



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

REGULAR MINUTES

Via Zoom

Monday, March 13, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Trustees Present: Nicole Duncan, Board Chair, Karin Kwan, Vice-Chair, Angela Carmichael, Natalie Baillaut, Derek Gagnon, Rob Paynter, Emily Mahbobi, Mavis David, Diane McNally

Administration: Deb Whitten, Superintendent of Schools, Katrina Stride, Secretary-Treasurer, Harold Caldwell, Deputy Superintendent, Tom Aerts, Associate Superintendent, Julie Lutner, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Sean Powell, District Principal, Jeff Davis, Director of International Student Program, Andy Canty, Director of Information Technology

Partners: Ilda Turcotte, GVTA, Brenna O'Connor, VPVPA, Jeanette Alexander, ASA, Paula Marchese, VCPAC

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

This meeting began at 7:30 p.m.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Chair Duncan 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 Mahbobi
Seconded by Trustee Kwan

That the March 13, 2023 agenda be approved, with the following additions:

A.7.a. School Police Liaison Officers - Chief Del Manak

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Trustee Kwan
Seconded by Trustee Carmichael

That the February 27, 2023 Regular Board minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

A.5. Student Achievement

None.

A.6. District Presentations

None.

A.7. Community Presentations

- a. School Police Liaison Officers - Victoria Police Chief Del Manak

Chief Del Manak spoke to the inaccuracy of the letter that was submitted to the Board March 3, 2023 from the GVTA concerning school police liaison officers.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1. March 3, 2023, GVTA to SD61 Trustees, School Police Liaison Officers

Trustee Duncan informed the Board that the Ad Hoc Police Liaison committee will be presenting options to the Board at a future meeting through a report.

B.2. March 7, 2023, VCPAC to SD61 Trustees, Budget

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1. Chair's Report

- a. Chair's Report

Chair Duncan presented the report and provided highlights.

- b. April Board Work Plan

The plan was provided.

C.2. Trustees' Reports

None.

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1. Combined Education Policy and Directions Committee and Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a. Draft minutes from the March 6, 2023 combined meeting – information only

- b. Recommended motions from the March 6, 2023 combined meeting:

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Policy Sub Committee to consider the Sanctuary School policy proposal submitted at the 6 March 2023 Education Policy and Directions Committee by reference to Sanctuary School policies implemented by other School Districts in BC and relevant provincial policy;

AND FURTHER

Provide recommendations to the Board through the Education Policy and Directions Committee by the May 2023 meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Policy Sub-committee to examine and review the process and guidelines in place for Program Accreditation and Evaluation (reviews) relating to provisions made in Policy and Regulations 6162.8 and provide recommendations to the Board through the Education Policy and Directions Committee for any necessary additions or changes.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Policy Sub Committee to examine and review the process and guidelines in place for Consultation relating to provisions made in Policy and Regulation 1163 and provide recommendations to the Board through the Education Policy and Directions Committee for any necessary additions or changes.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D.2. Policy Sub-Committee Report

- a. Terms of Reference

Trustees discussed the Terms of Reference.

Amendment

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

Membership

2 Trustees (1 to chair) **Selected on an annual basis by the Board Chair.**

Motion Carried Unanimously

1. Amendment

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

Membership

Any other ~~staff member~~ **rightsholder or stakeholder** as may be required by the Sub-Committee

2. Amendment

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee McNally

Membership

Any other ~~staff member~~, **rightsholder, stakeholder or staff member** as may be required by the Sub-Committee

Trustee Kwan withdraw amendment 1. to the motion.

3. Amendment

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

Membership

Any ~~other staff member~~, **rightsholder, stakeholder or staff member** as may be required by the Sub-Committee

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) adopt the Policy Sub-Committee Terms of Reference, as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D.3. Budget Advisory Committee

Budget advisory committee minutes were provided for information.

- a. Budget Advisory Committee February 23, 2023 Minutes
- b. Budget Advisory Committee March 2, 2023 Minutes
- c. Budget Public Meeting March 7, 2023 Feedback

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1. Superintendent's Report

a. Monthly Report

Superintendent Whitten provided the report for information.

Trustees had questions of clarification.

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

b. International Students Program Memo

Superintendent Whitten presented the International Students Program memo.

Trustees, stakeholders and staff discussed the memo and had questions of clarification.

c. Trustee Questions

Trustee Duncan inquired about Menstrual products being available in washrooms in schools. Superintendent Whitten stated that facilities services would be ensuring that menstrual products were available at all times.

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. Monthly Report

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

F. QUESTION PERIOD

- Q. If international students are withdrawn from the District given we have a 4million dollar deficit this means an additional 2 to 4million dollar deficit to our district for a total of 8million dollars. I do not want my children to be in a situation where the board of education is overstepping their authority. This is not what I voted for. What is the board going to do to fix the 8million dollar deficit? If all in catchment children are first priority than the District is doing their job properly and I thank them for that. As a board your priority should be all of the children in all

programs. Please let your voting public know what you are trying to do to save money and not continue to cut money we don't have.

- A. Trustee Duncan replied that the Board of Education has authority under the School Act.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

- G.1. Record of In-Camera Board of Education Meeting** – February 27, 2023
- G.2. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting** – February 28, 2023
- G.3. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting** – March 6, 2023
- G.4. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting** – March 8, 2023

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Trustee Duncan relinquished the Chair to Vice-Chair Kwan to bring forward the following two motions under New Business.

H.1. New Business

- a. Trustee Duncan

Trustees, stakeholders, and staff discussed the motion.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to implement a District wide discretionary spending freeze for the remainder of the 2022-23 financial year effective immediately.

Motion Carried Unanimously

- b. Trustee Duncan

Trustee Duncan provided rationale for the motion.

Trustees, stakeholders, and staff discussed the motion.

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee McNally

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to ensure that all local student registration, transfer requests, elementary to middle and middle to secondary transition needs are met in accordance with the District student enrollment priorities before placing an "out of district student" such as ISP students.

Amendment

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Kwan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent ~~to ensure that all local student registration, transfer requests, elementary to middle and middle to secondary transition needs are met in accordance with the District student enrollment priorities before placing an “out of district student” such as ISP students.~~ **for the 2023-2024 school year to work with families to ensure that every effort is made to place the 192 waitlisted students in schools that meet their needs and is in accordance with the District student enrollment priorities.**

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Duncan
Seconded by Trustee Kwan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent for the 2023-2024 school year to work with families to ensure every effort is made to place the 192 waitlisted students in schools that meet their needs and follows the rules set out in the District student enrollment priorities.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H.2. Notice of Motions

None.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Kwan
Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

That the meeting be adjourned.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer