



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Education Policy and Directions Committee Meeting
REGULAR MINUTES
Monday, May 2, 2022, 7:00 p.m.**

Trustees Present: Tom Ferris (Chair), Elaine Leonard, Angie Hentze, Nicole Duncan, Ryan Painter, Ann Whiteaker

Trustees Suspended: Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Trustee Regrets: Jordan Watters

Administration: Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Kelly Gorman, Recorder

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Ferris 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

That the May 2, 2022 agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

Moved By Trustee Painter

That the April 4, 2022 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting minutes be approved, as amended.

Trustee Duncan requested the following amendments under A.4:

A.4. Further to C.2. of the March 7, 2002 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting agenda Trustee Duncan requested an update on whether staff had clarified if the Fortis materials were being used at any middle school or high school.

A.4. Interim Superintendent Whitten had no update and agreed to follow up with District Principal Hovis regarding middle schools and high schools.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4. Business Arising from Minutes

None

B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

Community Presentation

B.1. Angela Carmichael provided an update concerning George Jay Elementary School relative to recent CommunityLINK budget reductions and urged the Board to advocate to the Ministry.

Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

Staff Presentation

B.2. Student Isabella Miskiewicz and District Principal Halverson presented on Isabella's student capstone project: the revision of Regulation 5131.4 Substance Abuse. Isabella wanted to change the narrative of the Regulation from disciplinary to a proactive and comprehensive harm reduction approach to substance use. Isabella expressed gratitude for all of the help she received from District staff throughout the process.

Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

- B.3.** District Principal Hovis, District Vice-Principal Shortt, and Associate Director Vistisen-Harwood presented an Early Years Update on childcare and the early years. Priority is building connection and belonging for children in their early years. Associate Director Vistisen-Harwood shared information on community childcare spaces within the school district. The Ministry has approved funding for 1035 spaces; 393 spaces have been created to date.

Trustees provided thanks for the presentation.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C.1. Policy 4304 Revision – Bullying & Harassment

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided an update on the draft revised Policy.

Trustees discussed the draft revised Policy.

Moved By Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) refer revised Policy 4304 *Bullying and Harassment* to Rights Holders and stakeholders for their feedback.

For: Duncan, Whiteaker

Against: Leonard, Painter, Ferris, Hentze

Motion Defeated (2 to 4)

By consensus it was agreed to strike 5.3 from the draft policy.

Moved By Trustee Leonard

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve revised Policy 4304 *Bullying and Harassment*.

For: Leonard, Ferris, Painter, Hentze, Whiteaker

Abstain: Duncan

Motion Carried (5 to 0)

D. NOTICE OF MOTION

E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

F. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By Trustee Painter

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer