



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

Regular Board Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, October 28, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

- Trustees Present: Nicole Duncan, Board Chair, Karin Kwan, Vice-Chair, Natalie Baillaut, Mavis David, Derek Gagnon, Emily Mahbobi, Rob Paynter
- Trustee Regrets: Angela Carmichael, Diane McNally
- Administration: Deb Whitten, Superintendent of Schools, Katrina Stride, Secretary-Treasurer, Tom Aerts, Associate Superintendent, Sean Powell, Acting Associate Superintendent, Julie Lutner, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Marni Vistisen-Harwood, Director of Facilities Services, Vicki Roberts, VPVPA
- Partners: Shawna Abbott, CUPE 947, Carolyn Howe, GVTA, Braden Hutchins, VCPAC, Darren Reed, CUPE 382
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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 Baillaut
Seconded by Trustee David

That the October 28, 2024 agenda be approved.

Amendment

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi
Seconded by Trustee Baillaut

That the motion "*That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide the Board and the Equity Ad Hoc Committee with a break down of student to staff incident for each Elementary school;*

AND FURTHER

Break down each elementary schools data into student to staff incident in English track and student to staff incident in French track and within these categories indicate the number of students with an IEP, a designation (indicate the designation) or an assigned learning support (note the nature of the assigned learning support) by timeline to be determined.” be added to the agenda under H.1. New Business.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Baillaut
Seconded by Trustee David

That the October 28, 2024 agenda be approved as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Approval of the September 23, 2024 Regular Board Minutes

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi
Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the September 23, 2024 Regular Board minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

- b. Approval of the October 1, 2024 Special Open Board Minutes

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi
Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the October 1, 2024 Special Open Board minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

- c. Approval of the October 10, 2024 Special Open Board Minutes

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi
Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the October 10, 2024 Special Open Board minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

A.5. District Presentations

None.

A.6. Community Presentations

- a. Emma Hillian did not attend the meeting to make a presentation.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1. Chair's Report

- a. Chair's Report

Chair Duncan presented her report for information.

C.2. Trustees' Reports

None.

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1. Education Policy and Directions Committee

- a. Draft minutes from the October 7, 2024 meeting – information only
- b. Recommended motion from the October 7, 2024 meeting:

Associate Superintendent Aerts presented revised Regulation 6163.1 *Learning Resources*.

Trustees suggested revisions to the Regulation.

Amendment to the Regulation

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

Insert at II, 4.b.v. The requester will be invited to make representations to the Board with respect to their request for reconsideration.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Amendment to the Regulation

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee Baillaut

Insert at II, 6. The Superintendent or designate will be responsible for communicating the decision to the schools in the District as appropriate.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Amendment to the Regulation

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

Insert at II, b.iv.iii. Any other relevant information that was gathered during the District Level process **or that the Board requests**.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Kwan
Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

D.2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

- a. Draft minutes from the October 21, 2024 meeting – information only

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 Kwan
Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustee Baillaut left the meeting.

- b. 2024-2025 Elementary School Plans

Superintendent Whitten provided the 2024-2025 Elementary School Plans for approval.

Trustees and Partners had questions of clarification.

Moved by Trustee Kwan
Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to work with the principal of each elementary school in the school district to ensure that;

1. The School Plan is presented to each respective school parent advisory council (PAC) along with request for PAC input;
2. To identify and then ensure there are common objectives and measures in place and tracked throughout the 2024-2025 school year in alignment with the Boards strategic plan;

AND FURTHER

Upon completion of this work to present the revised elementary school plans to the Board.

Trustees and Partners discussed the motion.

Amendment

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to work with the principal of each elementary school in the school district to ensure that;

1. The School Plan is presented to each respective school parent advisory council (PAC) along with request for PAC input;
2. To identify and then ensure there are common objectives and measures in place and tracked throughout the 2024~~5~~-202~~5~~⁶ school year in alignment with the Boards strategic plan;

AND FURTHER

Upon completion of this work to present the revised elementary school plans to the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to work with the principal of each elementary school in the school district to ensure that;

1. The School Plan is presented to each respective school parent advisory council (PAC) along with request for PAC input;
2. To identify and then ensure there are common objectives and measures in place and tracked throughout the 2025-2026 school year in alignment with the Boards strategic plan;

AND FURTHER

Upon completion of this work to present the revised elementary school plans to the Board.

Motion Carried Unanimously

c. Equity Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference

Associate Superintendent Aerts provided rationale for the revised Equity Ad Hoc Committee Terms of Reference.

Trustees and Partners discussed the Terms of Reference and suggested revisions.

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi

Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Equity Ad Hoc Committee.

Amendment to the Terms of Reference

Moved by Trustee Gagnon

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

Add the word 'accessible' to the paragraph under Purpose.

Purpose:

The Equity Ad Hoc Board Committee is an ad hoc committee established by the Board for the purpose of examining the practices of the District to determine the extent to which equitable justice, equity, diversity, inclusive (JEDI) and **accessible** policies, practices, and culture opportunities are being provided for students and staff.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi

Seconded by Trustee Gagnon

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Equity Ad Hoc Committee, as amended.

Motion Carried Unanimously

d. Trustee Questions

None.

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. Monthly Report

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided the report for information.

Moved by Trustee David

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

b. Poll Vote Results

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided a memo outlining the poll vote results from October 3, 2024.

Moved by Trustee Duncan

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Caledonia Gas Distribution Disposal (Right-of-Way) of Real Property Bylaw 25-01, being a bylaw to grant a Statutory Right-of-Way to FortisBC Energy on such portion of the Property shown in bold outline on Explanatory Plan EPP140972 on the Caledonia Redevelopment property beside Victoria High School legally described as PID: 031-731-848, Lot A, Sections 50 and

53 Spring Ridge, Victoria City, District Plan EPP88786 in respect of civil infrastructure associated with the distribution of gas by FortisBC Energy and related works:

Read a third time, passed and adopted this 3rd day of October, 2024;

and that the Secretary-Treasurer and the Board Chair be authorized to execute and seal this bylaw on behalf of the Board.

For (5): Trustees Duncan, Gagnon, Mahbobi, McNally and Paynter

Against (1): Trustee Kwan

Abstain (2): Trustees Baillaut, David

Motion Carried (5 to 1)

c. 2024-2025 Enrolment Update

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided the 2024-2025 enrolment update for information.

Trustees had questions of clarification.

d. 2025-2026 Budget Development Process

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided the 2025-2026 Budget Development Process for approval.

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) approve the 2025-2026 Budget Development Process with the following changes:

1. Student Connections will be scheduled for 2 hours each and open to any student that wishes to participate, the key themes arising from each of the eight secondary school 2023-24 student connections will be provided to middle and secondary students in advance of the event;
2. Two Partner Connections meetings with the Board will be scheduled with each partner after the proposed staff expenditures and reductions are provided and another prior to the Board's 2025-2026 budget deliberations;
3. The Superintendent will ensure that all proposed options from staff for both expenditures and reductions are presented to the Board at the earliest possible stage in the 2025-2026 budget development process.
4. A Budget 2025-2026 bulletin/newsletter summarizing the Board's budget decision will be sent out directly to our entire learning community.

Motion Carried Unanimously

F. QUESTION PERIOD

Q: When making student safety decisions, does the board review data within "Worrisome Online Behaviour Reports" (WOB) or related monthly trend data summaries of the program?

A: Chair Duncan stated that the Board is not involved in regular monitoring of WOB reports. Staff is responsible for sharing information with the Board at an in-camera meeting, as needed. Safe Schools Coordinator, Acting Associate Superintendent Powell, confirmed that staff receive the WOB reports, review the data, and work with District counselors to support students in schools.

Q: Will the Board continue to make the Annual Strategic Working Plan available on the website?

A: Chair Duncan stated that the Board will continue to make the work plan available to the public. It was noted that there has been a delay in providing the work plan as the Board is working through some revisions with staff.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

G.1. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – September 19, 2024

G.2. Record of In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – September 23, 2024

G.3. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting - October 1, 2024

G.4. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – October 10, 2024

G.5. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – October 21, 2024

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H.1. New Business

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi

Seconded by Trustee Kwan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide the Board and the Equity Ad Hoc Committee with a break down of student to staff incident for each Elementary school;

AND FURTHER

Break down each elementary schools data into student to staff incident in English track and student to staff incident in French track and within these categories indicate the number of students with an IEP, a designation (indicate the designation) or an assigned learning support (note the nature of the assigned learning support) by timeline to be determined.

Trustees, Partners and Staff discussed the motion.

Amendment

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide the Board and the Equity Ad Hoc Committee with a break down of student to staff incident for each Elementary school;

AND FURTHER

Break down each elementary schools data into student to staff incident in English track and student to staff incident in French track and within these categories indicate the number of students with an IEP, a designation (indicate the designation) ~~or an assigned learning support (note the nature of the assigned learning support)~~ by the November 18, 2024 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Trustees discussed the amended motion.

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi
Seconded by Trustee Kwan

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to provide the Board and the Equity Ad Hoc Committee with a break down of student to staff incident for each Elementary school;

AND FURTHER

Break down each elementary school's data into student to staff incident in English track and student to staff incident in French track and within these categories indicate the number of students with an IEP, a designation (indicate the designation) by the November 18, 2024 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

For (4): Trustees David, Duncan, Kwan, and Mahbobi
Abstain (2): Trustees Gagnon, Paynter

Chair Duncan declared that the Motion Carried.

The status of the motion was questioned and upon advice from the Secretary-Treasurer Chair Duncan declared that the Motion Failed.

It was subsequently determined that Chair Duncan's initial declaration was accurate and the Motion Carried. The Superintendent was directed to provide the requested information.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H.2. Notice of Motions

None.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi
Seconded by Trustee David

That the meeting be adjourned.

For (4): Trustees David, Gagnon, Mahbobi and Paynter
Against (1): Trustee Duncan
Abstain (1): Trustee Kwan

Motion Carried (4 to 1)

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer