



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

MINUTES

November 23, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

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

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, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 p.m.

Secretary-Treasurer Morris explained that she would preside as Chair until after agenda item A.3.b. Election of Chair.

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Secretary-Treasurer Morris 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 Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the November 23, 2020 agenda be approved with the following additions/amendments:

A.3.a. Election Process - Voting Procedure by Text

D.3.a.b. SJ Burnside Project Report

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3 Trustee Elections

a. Election Process - Vote by Text Message

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) proceed with the election process for nominating the Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair, British Columbia Public School Employers' Association Representative and the British Columbia School Trustees' Association Provincial Councilor proceed by Trustees sending in ballots by text to the Secretary-Treasurer and the Deputy Superintendent to be tabulated and reported.

Trustee McNally moved an amendment to the motion.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the motion "That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) proceed with the election process for nominating the Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair, British Columbia Public School Employers' Association Representative and the British Columbia School Trustees' Association Provincial Councilor proceed by Trustees sending in ballots by text to the Secretary-Treasurer and the Deputy Superintendent to be tabulated and reported" be amended to include "*AND FURTHER, that the report of votes will be as per Robert's Rules of Order, page 395, 12th Edition, scrutineers report shall include the number of votes cast, the necessary votes for election, the number of votes for each nominee.*"

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

Against (5): Trustee Watters, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Leonard, Trustee Painter, and Trustee Paynter

Abstain (1): Trustee Hentze

Motion Defeated (3 to 5)

Secretary-Treasurer Morris called for the vote on the main motion as presented.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) proceed with the election process of the Board Chair, Board Vice-Chair, British Columbia Public School Employers' Association Representative and the British Columbia School Trustees' Association Provincial Councilor proceed by Trustees sending in nominations and ballots by text to the Secretary-Treasurer and the Deputy Superintendent to be tabulated and reported out.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. Election of Chair

Secretary-Treasurer Morris called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Board of Education for the term to November 2021.

Nominations were received for Trustees Duncan, Watters and Whiteaker.

Trustees Duncan and Watters accepted the nomination and Trustee Whiteaker declined.

A ballot vote via text to Secretary-Treasurer Morris and Deputy Superintendent Whitten was taken and Trustee Watters was declared the Chair of the Board of Education.

Chair Watters thanked Trustees for once again trusting her to lead the Board as its Chair.

c. Election of Vice-Chair

Chair Watters called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board of Education for the term to November 2021.

Nominations were received for Trustees Duncan, Leonard and Whiteaker.

Trustees Leonard accepted the nomination and Trustees Duncan and Whiteaker declined. Chair Watters declared Trustee Leonard the Vice-Chair of the Board of Education by acclamation.

- d. Election of British Columbia Public School Employers' Association Representative

Chair Watters called for nominations for the position of British Columbia School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) Representative for the period ending November 2021. Nominations were received for Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Painter and Paynter.

Trustees Hentze, Painter and Paynter declined the nomination and Trustee Ferris accepted.

Chair Watters declared Trustee Ferris the representative to BCPSEA by acclamation.

- e. Election of British Columbia School Trustees' Association Provincial Councilor

Chair Watters called for nominations for the position of British Columbia School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) representative for the period to November 2021. Nominations were received for Trustees Painter and Paynter.

Trustees Painter and Paynter both accepted the nomination. A ballot vote was taken and Chair Watters declared Trustee Painter to be the BCSTA representative.

- f. Motion to Destroy Election Ballots

Trustee Duncan requested to know the number of ballots received for each candidate in each of the four categories. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a decision being made to recess for five minutes in order for Secretary-Treasurer Morris and Deputy Superintendent Whitten to tabulate the votes and report out.

The meeting recessed at 8:23 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 8:29 p.m.

Secretary-Treasurer Morris reported out the following votes:

Chair - Trustee Watters received 5 votes and Trustee Duncan received 4.

Vice-Chair - Trustee Leonard was acclaimed

BCPSEA Representative - Trustee Ferris was acclaimed\

BCSTA Representative - Trustee Painter received 5 votes and Trustee Paynter received 4 votes.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the election ballots received by text message to Secretary-Treasurer Morris and Deputy Superintendent Whitten be destroyed.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4 Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

Approval of the October 26, 2020 minutes.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.5 Business Arising from the Minutes

Trustee Whiteaker requested information with respect to the security costs of the surveillance now added to the Victoria High School seismic project. Secretary-Treasurer advised that she would bring a full report of specifics and costing to the December 7, 2020 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

A.6 Student Achievement

- a. Gordon Head Middle School - Shawn Boulding, Principal

Shawn Boulding, Principal of Gordon Head Middle School, shared with Trustees areas the school is focusing on this year and ways in which they are achieving their goals. Mr. Boulding stated that due to the pandemic the main focus has shifted to social emotional learning and explained how staff and students are supporting each other.

Chair Watters thanked Principal Boulding for the presentation.

A.7 District Presentations

None

A.8 Community Presentations

None

B. CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Watters shared that she has received handwritten letters from Strawberry Vale Elementary students relative to how the District could support them to improve their outdoor learning experience. Chair Watters reported that she advised the class to write a letter to the Board for correspondence.

B.1 October 28, 2020, South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association to SD61, Sundance and Bank Street Schools

By consensus, Trustees directed the Chair to respond to the South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association to acknowledge receipt of their letter of October 28, 2020 and to advise that the District is awaiting a decision by the City of Victoria with respect to the potential heritage status of the Bank Street building.

B.2 November 4, 2020, SD28 to Minister of Education, Cancellation of 2020-2021 FSA

B.3 November 5, 2020, Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt to SD61, 2021 Council Liaison Appointment

B.4 November 18, 2020, VCPAC to SD61, New Executive and Feedback

By consensus, the Chair will follow up with VCPAC to discuss a process for response.

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1 Chair's Report

a. November Report

Chair Watters presented her report and highlighted a few meetings over the past month. Chair Watters further reported that the Board was provided an update earlier that day from Superintendent Green with respect to further restrictions due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

b. Annual Workplan: December

Chair Watters referred to the Board Workplan and highlighted December for information.

C.2 Trustees' Reports

None

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1 Education Policy and Directions Committee

- a. Draft minutes from the November 2, 2020 meeting

The draft minutes from the November 2, 2020 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting were received for information.

- b. Recommended motions from the November 2, 2020 meeting

Chair Watters referred to the meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motions.

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve recommended motions D.1 b.a and D.1 b. b. from the November 2, 2020 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

- a. MyEd Forms

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write a letter to the Ministry of Education requesting that MyEd specific forms include "X" as an option for the "Gender" category

AND FURTHER

That the request of notification of gender for parents and siblings be removed.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. Foundation Skills Assessment

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) write the Ministry of Education requesting the cancellation of the Foundation Skills Assessment for the 2020-2021 school year during COVID-19.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c. Religious Accommodation

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to develop a policy addressing religious accommodation in schools in accordance with the British Columbia Human Rights Code, after consultation with the Victoria Multifaith Society and Indigenous leadership, with specific attention to local religious and First Nations leadership, with specific attention to:

- Creation of a multi-faith calendar identifying key religious and spiritual, cultural and ceremonial days of observance, developed;
- Providing guidance respecting how practices can be reasonably accommodated;
- Developing procedures for how parents Direction on how parents and/or students can request accommodation for their practices and/or days of observance; and
- Providing direction to staff regarding their obligations to recognize requests for religious accommodation under the Human Rights Code in scheduling activities, tests and assignments.

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

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

Motion Defeated (3 to 6)

c. Recommended motion from the September 14, 2020 Education Policy and Directions Committee Meeting

a. Dispensation for secondary level French Immersion students impacted by COVID-19 - Trustee Paynter

Chair Watters referred to the September 14, 2020 meeting minutes and stated that as a point of clarification a motion cannot be referred from a Committee meeting to an Ad Hoc Committee and will now be debated by the entire board. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

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 asking that Graduation Program Requirements for the Diplôme de fin d'études secondaires en Colombie-Britannique be relaxed for secondary students unable to attend in person classes to receive French language instruction during the 2020/2021 school year." be referred to the Advocacy Committee.

For (4): Trustee Duncan, Trustee Hentze, Trustee McNally, and Trustee Paynter

Against (4): Trustee Watters, Trustee Ferris, Trustee Leonard, and Trustee Painter

Abstain (1): Trustee Whiteaker

Motion Defeated (4 to 4)

D.2 Operations Policy and Planning Committee

a. Draft minutes from the November 9, 2020 meeting

The draft minutes from the November 9, 2020 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting were received for information.

b. Recommended motion from the November 9, 2020 meeting

Trustee Leonard referred to the meeting minutes and presented the following recommended motion.

a. Draft Policy 6161.5, Instruction: School Gardens

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve new Policy 6161.5, *Instruction: School Gardens*; AND FURTHER

Direct the Superintendent to develop an Administrative procedure.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c. Policy Sub-Committee

a. Regulation 3323, Purchasing Services

Revised Regulation 3323, *Purchasing Services*, was received for information.

