



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

Special Board Budget Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, April 4, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

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

Trustees Suspended: Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

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, Julie Lutner, Director of Finance, Budgets & Financial Reporting, Chuck Morris, Director, Facilities Services, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Lisa McPhail, Manager, Communications and Community Engagement, Vicki Hanley, Recorder

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Painter 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

By Board consensus, Option #6 was added to the April 4, 2022 agenda for discussion under C.3. Balancing Options.

Moved by Trustee Ferris
Seconded by Trustee Leonard

That the April 4, 2022 Special Board Budget agenda be approved.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1. March 8 to April 2, 2022 – Public Correspondence re: Budget

Chair Painter expressed gratitude to staff for the agenda package and to the public for the many pieces of correspondence received. Trustee Whiteaker expressed gratitude to the public for providing feedback with regards to the budget.

C. 2022-2023 ANNUAL BUDGET

C.1. Budget Engagement Report

Secretary-Treasurer Morris directed Trustees to the Budget Engagement Report within the agenda package and expressed gratitude to staff and Budget Advisory Committee members for their efforts throughout the budget cycle. Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided an overview of the report and responded to a question with respect to a debrief meeting after the process has been completed.

Trustee Duncan, Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee, highlighted the first year of the committee, balance of enough time to engage and deliberate and the hope that next year all members would be together.

C.2. Presentation

Interim Superintendent Whitten and Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided a presentation which included alignment to the strategic direction for learning in the District and the financial overview of 2022-2023.

C.3. Balancing Options

By consensus, Trustees decided upon a Committee of the Whole approach when discussing balancing options. Discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with questions being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Morris. Trustees Whiteaker and Duncan provided an overview of their proposed Option #6.

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) move Option #4 of the proposed balancing options for the 2022-2023 draft budget, for consideration and discussion.

Secretary-Treasurer Morris provided Trustees with an overview of Option #4 and answered questions of clarification. Trustees discussed this option and suggested amendments.

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That Option #4 of the draft 2022-2023 budget be amended by reducing spending of 1.0 FTE PVP at the Tolmie Board Office for \$150,174.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by adding District Team Indigenous Collaboration for \$25,000.

Discussion ensued amongst Trustees with Trustees deciding by consensus to table the amendment and go through reductions first, prior to adding specific items back in.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by reducing District Team - Literacy for \$37,000.

Motion Carried

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

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That 1.0 FTE Manager at the Board Office be eliminated.

Discussion ensued with regards to the implications of a reduction of a Manager at the Board Office with questions being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Morris, as this option was not part of Option #4. Trustee Duncan withdrew the motion.

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with discussion moving to proposed Risks that the Board could take to use enrolment and surplus greater than projected to balance the budget.

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker
Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) increase the use of 2021-2022 surplus excess of the \$800,000 projected, by \$1.5m.

Motion Carried

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

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) take a recess break at 9:09 p.m..

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair Painter called the meeting back to order at 9:19 p.m.

Discussion continued amongst Trustees with questions being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Morris as to what the balance is after making the previous changes.

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustees Hentze

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by adding District Team Indigenous Collaboration for \$25,000.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by removing all YFC's and 2 Outreach workers for \$623,110 from the savings list.

Further Discussion ensued amongst Trustees with questions being asked of Secretary-Treasurer Morris on where the funding would be moved from. A suggestion was made to amend the motion.

Moved by Trustee Watter
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the motion "*That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by removing all YFC's and 2 Outreach workers for \$623,110 from the savings list*" be amended to remove the reference to 'Outreach workers' and reduce the amount by \$180,000 to \$443,110.

Motion Carried

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

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

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by removing all YFC counsellors for the amount of \$443,110 from the savings list.

Motion Carried

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

Chair Painter provided the current balance for Trustees. Trustee Whiteaker sought clarification with respect to the Parent Education Fund and specifically what the calculation was for the amount. Secretary-Treasurer was unable to provide an answer and stated that she would provide one at the Board Budget meeting on April 7, 2022. Trustee Whiteaker also requested rationale for removing the line item from the budget. Secretary-Treasurer Morris advised the amount for the service would be provided from the Superintendent's discretionary budget.

Moved by Trustee Watters
Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by removing District ukulele for \$16,525 from the savings list.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by removing the Clerical Staff from 12/11 month to 11/10.5 month for \$94,496 from the savings list.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Painter
Seconded by Trustee Hentze

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by adding a Communications Assistant for \$68,000.

Motion Carried

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

Moved by Trustee Whiteaker
Seconded by Trustee Duncan

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by reducing the 2.0 FTE Carpenter spend to 1.0 FTE Carpenter at Facilities Services and use the difference of \$84,004 for Collaboration Time.

Further discussion ensued amongst Trustees with a suggestion being made to amend the motion.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Whiteaker

That the motion "*That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by reducing the 2.0 FTE Carpenter spend to 1.0 FTE Carpenter at Facilities Services and use the difference of \$84,004 for Collaboration Time*" be amended by striking "*and use the difference for Collaboration Time.*"

Motion Defeated

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

Chair Painter called for the vote on the main recommended motion.

That Option #4 of the 2022-2023 draft budget be amended by reducing the 2.0 FTE Carpenter spend to 1.0 FTE Carpenter at Facilities Services and use the difference of \$84,004 for Collaboration Time.

Motion Defeated

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

Further discussion ensued amongst the Trustees with a decision being made by consensus to park the remaining balance of \$40,043 in the risk column and revisit its allocation at the April 7, 2022 Board Budget meeting.

C.4. Budget Bylaw Readings: 1st and 2nd Reading

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2022-2023 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$268,416,946 be:

Read a first time the 4th day of April, 2022.

Motion Carried

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

Moved by Trustee Leonard
Seconded by Trustee Ferris

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2022-2023 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$268,416,946 be:

Read a second time the 04 day of April, 2022.

Motion Carried

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

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 p.m.

Moved By Trustee Leonard
Seconded By Trustee Watters

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer