



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

MINUTES

October 25, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

Trustees Present: Ann Whiteaker, Board Chair, Nicole Duncan, Tom Ferris, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Ryan Painter, Jordan Watters

Trustee Regrets: Rob Paynter, Vice-Chair, Diane McNally

Administration: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, 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 7:33 p.m.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Whiteaker 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 Watters

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the October 25, 2021 agenda be approved with the following addition:

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

- f. Revised Bylaw 9130.1 *The Education Policy and Directions Committee* and Revised Bylaw 9130.2 *The Operations Policy and Planning Committee* – three readings

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Against: Trustees Duncan and Whiteaker

Motion Carried (5 to 2)

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

That the October 25, 2021 agenda be approved, as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Approval of the September 27, 2021 Regular Board Minutes

Moved by Trustee Ferris

Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the September 27, 2021 Regular Board minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

- b. Approval of the October 5, 2021 Special Board Minutes

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the October 5, 2021 Special Board Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Trustee Watters referred to H.1.a of the September 27, 2021 Board meeting minutes and thanked Trustee Hentze for reaching out to the governance consultants to clarify their suggestion for this motion and for verifying that this is what they had suggested.

Trustee Duncan referred to a community presenter from the September 27, 2021 Board meeting who spoke about the lunch hour learning pilot

project and requested an update. Interim Superintendent Whitten advised that report could be brought back to a future meeting.

Trustee Duncan sought clarification and an explanation relative to the August 9, 2021 Special Board meeting and the resignation of the Chair and Vice-Chair, Trustees Watters and Leonard. Chair Whiteaker stated that there was no plan to place this on an agenda but suggested that Trustee Watters could have the opportunity to speak at a future Board meeting.

A.5. Student Achievement

None

A.6. District Presentations

None

A.7. Community Presentations

None

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1. September 15, 2021, SD72 to Minister of Education, Rural Subsidy Request

B.2. October 3, 2021, Mr. Harris to Board Chair, Cedar Hill School Replacement

B.3. October 5, 2021, Minister of Education to Board Chairs, 2021 Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1. Chair's Report

- a. Chair Whiteaker provided a verbal report and advised that the Board has extended Interim Superintendent Whitten's contract to June 30, 2022 and that discussions for a recruitment process for this position would begin in the near future and reported out when available.

Chair Whiteaker further advised that discussions and research has begun, in conjunction with guidelines from the Ministry of Education, on a District vaccination mandate and that it is being considered an employer / employee issue.

Chair Whiteaker reported out that she attended the Ministry of Education Partner Liaison Meeting in Vancouver.

Chair Whiteaker recognized and acknowledged Trustees Ferris and Leonard on 25 years of service to the Greater Victoria School District as they were both elected to the Board of Education in October of 1996.

The following statement was read by Chair Whiteaker, *“On behalf of the Board, I am formally apologize for the circumstances which have led to Superintendent Shelley Green’s departure from the District. The Board deeply regrets that statements impugning Ms. Green’s competence and integrity have been made publically in social media posts, and in public and private meetings of the Board. These comments were unfair and were not reflective of the views of the Board. Ms. Green has performed her duties faithfully, and with integrity.”*

As an employer, our goal is to ensure that all Board employees are treated with dignity and respect. We regret that this has not been Ms. Green’s experience, and apologize for the impact this has had on her professionally and personally. I would like to thank Shelley Green for her significant contributions to the District, including its students, employees, and the school community as a whole.

Trustee Watters requested that Chair Whiteaker provide her report in writing so that it can be posted on the District website.

- b. Annual Work Plan: November 2021

Chair Whiteaker presented the Board work plan for November 2021 and advised that elections for the Chair and Vice-Chair would be on the November 22, 2021 Board meeting agenda.

C.2. Trustees' Reports

None

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1. Education Policy and Directions Committee

- a. The draft minutes from the October 4, 2021 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting were presented for information.

D.2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a. The draft minutes from the October 18, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting were presented for information.
- b. Recommended motion from the October 18, 2021 meeting:

- a. George Jay Elementary School: Renaming

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) rename George Jay Elementary School as per Policy and Regulation 1421 and any applicable legislation;
AND FURTHER

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) task the George Jay Naming Ad Hoc Committee to make a recommendation to the Board for the new name of the school.

Motion Carried Unanimously

- b. COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate Development

Trustees Ferris and Leonard recused themselves from the discussion and vote on the following matter as both stated that they were in a conflict of interest.

Chair Whiteaker stated that as this issue is an employer / employee matter and as such will be handled In-Camera with guidance from data collection, research and conversations with the appropriate individuals.

Moved by Trustee Painter

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) instruct the Interim Superintendent to begin the development and implementation of safety procedures on a COVID-19 vaccine mandate in the District, utilizing the proposed BCPSEA template*" be tabled indefinitely.

Motion Carried Unanimously

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1. Interim Superintendent's Report

- a. Monthly Report

Interim Superintendent Whitten provided the report and highlighted an expression of gratitude to Kevin Blecic in Pathways and

Partnerships, the Indigenous Education Department and Communications and Community Engagement Manager, Lisa McPhail and Executive Assistant, Kelly Gorman.

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. Trustee Questions

Interim Superintendent Whitten responded to a question relative to school growth plans advising that school visits have begun and that she could report back at a future meeting.

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. Monthly Report

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided the report and highlighted a few areas of interest. Trustees asked questions of clarification in relation to the Student Representative Council and the draft budget proposal process.

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. 2020-2021 Surplus Appropriation

Secretary-Treasurer Morris referred to a presentation she made at the September 27, 2021 Board meeting relative to the 2020-2021 surplus appropriation and reminded Trustees of the motion that was carried at the meeting. At the September 27, 2021 Board meeting trustees had questions about the increased enrolment and requested a more detailed understanding of this prior to passing the motion. Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided updated information on enrolment numbers since she last presented the information at the September Board meeting. Further, Secretary-Treasurer Morris

provided clarity with information from Director of Information Technology for Learning Canty, with respect to the District network infrastructure replacement plan and the cost of upgrading over the next five years. Secretary-Treasurer Morris responded to questions of clarification from Trustees.

c. SJ Burnside Alternative School Site Disposal Bylaw, 2021

Secretary-Treasurer Morris presented the Bylaw and Chair Whiteaker recused herself from the discussion and vote as she declared herself in a conflict of interest.

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Watters

WHEREAS section 65 (5) of the *School Act* provides that a board of education may exercise a power with respect to the acquisition or disposal of property owned or administered by the board only by bylaw;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Section 96 (1) of the *School Act*, "land" includes any interest in land, including any right, title or estate in it of any tenure;

AND WHEREAS section 96 (3) of the *School Act* provides that a board of education may dispose of land or improvements, or both, subject to the orders of the British Columbia Minister of Education (the "**Minister**");

AND WHEREAS section 3 of the Disposal of Land or Improvements Order *M193/08* (the "**Order**") provides that boards must not dispose of land or improvements by sale and transfer in fee simple or by way of lease of 10 years or more unless such disposal is to another board or an independent school for educational purposes or is approved by the Minister in accordance with section 5 of the Order;

AND WHEREAS section 5 of the Order provides that the Minister may approve, with any terms and conditions, a disposition of land or improvements;

AND WHEREAS:

- (a) The property described in this Bylaw (the "**Property**") is registered in the name of The Corporation of the City of Victoria (the "**City**") but is being used and administered by The Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) (the "**Board**") for school purposes;
- (b) The Board is operating SJ Burnside Alternative School on a portion of the Property and has determined that the remainder of the Property, shown outlined in bold on

Schedule A attached to this Bylaw (the “**Quit Claim Area**”), is no longer required for school purposes;

- (c) The Board has agreed to release to the City all of its interest in the Quit Claim Area by way of a Quit Claim Deed in favour of the City (the “**Quit Claim Deed**”) in exchange for consideration to be provided to the Board as described in an agreement (the “**Framework Agreement**”) among the City, the Board, Pacifica Housing Advisory Association and British Columbia Housing Management Association, which will be fully executed as a precondition to the disposition of the Quit Claim Area as contemplated by this Bylaw;
- (d) The Property is legally described as:
PID: 030-095-859 - Lot 1, Section 4, Victoria District, Plan EPP70074;
- (e) The Board has confirmed that the Quit Claim Area will not be required for future educational purposes; and
- (f) The Board is satisfied that the consideration to be provided to the Board under the Framework Agreement represents the fair market value of the Quit Claim Area;

NOW THEREFORE be it enacted as a Bylaw, that:

1. Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Board hereby authorizes the execution and delivery of the Quit Claim Deed in favour of the City on the terms and subject to the conditions in the Framework Agreement; and

2. Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Board hereby approves, ratifies and confirms the terms, covenants and conditions of the Framework Agreement and authorizes the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board, for and on behalf of the Board, to execute and deliver the Quit Claim Deed in the form provided as an attachment to the Framework Agreement, and all other documents required to complete the transactions contemplated in the Framework Agreement, with such amendments as the Secretary-Treasurer may consider reasonable and in the best interests of the Board.

This bylaw may be cited as "School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) SJ Burnside Alternative School Site Disposal Bylaw, 2021".

Read the first time this 25 day of October, 2021

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters
Against: Trustee Duncan

Motion Carried (5 to 1)

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Watters

WHEREAS section 65 (5) of the *School Act* provides that a board of education may exercise a power with respect to the acquisition or disposal of property owned or administered by the board only by bylaw;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to Section 96 (1) of the *School Act*, "land" includes any interest in land, including any right, title or estate in it of any tenure;

AND WHEREAS section 96 (3) of the *School Act* provides that a board of education may dispose of land or improvements, or both, subject to the orders of the British Columbia Minister of Education (the "**Minister**");

AND WHEREAS section 3 of the Disposal of Land or Improvements Order *M193/08* (the "**Order**") provides that boards must not dispose of land or improvements by sale and transfer in fee simple or by way of lease of 10 years or more unless such disposal is to another board or an independent school for educational purposes or is approved by the Minister in accordance with section 5 of the Order;

AND WHEREAS section 5 of the Order provides that the Minister may approve, with any terms and conditions, a disposition of land or improvements;

AND WHEREAS:

- (a) The property described in this Bylaw (the "**Property**") is registered in the name of The Corporation of the City of Victoria (the "**City**") but is being used and administered by The Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) (the "**Board**") for school purposes;
- (b) The Board is operating SJ Burnside Alternative School on a portion of the Property and has determined that the remainder of the Property, shown outlined in bold on Schedule A attached to this Bylaw (the "**Quit Claim Area**"), is no longer required for school purposes;
- (c) The Board has agreed to release to the City all of its interest in the Quit Claim Area by way of a Quit Claim Deed in favour of the City (the "**Quit Claim Deed**") in exchange for consideration to be provided to the Board as described in an agreement (the "**Framework Agreement**") among the City, the Board, Pacifica Housing Advisory Association and British Columbia Housing Management Association, which will be

fully executed as a precondition to the disposition of the Quit Claim Area as contemplated by this Bylaw;

- (d) The Property is legally described as:
PID: 030-095-859 - Lot 1, Section 4, Victoria District, Plan EPP70074;
- (e) The Board has confirmed that the Quit Claim Area will not be required for future educational purposes; and
- (f) The Board is satisfied that the consideration to be provided to the Board under the Framework Agreement represents the fair market value of the Quit Claim Area;

NOW THEREFORE be it enacted as a Bylaw, that:

1. Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Board hereby authorizes the execution and delivery of the Quit Claim Deed in favour of the City on the terms and subject to the conditions in the Framework Agreement; and

2. Subject to the approval of the Minister, the Board hereby approves, ratifies and confirms the terms, covenants and conditions of the Framework Agreement and authorizes the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board, for and on behalf of the Board, to execute and deliver the Quit Claim Deed in the form provided as an attachment to the Framework Agreement, and all other documents required to complete the transactions contemplated in the Framework Agreement, with such amendments as the Secretary-Treasurer may consider reasonable and in the best interests of the Board.

This bylaw may be cited as "School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) SJ Burnside Alternative School Site Disposal Bylaw, 2021".

Read the second time this 25 day of October, 2021

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters
Against: Trustee Duncan

Motion Carried (5 to 1)

d. Agendas and Minutes Software Replacement

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided information to Trustees relative to the replacement of the eScribe software program that was used for committee and board meeting agendas and minutes,

highlighting that timelines will need to be firm to meet agenda publishing deadlines.

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) take a recess at 8:34 p.m. and reconvene in five minutes.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Whiteaker reconvened the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

e. Draft 2022-2023 Budget Process

Secretary-Treasurer Morris presented the draft 2022-02023 budget process highlighting the timeline and budget committee for consideration. Stakeholders and Trustees discussed the committee structure and process and provided feedback. Secretary-Treasurer Morris answered questions of clarification.

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Watters

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the proposed Budget Committee Structure#2, of the 2022-2023 Budget Process, as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the 2022-2023 Budget Process, as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously

f. Revised Bylaws 9130.1, 9130.2, 9130

Trustee Duncan quoted Bylaw 9010 *Bylaws of the Board* and suggested that these revised Bylaws should be referred to the November Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Chair Whiteaker

That proposed revised Bylaw 9130.1, Bylaw 9130.2 and Bylaw 9130 be referred to the November 8, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

For: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Against: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Motion Defeated (5 to 2)

Chair Whiteaker returned to the main discussion of revised Bylaws 9130.1, 9130.2 and 9130.

Trustee Watters requested that all three motions be moved at the same time.

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130.1 *The Education Policy and Directions Committee* by striking the text in item #1 and replacing it with "All trustees may participate as voting members of the committee."

AND FURTHER;

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130.2 *The Operations Policy and Planning Committee* by striking the text in item #1 and replacing it with "All trustees may participate as voting members of the committee."

AND FURTHER;

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130 *Standing Committees* by striking point #3 and amend the bylaw by replacing the text in point #4 with "A *quorum is five Trustees.*"

AND FURTHER;

That these amendments will be temporary until the end of the Board's term in November 2022.

Read a first time the 25 day of October, 2021.

Read a second time the 25 day of October, 2021.

Trustee Duncan suggested that the formal Board meeting move into a Committee of the Whole, in order to have a more fulsome discussion which would include Stakeholders.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Chair Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) enter into a Committee of the Whole meeting at 9:20 p.m.

For: Trustees Duncan, Hentze, Painter, Whiteaker
Against: Trustees Ferris, Leonard, Watters

Motion Carried (4 to 3)

Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees and Stakeholders until 9:31 p.m., at which time Chair Whiteaker moved the meeting out of Committee of the Whole and reconvened the Board of Education meeting.

Chair Whiteaker opened debate on the motion as moved by Trustee Watters and seconded by Trustee Leonard prior to going into Committee of the Whole. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees.

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

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) give unanimous consent to give the first reading of the revisions to all three Bylaws in one motion.

Motion Carried Unanimously

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130.1 *The Education Policy and Directions Committee* by striking the text in item #1 and replacing it with "All trustees may participate as voting members of the committee."
AND FURTHER;

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130.2 *The Operations Policy and Planning Committee* by striking the text in item #1 and replacing it with "All trustees may participate as voting members of the committee."
AND FURTHER;

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130 *Standing Committees* by striking point #3 and amend the bylaw by replacing the text in point #4 with "A quorum is five Trustees."

AND FURTHER;

That these amendments will be temporary until the end of the Board's term in November 2022.

Read a first time the 25 day of October, 2021.

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Against: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Motion Carried (5 to 2)

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) give unanimous consent to give the second reading of the revisions to all three Bylaws in one motion.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Watters

Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130.1 *The Education Policy and Directions Committee* by striking the text in item #1 and replacing it with "All trustees may participate as voting members of the committee."

AND FURTHER;

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130.2 *The Operations Policy and Planning Committee* by striking the text in item #1 and replacing it with "All trustees may participate as voting members of the committee."

AND FURTHER;

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Board Bylaw 9130 *Standing Committees* by striking point #3 and amend the bylaw by replacing the text in point #4 with "A *quorum is five Trustees.*"

AND FURTHER;

That these amendments will be temporary until the end of the Board's term in November 2022.

Read a second time the 25 day of October, 2021.

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters

Against: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Motion Carried

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) take a recess break at 9:43 p.m.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Whiteaker reconvened the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agree to give all three readings to revised Bylaws 9130, *Standing Committees*, 9130.1, *The Education Policy and Directions Committee* and 9130.2, *The Operations Policy and Planning Committee* at the meeting of October 25, 2021.

Motion must be Carried Unanimously to proceed.

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters
Against: Trustees Duncan, Whiteaker

Motion Defeated (5 to 2)

Moved by Trustees Watters
Seconded by Trustee Painter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Interim Superintendent to bring forward the September 27, 2021 motion regarding Standing Committees during the orientation of the board elected October 15, 2022.

For: Trustees Ferris, Hentze, Leonard, Painter, Watters, Whiteaker
Against: Trustee Duncan

Motion Carried (6 to 1)

F. QUESTION PERIOD

Q: Please explain why the SD61 Board of Education is explicitly violating universal principles of biomedical ethics, human dignity as related to informed consent and experimental medical procedures, and patient autonomy to make decisions over bodily integrity as opposed to top-down, technocratic models of health? Please explain why natural immunity is not considered a viable exemption to vaccination? Please clarify why rapid antigen tests for COVID-19 are not being considered as an option if health

and safety in the workplace is the main objective? Please explain why the SD61 Board of Education is mandating vaccinations without liability yet insists that employees take responsibility for assessing the benefits/risks of COVID-19 biological products?

A: Currently there is no vaccination mandate within the school district and at this time the District is entering into a data collection phase and at the same time allowing employees to voluntarily advise of their vaccination status. The public health office would be best suited to answer the questions relative to natural immunity.

Q: While recognizing the knowledge that both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals can get and spread Covid 19, and that those unvaccinated recovered from Covid have acquired natural immunity comparable to those vaccinated (with similar length of efficacy), and that current Victoria vaccination rates are extremely high, what provisions will you be making for those choosing not to or who are unable to take the covid vaccine, so that they may continue to provide valuable service to our district?

A: At this time the District is not mandating vaccinations but instead are gathering information and data and will consider all viewpoints of employees and work with all partner groups to address concerns and questions, prior to making any decisions.

Q: I am confused by the rationale for the motions to vary committee bylaws under H1 in tonight's agenda. The rationale from Trustees Watters and Hentze tonight appears to state that "eroded working conditions of school district staff" and damaged "public confidence in public education" can be addressed by increasing trustee attendance at agenda setting meetings and committees. Did consultants Teresa Rezansoff and Mike McKay speak to teacher and parent representatives before making their recommendations to the board, and have teachers and the public had an opportunity to review and respond to whether these recommendations (as interpreted by the board) will in fact improve their working conditions as well as their trust in public education?

A: No, teachers and the public were not included in the conversation before the consultants made their recommendations to the board.

Q: I was puzzled by the apology that was issued from the board to Superintendent Green. Can you provide more details as to exactly what the board is apologizing for?

A: The Board and Ms. Green have mutually agreed that her employment as Superintendent and CEO of School District No. 61 will end effective October 12, 2021. The Board acknowledges Ms. Green has brought significant experience and expertise to the Superintendent's role and has devoted extensive efforts these past three years to improve the culture of the district. The focus she has placed on improving educational outcomes

for students, especially her leadership in the strategic plan, will continue to provide positive directions for the district. We thank Ms. Green for her tireless efforts and contributions to School District No. 61.

Q: In 2020, the Greater Victoria School District spent at least \$102 thousand dollars on special consultants in a year of low enrolment while eliminating \$80 thousand of funding from school music programs and \$112 thousand from support programs for gifted children. With enrolment exceeding the projections from the district, will the board direct the district to reinstate at least some music and gifted funding or otherwise amend the conservative budget passed this spring?

A: The Board will continue to look at the budget and music is definitely one of the topics that the Board considers. The budget has been set for this school year and will not be altered. As for the budget for 2022-2023 a budget committee is in the midst of being formed and all budget items will be discussed and debated at that committee level prior to being brought to the public and then the board debating and passing the 2022-2023 budget in April of next year.

Q: I noticed that there will be "Talking Tables with Rights and Stakeholders" as well as a "Student Symposium or Other Student Led Forum" in the 22/23 Budget Process/Timeline. Who determines who gets to participate in the "Talking Tables"? Concerning the Student Symposium, how are students chosen and who chooses the students participating in this event?

A: Yes, information will be sent to each of the Stakeholder representatives along with an invitation for participation and feedback for the table tables discussion. Each of the Stakeholders will have the opportunity to put forward names of individuals that wish to participate. For the Student Symposium/Forum, once it has been determined which grades will be chosen to participate, the principals at those schools will be contacted to provide names of six to ten student representatives with a diverse voice and who wish to participate.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

G.1. Record of In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – September 27, 2021

G.2. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – October 18, 2021

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H.1. New Business

a. Standing Committee Agenda Setting – Trustee's Hentze and Watters

Trustee Watters requested that the motion be referred to the November 8, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda.

Moved by: Trustee Watters

Seconded by: Trustee Painter

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Chair to create a rotating schedule of trustees to be invited to participate in Chair/Superintendent meetings for the duration of this Board's term*" be referred to the November 8, 2021 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H.2. Notice of Motions

None

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Painter

Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer