



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

AGENDA

Date: **Wednesday, May 5, 2021
4:00p.m.-5:30p.m.**

Location: **Via Zoom**

Committee members in attendance:

Chairperson: Trustee Angie Henzte, Lisa, Angela, Ai Linh, Bob, Shelly, Deb

Guests: Kristine, Marcy, Deanna, Jennifer

A.

COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A.1

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES -

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

B.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|------------------------|------|---|-----------|
| May 5, 2021 4PM TO 6PM | | | |
| 1 | 4:15 | George Jay Elem Staff Ai Linh Trinh, Deanna Reid, Marcy O'Keefe and Jennifer Loukras | Community |

| | | | |
|---|------|-----------------|--------|
| 2 | 4:30 | Mrs. Dos Santos | Parent |
|---|------|-----------------|--------|

Marcy, Deanna and Jennifer as members of the George Jay teaching staff presented on behalf of the George Jay staff. They shared that the majority of the staff is not in favour of changing the name. They spoke about their three main areas of concern for changing the name: Cost (including time and energy), Meaning of George Jay the school/community, and the Lost learning opportunity. They also talked about the environmental impact changing the name may have. Committee members thanked the teachers and recognized their reflective, sensitive and brave view.

Kristine presented as a parent and community member. Kristine spoke about the goal of having students feel welcomed, a sense of belonging and valued. She shared that the individual – George Jay did not provide this learning environment for the students : it was not welcoming, safe or belonging. Committee members thanked Kristine for her words and thoughtful message.

C.

NEW BUSINESS

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

Shelly provided an update regarding the Equity Scan. Committee members discussed next steps. Shelly will speak with the Elders Advisory Council and the Indigenous Committee about the possibility of this committee spending time in circle to listen to their thoughts and voice. It was discussed and agreed by committee members the importance of time, of not rushing this process and to listen and hear the voice of the recipient of the service. It was discussed by the committee about the importance of sharing the historical perspective as we want to continue to learn.

The committee also felt that we needed to continue to reach out to the Chinese Canadian community and invite them to share their thoughts by presenting, or sending in a written submission. Lisa will revisit the contacts she has when she conducted the survey.

F.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: June 2, 2021.