For (1): Trustee Paynter

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

Motion Defeated (1 to 4)

H.5 Budget Reset - Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally provided rationale for the motion. Debate ensued amongst the public, stakeholders, trustees and staff.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to halt the current budget and a) provide at least two alternative budget scenarios that move the cuts farther from the classroom, include significant cuts to Tolmie-based management, and that do not attempt to "solve" the \$7 million shortfall in one fiscal year, for the May 17 Board Meeting and (b) move the final vote to June 21, 2021.

For (2): Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

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

Motion Defeated (2 to 3)

H.6 Central Deposit Program - Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally provided rationale for the motion. Debate ensued amongst the public, stakeholders, trustees and staff.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) task the Secretary-Treasurer via direction from the Superintendent, to immediately begin required steps to withdraw \$7 million from the \$33-\$43 million School District No. 61 account held in the CDP, full amount to be withdrawn as soon as possible, and used to offset the School District No. 61 \$7 million budget shortfall for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

For (2): Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

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

Motion Defeated (2 to 3)

Moved by Trustee Hentze

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) extend the meeting past 11 pm if required.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H.7 Contact Minister - Trustee McNally

Trustee McNally provided rationale for the motion. Debate ensued amongst the public, stakeholders, trustees and staff.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) (a) direct the Chair to write to, or contact the Minister of Education Jennifer Whiteside in the most expeditious method of communication, on May 11, urgently requesting approval from the Minister for School District No. 61 to incur a deficit budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, as per BC School Act Section 156 (12): A board must not incur a deficit of any kind unless the board has the approval of the minister.

For (2): Trustee Paynter, and Trustee Whiteaker

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

Motion Defeated (2 to 3)

I. NOTICE OF MOTION

Trustee McNally provided 3 Notices of Motion for the May 17, 2021 Board Meeting.

I.1 That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to halt the current budget and a) provide at least two alternative budget scenarios that move the cuts farther from the classroom, include significant cuts to Tolmie-based management, and that do not attempt to "solve" the \$7 million shortfall in one fiscal year, for the May 17 Board Meeting and (b) move the final vote to June 21, 2021.

I.2 That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) task the Secretary-Treasurer via direction from the Superintendent, to

immediately begin required steps to withdraw \$7 million from the \$33-\$43 million School District No. 61 account held in the CDP, full amount to be withdrawn as soon as possible, and used to offset the School District No. 61 \$7 million budget shortfall for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

I.3 That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) (a) direct the Chair to write to, or contact the Minister of Education Jennifer Whiteside in the most expeditious method of communication, on May 18, urgently requesting approval from the Minister for School District No. 61 to incur a deficit budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, as per BC School Act Section 156 (12): A board must not incur a deficit of any kind unless the board has the approval of the minister.

J. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

K. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:06pm

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer