

The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) George Jay Naming Committee

AGENDA

Date: Wednesday, January, 13 2021 at 4-5:30p.m. Location: Via Zoom

Chairperson: Trustee Angie Hentze Committee members: Bob Warren, Angela Cooper Carmichael, Melanie Postle, Ai Linh Trinh, Deb Whitten Guests: Shelly Niemi and Lisa McPhail

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories – Trustee Hentze

A.2 Approval of the Agenda

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B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

B.1 Review of the Board Motion: September 23, 2019

Deb reviewed the Board motion from Sept 2019 regarding the work of the committee: That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent, pursuant to Policy and Regulation 1421 and any applicable legislation, to establish a process and then a committee to explore changing the name of George Jay Elementary School.

B2. Review the Terms of Reference including Policy and Regulation 1421 NAMING SCHOOL SITES

The committee reviewed the draft TOR and Deb asked for committee members to send comments or suggestions regarding the TOR to Deb. The TOR will be presented to the Board for their approval at a future Operations and Planning Committee meeting. Committee members articulated this importance of including current George Jay student voice and George Jay staff voice in this process.

C. NEW BUSINESS

C.1 Review the George Jay Renaming Consultation Report

Lisa McPhail provided the committee with an overview of the George Jay Renaming Consultation Report. Of the quantitative data received through the survey approximately 50% of the respondents were in favour of changing the name; 37% of the respondents were not in favour and 13% maybe in favour of changing the name. Committee members spoke about the importance of reaching out to the Indigenous community and the Chinese-Canadian community and include them in a thoughtful approach to the discussion and decision.

C.2 Update on the Equity Scan

Shelley Niemi provided an overview of the District's Equity Scan including the 4 domains :

- Policy and Governance
- Pedagogy
- Learning Environment
- Learning for students

In addition Shelly spoke about the six phases and the timelines attached to each phase. The committee discussed the importance of aligning the work of this committee with the work and learnings from the Equity Scan. It was discussed that while we don't want to get ahead of the Equity Scan there is work the committee can do while Phase one and two of the Equity Scan occur. Angela shared some documents for our review. (Contesting White Supremacy: School Segregation, Anti-racism and the Making of Chinese Canadians by Timothy Stanley). Deb will investigate purchasing copies of this book. Committee members were in support of gathering differing views on the naming of the school as we want to hear from all perspectives.



C.3

Next steps (future meeting dates, key deliverables and timeline)

Next meeting: February 24, 2021 at 4:00pm

D. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

E. ADJOURNMENT