



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
Education Policy and Directions Committee Meeting  
REGULAR MINUTES  
Monday, January 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**

Trustees Present: **Education Policy and Directions members:** Emily Mahbobi (Chair), Natalie Baillaut, Mavis David, Nicole Duncan

Trustee Regrets: Angela Carmichael, Karin Kwan, Derek Gagnon, Diane McNally, Rob Paynter

Administration: Deb Whitten, Superintendent of Schools, Katrina Stride, Secretary-Treasurer, Harold Caldwell, Deputy Superintendent, Tom Aerts, Associate Superintendent, Andy Canty, Director, Information Technology for Learning, Brenna O'Connor, VPVPA

Partners: Lena Palermo, GVTA, Nyssa Temmel, VCPAC

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**A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

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

**A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories**

Chair Mahbobi 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 Duncan

That the January 15, 2024 agenda be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A.3. Approval of the Minutes**

**Moved by** Trustee Baillaut

Education Policy and Directions Committee Meeting January 15, 2024

That the December 4, 2023 Combined Education Policy and Directions Committee and Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting minutes as they pertain to Education Policy and Directions Committee, be approved.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**A.4. Business Arising from Minutes**

None.

**B. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE**

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

- C.1.** Director of Indigenous Education Dr. Shelly Niemi provided a memo and introduced District Vice-Principal Lindsay Johnson and District Indigenous Teacher Consultant Emma Milliken who presented how the District is implementing the Indigenous Focused Grad Requirement by providing teacher supports: Pedagogy, Resources, and collaboration time/process.

School-Based teachers Holly Brooke and Georgina Hope presented on how they are implementing the Indigenous focused grad requirement at Vic High through collaboration.

Trustees provided thanks for the presentation and had questions of clarification.

- C.2.** District Principal, David Hovis and District Learning Support Teacher, Breanne Glover provided a literacy update.

South Park Elementary Principal Tim McCreesh, Teachers, Christie Kowaleski and Eva Henrich presented on literacy supports at South Park Elementary.

Early Literacy Collaboration Teacher, Rachel Ottenbreit has worked with South Park Elementary for three years and spoke to the positive results of having literacy support at South Park Elementary.

Trustees provided thanks for the presentation and had questions of clarification.

*By consensus the committee took a recess break at 8:48 p.m.*

*Chair Mahbobi called the meeting back to order at 8:55 p.m.*

**C.3. Policy Sub-Committee Report**

**a. Policy 6163.1 Learning Resources**

Trustees and partners provided amendments to Policy 6163.1 Learning Resources.

**Moved by** Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve revised Policy 6163.1 Learning Resources, as amended.

AND FURTHER

Direct the Superintendent to prepare corresponding learning resources, administrative regulation for review by the Board of Education in April 2024.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**C.4. Trustee Kwan**

Trustee Baillaut provided rationale for the motion.

**Moved by** Trustee Baillaut

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Board Chair to write a letter to the Ministry of Education and Child Care with a request for additional funding for staff to complete DEI training in line with the K-12 Anti Racism action plan.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

**D. NOTICE OF MOTION**

None.

**E. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by** Trustee David

That the meeting adjourn.

**Motion Carried Unanimously**

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.