D.3 Audit Committee

a. Audit Committee Report - November 4, 2020 Meeting

Associate Secretary-Treasurer Stride presented the Audit Committee Report from the November 4, 2020 meeting and highlighted key information.

a. September 2020 Quarterly Financial Report

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the September 2020 Quarterly Financial Report as presented to the Audit Committee.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. SJ Burnside Project Report

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided an SJ Burnside Project Report in response to a motion carried at the June 22, 2020 Board of Education meeting. By consensus the report will be placed on the December 7, 2020 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda.

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1 Superintendent's Report

a. Monthly Report

Superintendent Green presented the report and highlighted an Elders' lunch recently held at the Tolmie Building and that she attended the Victoria Police Department for their Civil Service Awards whereby three Vic High students were recipients for their quick response to help a person having a medical emergency.

Moved by Trustee Leonard

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Superintendent's report as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. Local Education Agreement: SD61 and Songhees Nation

Associate Superintendent Roberts reminded Trustees that a draft copy of the Local Education Agreement between SD61 and the Songhees Nation came to the October Board meeting and presented the recommended motion to authorize the signing of the agreement. Trustees thanked Associate Superintendent Roberts for his work on the agreement.

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) authorize the signing of the Local Education Agreement between the School District No. 61 and Songhees Nations as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c. School Closure Process: Craigflower /Shoreline Seismic

Superintendent Green provided Trustees with an update to the next steps in the Craigflower/Shoreline seismic upgrade project and answered questions of clarification from Trustees.

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Craigflower School Closure public consultation plan as presented.

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

Abstain (1): Trustee Leonard

Motion Carried (8 to 0)

d. Trustee Questions

Superintendent Green responded to a question from Trustee Duncan with respect to the Enhancing Student Learning Report submission to the Ministry of Education.

Trustee Paynter exited the meeting at 10:14 p.m.

E.2 Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. Monthly Report

Secretary-Treasurer Morris presented the report and further added the departmental budget meetings have begun for 2021-2022.

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) receive the Secretary- Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

F. QUESTION PERIOD

None

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

G.1 Record of In-Camera Board Meeting - October 26, 2020

G.2 Braefoot Turf Field Use Agreement

The following motion was voted on at the November 23, 2020 In-Camera Board of Education Meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Turf Field Use Agreement between the Lakehill Soccer Association and the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) for the term of 10 years commencing on September 1, 2019.

G.3 Oak Bay All-Weather Artificial Turf Field Addendum

The following motion was voted on at the November 23, 2020 In-Camera Board of Education Meeting:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Turf Field Use Agreement between Bays United Football Club and the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) for the term of 10 years commencing on July 1, 2020.

G.4 SJ Burnside Upgrade Project

The following motion was voted on at the November 23, 2020 In-Camera Board of Education Meeting:

"That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) release to the public the following seven motions pertaining to the SJ Burnside Project from the June 24, 2019 In-Camera Board of Education Meeting:

i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve \$1,000,000 from the Technology Replacement Reserve in Local Capital to be allocated to the SJ Burnside Project.

ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) upon receipt of the \$1,000,000 from Pacifica Housing restrict \$1,000,000 for the Technology Replacement Reserve in Local Capital.

iii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) request \$799,162 of unallocated funds in Ministry Restricted Capital to be allocated to the SJ Burnside Project.

iv) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve \$500,000 currently allocated to the Vic High Seismic Project in Local Capital to be allocated to the SJ Burnside Project.

v) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve \$500,000 currently allocated to the Shoreline Seismic Project in Local Capital to be allocated to the SJ Burnside Project.

vi) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve \$200,838 currently allocated to the Quadra Warehouse Project in Local Capital to be allocated to the SJ Burnside Project.

vii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) upon receipt of future Local Capital dollars from the Vic High Seismic Project or another disposition allocate \$500,000 to the Shoreline Seismic Project in Local Capital."

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H.1 New Business

None

H.2 Notice of Motions

None

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer