



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Regular Board Meeting
MINUTES**

**Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road
Monday, November 24, 2025, 6:30 p.m.**

Official Trustee:	Sherri Bell
Administration:	Deb Whitten, Superintendent, Katrina Stride, Secretary-Treasurer, Tom Aerts, Deputy Superintendent, Sean Powell, Associate Superintendent, Marni Vistisen-Harwood, Director of Facilities Services, Mike Knudson, Director of Human Resource Services, Josh Barks, Acting District Principal Information Technology, David Hovis, Director of Instruction, Sean McCartney, Director of Instruction, Shelly Wilton, Director of Indigenous Education, Sarah Winkler, VPVPA
Songhees Nation:	Anevay Quocksister, Student Success Manager
Partners:	Markus Lyth, CUPE 382, Shawna Abbott, CUPE 947, Carolyn Howe, GVTA, Saloumeh Pourmalek, VCPAC

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

Official Trustee Bell 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

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the November 24, 2025 agenda be approved.

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Approval of the October 6, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the October 6, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes be approved.

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

A.5. District Celebrations

- a. Deputy Superintendent Aerts introduced Manager Health, Safety and Wellbeing Rob Clark who presented on the WorkSafeBC Certificate of Recognition (COR).
- b. Associate Superintendent Powell introduced Principal Topher Macintosh who presented on Monterey Middle School's 2025 Terry Fox Run.

A.6. Community Presentations

None.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

C. OFFICAL TRUSTEE REPORT

C.1. Monthly Report

Official Trustee Bell provided a verbal report:

- Visited Vic West Elementary School
- Ongoing participation on BCSTA Policy Committee
- Planning to attend the BCSTA Trustee Academy in Vancouver
- Attended the Audit Sub-Committee meeting
- Facilitated the Partners of SD61 meeting where the 2026-2027 Budget Development Process was discussed

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1. Audit Sub-Committee Report

- a. September 2025 Quarterly Financial Report

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided the report for information.

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the Official Trustee of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept the September 2025 Quarterly Financial Report as presented to the Audit Sub-Committee.

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1. Superintendent's Report

a. Monthly Report

Superintendent Whitten provided the report for information.

b. 2025-2026 Middle School Goals (School Plans)

Superintendent Whitten provided the 2025-2026 Middle School Goals (School Plans) for approval.

The Official Trustee had questions of clarification.

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the Official Trustee of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the 2025-2026 Middle School Plans as presented.

c. Revision and/or Deletion of Board Policies

Superintendent Whitten provided rationale for revised Policy 5131.0 Student, Staff and Volunteer Safety and the deletion of Board policies 5131.1 to 5131.7.

Partners had questions of clarification.

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the Official Trustee of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve revised Policy 5131.0 Student, Staff and Volunteer Safety.

AND FURTHER

That the Official Trustee of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the deletion of the following Board Policies:

Policy 5131.1 Discipline

Policy 5131.2 Threats to Students, Employees, or Volunteer/Sponsors

Policy 5131.3 Prohibition of Weapons in Schools

Policy 5141.4 Substance Abuse

Policy 5131.5 Smoking

Policy 5131.6 Student Attendance

Policy 5131.7 Student Suspensions

Superintendent Whitten provided rationale for the deletion of Board policies.

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the Official Trustee of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the deletion of the following Board Policies:

Policy 1324.3 School Facilities – Games of Chance

Policy 1325.2 Fundraising

Policy 6142.02 Fine Arts Program

Policy 6142.03 Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Fine Arts

Policy 6165.3 Construction Programs for Students

d. New Administrative Regulation 5141.2 Responding to Unexpected Health Emergencies

Superintendent Whitten provided Administrative Regulation 5141.2 Responding to Unexpected Health Emergencies for information.

Partners had questions of clarification.

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the Official Trustee of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accept new Administrative Regulation 5141.2 Responding to Unexpected Health Emergencies.

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. 2026-2027 Budget Update

i. 2026-2027 Budget Development Process

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided the 2026-2027 Budget Development Process for approval.

Partners had questions of clarification.

The Official Trustee passed the following motion:

That the Official Trustee of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the 2026-2027 Budget Development Process.

b. Spectrum – Artificial Turf Field Update

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided an update.

c. Monthly Financial Report: October 2025

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided the October 2025 report for information.

d. Monthly Budget Change Report: October 2025

Secretary-Treasurer Stride provided the October 2025 report for information.

F. QUESTION PERIOD

None.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

G.1. Record of In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – October 6, 2025

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS

H.1. New Business

None.

H.2. Notice of Motions

None.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The Official Trustee adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Official Trustee

Secretary-Treasurer