



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

Regular Board Meeting

AGENDA

Monday, October 19, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

Broadcasted via YouTube

<https://bit.ly/3czx8bA>

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

This meeting is being audio and video recorded. The video can be viewed on the District website.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2. Approval of the Agenda

Recommended Motion:
That the October 19, 2026 agenda be approved.

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

Recommended Motion:
That the September 28, 2026 minutes be approved.

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

A.5. Community Presentations

B. CORRESPONDENCE

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1. Chair's Report

- a. Chair's Report

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- a. Draft minutes from the October 13, 2026 meeting – information only
- b. Recommended motions from the October 13, 2026 meeting.

Revised Draft Policy 5145

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) approve Revised Draft Policy 5145 Police Questioning of Students in School.

Policy 1300 Acceptable Use of Technology and Regulation 1300.3 Student Acceptable Use of Digital Technology

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or delegate to review Policy 1300 and Regulation 1300.3 and to recommend changes to support students to use their own devices to access educational materials at school by the December 2026 Board meeting.

Budget Transparency

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) amend Policy 3501 Annual Operating Budget by adding the following statement: School annual operating budgets will be made available upon request without the need to submit a request for information under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or designate to amend Administrative Procedure 3501: Annual Operating Budget to ensure that the annual budget development process includes meaningful consultation with Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the IEC, the District's Partners Table and the public, including at least one publicly advertised town hall and one Partners Table meeting; that the District form a Budget Advisory Committee to review and make recommendations on the proposed budget; that relevant budget information be made available in advance of consultation; and that a summary of feedback received through the consultation process be published and provided to the Board prior to final budget deliberations.

Climate: Waste Management and Procurement

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) make the following amendments to Policy 4216.22 Energy, Environment and Climate Change:

POLICY 4216.22 ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Board of Education takes it as its responsibility to ensure that every effort is made to conserve energy and resources in order to reduce the District's carbon foot print. This requires an ongoing, integrated and systematic approach to energy management, including assessing performance, setting **measurable** goals, ~~creating~~ **updating and being accountable to a Climate Action Plan**, and tracking and communicating results.

Greenhouse emission reduction is the joint responsibility of the trustees, administrators, staff, and students. Every employee is expected to be cognizant of their energy use and contribute to energy efficiencies.

In concert with the Facilities department, it will be the school-based principal's responsibility to ensure the judicious use of resources and the school's various energy systems in order that energy efficiency is maintained on a daily basis.

The Board of Education will endeavor to comply with and, where practicable, exceed all applicable legislation, regulations and codes of practice.

Our Guiding Principles:

1. To integrate environmentally sustainable considerations into all our business decisions.
2. To ensure staff, students, and parents are fully aware of our policy, actions and results.
3. To make suppliers and clients aware of our policy and encourage them to adopt sound sustainable environmental management practices.
4. To review, report and continually strive to improve our environmental sustainability performance.

Greater Victoria School District

Adopted: October 20, 2008

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1. Superintendent's Report

E.2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

a. 2026-2027 Student Enrollment Report

F. QUESTION PERIOD (15 minutes total)

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

G.1. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – October 1, 2026

That the Board of Education of Greater Victoria School District (No. 61) confirm Cindy Romphf's appointment for the purposes of taking a minute and recording the decisions of the Board at the September 28, 2026 Board meeting; AND FURTHER That the Board ratify and affirm that appointment and all motions passed and adopted by the Board at the September 28, 2026 Board meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTION

H.1. New Business

H.2. Notice of Motions

I. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.



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

Monday, September 28, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

Broadcasted via YouTube

<https://bit.ly/3czx8bA>

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

Trustee Regrets: Derek Gagnon

Administration:

Songhees Nation: Anevay Quocksister - Student Success Manager

Partners: Shawna Abbott – CUPE 947, Norman Isaac – CUPE 382,
Kaitlyn Schafer, GVTA, Saloumeh Pourmalek, VCPAC

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

This meeting began at 6:32 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

Chair Duncan welcomed the American Sign Language interpreters, Jen Wilson and Jill Yates.

Motion: That the September 28, 2026 agenda be approved.

Moved by Trustee McNally

Seconded by Trustee Kwan

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A.3. Approval of the Minutes

a. Approval of the June 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi

Seconded by Trustee Kwan

That the June 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes be approved.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Carmichael

Seconded by Trustee Baillaut

C 1.a Chair Duncan ~~thanked Members of the board...~~ *welcomed back the democratically elected Board and shared her gratitude that Greater Victoria school district is no longer the only school district in the province without a democratically elected Board.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amended Motion: That the June 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. That the July 20, 2026 Special Board Meeting minutes be approved.

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Carmichael

That the July 20, 2026 Special Board Meeting minutes be approved.

Amendment:

C 1. *Superintendent's Report*

c. *After "Superintendent Whitten responded that the Board has received the information collected from schools as per the Safety Plan. add "which was limited to a record of non-emergency and 911 calls to police"*

A.2. *That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to reallocate funding for the 2026/2027 school year to restore the following programs:*

- *Middle School Music (\$107,999);*
- *Pathways & Partnerships – Career Centers (\$148,498); and*
- *Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) in Kindergarten Classes (\$56,433).*

And further that the funding reallocation be taken sequentially from the following sources:

1. *Additional funds raised through the Mt. Doug students'*

- fundraiser (to be applied exclusively to the Middle School Music allocation);*
- 2. A 100% reduction in Trustee expenses, office, and supply budgets;*
 - 3. Up to 30% reduction in the office and supply budgets for District Administration and District Departments; and*
 - 4. The District's Accumulated Surplus, if necessary, to cover any remaining balance.*

And further, report back to the Board how much will be taken from these 4 sources.

That "The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Caledonia Truck Turnaround Disposal (Right-of-Way) of Real Property Bylaw 26-01" be:

*Read a third time, passed and adopted this 18th day of June, 2026.
Poll Vote Result: Defeated*

Moved by Trustee Kwan
Seconded by Trustee Paynter

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

That the July 20, 2026 Special Board Meeting minutes be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A.4. Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising from the minutes was raised.

A.5. 2025-2026 Audit Findings Report, Lenora Lee, KPMG, Auditors Presentation

Lenora Lee of KPMG presented the 2025–2026 audit findings, with colleague Ayomide Kolawole-Osafehinti present.

A.6. Community Presentations

- a. GVTA Violence Report – Kaitlyn Schafer, Greater Victoria Teachers Association
- b. GVTA Violence Report – Tara Ehrcke, Greater Victoria Teachers Association

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1. September 23, 2026, Tracy Humphreys to Trustees, Mandatory Reporting

C. TRUSTEE REPORTS

C.1. Chair's Report

a. Chair's Report

Chair Duncan welcomed the school community back and extended gratitude to all staff who have been working diligently to welcome back and help students get a good start to the school year. She acknowledged the September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and the children who did not return from residential schools, survivors, families, and communities. She clarified that trustees had received anonymous letters submitted in connection with the GVTA report. Although anonymous letters are not included in public agenda packages, she confirmed that trustees had received the letters.

b. "This should not be the norm: an examination of teachers' experience with violence in schools"

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee McNally

Move into a committee of the whole to discuss the GVTA report and a process for considering its recommendations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion of GVTA Recommendations

The committee discussed how recommendations might be addressed through the District Health and Safety Committee, Board policy work, or a forum involving partner groups and Rightsholders. It was noted that some recommendations span learning conditions, space, student safety, and policy, while staff and students also need near-term responses. Other participants discussed earlier assessment and support for students, the availability of suitable spaces, student-to-student incident data, staffing and provincial resources. It was proposed that further dialogue and discussion of a possible Board-level process could take place at a standing committee meeting.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

Motion: Rise from a committee of the whole.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

D.1. Education Policy and Directions Committee

a. Motion A

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi

Seconded by Trustee Baillaut

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or delegate to collaborate with Registered Sign Language Interpreters (RSLI), Deaf and hard of hearing students, parents, caregivers and guardians, VCPAC, CUPE 947, CUPE 382, GVTA, VPVPA, IEC, POPDHH and Ministry partners to explore the design and implementation of permanent RSLI positions within an integrated team structure. And further, that the Superintendent or delegate provide a progress update to the Board by January 2027 regarding the status of these consultations and any proposed framework.

The Board discussed the motion. Partners shared their perspectives on the motion.

Amendment:

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi

Seconded by Trustee Baillaut

Amend the motion to include Rights Holders to the list of parties to be engaged by Superintendent or delegate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or delegate to collaborate with Registered Sign Language Interpreters (RSLI), Deaf and hard of hearing students, parents, caregivers and guardians, VCPAC, CUPE 947, CUPE 382, GVTA, VPVPA, IEC, POPDHH, Rights Holders, and Ministry partners to explore the design and implementation of permanent RSLI positions within an integrated team structure. And further, that the Superintendent or delegate provide a progress update to the Board by January 2027 regarding the status of these consultations and any proposed framework.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Motion B

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or delegate to establish a working group to include, but not limited to, student representatives, parents, teachers, VCPAC appointed parent reps, CUPE 947 reps, and CUPE 382 reps, and external specialists, to review Policy and Regulation 5140.1 Child Abuse, and report with recommendations not later than the January 2027 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting, with consideration for:

1. the provision of annual, developmentally age-appropriate instruction, and culturally responsive training on child sexual abuse prevention to all students;

2. provision of regular in-service professional development for all staff who engage regularly with students;
3. guidance material for staff that meets current legal requirements, includes emerging online harms and non-consensual distribution of intimate images, and facilitates trauma-informed support for students at risk or reporting abuse; and,
4. the provision of relevant guidance material to parents and caregivers via the district website.
5. Provision of information to students regarding the post disclosure process when the abuse is or is not familial.
6. Developmentally appropriate information regarding the fact that there is no statute of limitations in Canada for filing criminal charges or a civil suit in regards to sexual abuse.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee McNally

Amendments

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded Trustee McNally

Amendments:

Amend the motion to add “*Rights Holders,*” and *Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre and the Canadian Centre for Child Protection* to the working group, and remove “age” from #1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or delegate to establish a working group to include, but not limited to, student representatives, parents, teachers, VCPAC appointed parent reps, CUPE 947 reps, and CUPE 382 reps, Rights holders and external specialists including Victoria Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling Centre and the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, to review Policy and Regulation 5140.1 Child Abuse, and report with recommendations not later than the January 2027 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting, with consideration for:

1. the provision of annual, developmentally appropriate instruction, and culturally responsive training on child sexual abuse prevention to all students;
2. provision of regular in-service professional development for all staff who engage regularly with students;
3. guidance material for staff that meets current legal requirements, includes emerging online harms and non-consensual distribution of intimate images, and facilitates trauma-informed support for students at risk or reporting abuse; and,
4. the provision of relevant guidance material to parents and caregivers via the district website.
5. Provision of information to students regarding the post disclosure process when the abuse is or is not familial.
6. Developmentally appropriate instruction regarding the fact that there is no statute of limitations in Canada for filing criminal charges or a civil suit in regards to sexual abuse.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D.2. Operations Policy and Planning Committee

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) amend Policy 1330 Community Use of Operational Schools and Grounds, to include the following statement to Principles and Goals:

Greater Victoria School District grounds and facilities are first and foremost a safe, equitable and inclusive learning environment for all students and staff. Facility use must align with the principles of equity, inclusion, and respect, ensuring that all participants feel safe and welcomed.

And the following statement to Conditions and Standards:

The District will not rent space to groups or individuals that promote hatred, violence, discrimination or bias against any groups or individuals based on prohibited grounds of discrimination under the Human Rights Code.

And further direct the following stipulations be added to standard Rental Conditions:

The School District reserves the right to terminate any rental agreement:

- If the event, its organizers, or associated individuals engage in or promote activities that are found to be discriminatory, exclusionary, or harmful to marginalized groups.
- If the user, their organization, or key affiliates are found to have engaged in conduct, publicly or privately, that promote, or support hate speech, discrimination, or violence against any group or individual whether within or outside the context of the rental.
- If misrepresentation of the event or violation of these principles is identified prior to or during the event, the School District reserves full discretion to cancel the agreement without refund and deny future rental requests.

Moved by Trustee Carmichael

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D.3. Audit Sub-Committee

a. 2025-2026 Financial Year End

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the 2025-2026 Audit Findings Report as presented.

Moved by Trustee Kwan

Seconded by Trustee Paynter

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the appropriation of \$16,713,392 of the operating surplus as follows:

- 1) internally restricted \$14,713,392, and
- 2) unrestricted (contingency) \$2,000,000.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee Baillaut

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the Audited Financial Statements of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) for the year ended June 30, 2026;

AND FURTHER,

that the Board of Education, the Superintendent and the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to affix their signatures to the statements, where applicable, on behalf of the Board.

Moved by Trustee Baillaut

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis Report for the year ended June 30, 2026.

Moved by: Trustee Kwan

Seconded: Trustee Paynter

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) accepts the Multi-Year Financial Plan 2026-2029.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS

E.1. Reports

- a. Anaphylaxis Aggregate Report 2025-2026
The 2025–2026 anaphylaxis aggregate report was received for information.
- b. Enhancing Student Learning Annual Report 2026-2027

Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approve the Enhancing Student Learning Interim Progress Report, as presented.

Moved by Trustee Mahbobi

Seconded by Trustee Carmichael

Trustee and partners discussed the proposed motion.

For: Duncan, Kwan, Paynter, Mahbobi, Baillaut, Carmichael

Abstention: McNally

CARRIED

- c. Trustee Questions

F. QUESTION PERIOD (15 minutes total)

Q: Why were students with disabilities or diverse abilities identified as a priority population in the Enhancing Student Learning report and included in the data but were largely absent from the analysis and responses?

A: A response could not be provided in the meeting. The requestor will be contacted directly by staff to provide a response.

G. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

- G.1. Record of In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – June 15, 2026**
- G.2. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – June 19, 2026**
- G.3. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – June 30, 2026**
- G.4. Record of Special In-Camera Board of Education Meeting – July 20, 2026**

H. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTION

H.1. New Business

H.2. Notice of Motions

I. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

Seconded by Trustee Mahbobi

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

DRAFT



The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Combined Education Policy and Directions and
Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting
MINUTES
Tuesday, October 13, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

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

Operations Policy and Planning Committee members: Rob Paynter (Chair), Angela Carmichael, Karin Kwan

Administration: Scot Hooker, Interim Secretary-Treasurer

Songhees Nation: Anevey Belliveau, Student Success Manager

Partners: Shawna Abbott, CUPE 947, Norman Isaac, CUPE 382, Chris Clarke, GVTA, Nellie Lamb, GVTA, Kendall Salahub, VCPAC

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

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 Combined Education Policy and Directions and Operations Policy and Planning Committees meeting agenda

Moved by Trustee David

That the October 13, 2026 Combined Education Policy and Directions and Operations Policy and Planning Committees meeting agenda be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

B. EDUCATION POLICY AND DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE

B.1. Approval of the Minutes

Combined Education Policy and Directions and
Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting October 13, 2026
Board of Education Meeting October 13, 2026

Moved by Trustee Baillaut

That the September 14, 2026 Education Policy and Directions Committee meeting minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

B.2. Business Arising from Minutes

None.

C. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

None.

D. NEW BUSINESS

D.1. Revised Draft Policy 5145

The motion was discussed by Trustees, Rightsholders and Partners.

Moved by Trustee Baillaut

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) approve Revised Draft Policy 5145 Police Questioning of Students in School.

Motion Carried Unanimously

D.2. Policy 1300 Acceptable Use of Technology and Regulation 1300.3 Student Acceptable Use of Digital Technology

The motion was discussed by Trustees and Partners.

Moved by Trustee Baillaut

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or delegate to review Policy 1300 and Regulation 1300.3 and to recommend changes to support students to use their own devices to access educational materials at school by the December 2026 Board meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

E. NOTICE OF MOTION

None.

F. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

G. OPERATIONS POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

G.1. Approval of the Minutes

Combined Education Policy and Directions and
Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting October 13, 2026
Board of Education Meeting October 19, 2026

Moved by Trustee Carmichael

That the September 21, 2026 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting minutes be approved.

Motion Carried Unanimously

G.2. Business Arising from Minutes

None.

H. PRESENTATIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

None.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

None.

J. PERSONNEL ITEMS

None.

K. FINANCE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

None.

L. FACILITIES PLANNING

None.

M. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

None.

N. NEW BUSINESS

N.1. Budget Transparency

The motion was discussed by Trustees, Rightsholders and Partners.

Moved by Trustee Duncan

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) amend Policy 3501 Annual Operating Budget by adding the following statement: School annual operating budgets will be made available upon request without the need to submit a request for information under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Motion Carried

For (3): Trustees Carmichael, Duncan, Kwan
Abstain (1): Trustee Paynter

The motion was discussed by Trustees, Rightsholders and Partners.

Moved by Trustee Kwan

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or designate to amend Administrative Procedure 3501: Annual Operating Budget to ensure that the annual budget development process includes meaningful consultation with the District's Partners Table and the public, including at least one publicly advertised town hall and one Partners Table meeting; that the District form a Budget Advisory Committee to review and make recommendations on the proposed budget; that relevant budget information be made available in advance of consultation; and that a summary of feedback received through the consultation process be published and provided to the Board prior to final budget deliberations.

Amendment

Moved by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or designate to amend Administrative Procedure 3501: Annual Operating Budget to ensure that the annual budget development process includes meaningful consultation with **Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the IEC**, the District's Partners Table and the public, including at least one publicly advertised town hall and one Partners Table meeting; that the District form a Budget Advisory Committee to review and make recommendations on the proposed budget; that relevant budget information be made available in advance of consultation; and that a summary of feedback received through the consultation process be published and provided to the Board prior to final budget deliberations.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Moved by Trustee Kwan

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent or designate to amend Administrative Procedure 3501: Annual Operating Budget to ensure that the annual budget development process includes meaningful consultation with Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the IEC, the District's Partners Table and the public, including at least one publicly advertised town hall and one Partners Table meeting; that the District form a Budget Advisory Committee to review and make recommendations on the proposed budget; that relevant budget information be made available in advance of consultation; and that a summary of feedback received through the consultation process be published and provided to the Board prior to final budget deliberations.

Motion Carried Unanimously

N.2. Climate: Waste Management and Procurement

The motion was discussed by Trustees and Partners.

Moved by Trustee Kwan

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) make the following amendments to Policy 4216.22 Energy, Environment and Climate Change:

POLICY 4216.22 ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Board of Education takes it as its responsibility to ensure that every effort is made to conserve energy and resources in order to reduce the District's carbon foot print. This requires an ongoing, integrated and systematic approach to energy management, including assessing performance, setting **measurable** goals, **creating updating and being accountable to a Climate Action Plan**, and tracking and communicating results.

Greenhouse emission reduction is the joint responsibility of the trustees, administrators, staff, and students. Every employee is expected to be cognizant of their energy use and contribute to energy efficiencies.

In concert with the Facilities department, it will be the school-based principal's responsibility to ensure the judicious use of resources and the school's various energy systems in order that energy efficiency is maintained on a daily basis.

The Board of Education will endeavor to comply with and, where practicable, exceed all applicable legislation, regulations and codes of practice.

Our Guiding Principles:

1. To integrate environmentally sustainable considerations into all our business decisions.
2. To ensure staff, students, and parents are fully aware of our policy, actions and results.
3. To make suppliers and clients aware of our policy and encourage them to adopt sound sustainable environmental management practices.
4. To review, report and continually strive to improve our environmental sustainability performance.

Greater Victoria School District

Adopted: October 20, 2008

Motion Carried Unanimously

The motion was discussed by Trustees and Partners.

Moved by Trustee Paynter

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) make the following amendments to Policy 3324 The Environment:

POLICY 3324 THE ENVIRONMENT

Rationale

As of August 2026, Policy 3324 has not been updated since 1990. In that time, the climate crisis has become a reality due to emissions of greenhouse gases. The Board of School Trustees recognizes the importance of taking serious climate action which includes: reducing actual greenhouse emissions, ensuring School District Policy and practice adhere to local environmental bylaws, and being a leader in the Greater Victoria community and the broader community of BC school districts.

The Board of School Trustees believes that the maintenance of our environment is necessary to the quality of our lives. Further, it believes that the district and its schools have the responsibility of fostering and reinforcing positive environmental concepts, concepts that will enhance the relationship between living things and their natural and built surroundings.

The introduction of these concepts must begin early in the life of each child in order to develop a responsible environmental ethic which will be sustained throughout life.

Policy

A. ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES

1. *Purchasing*

~~a. Where feasible, and~~ At all School District 61 work sites, products shall be purchased that are manufactured from recycled materials.

Paper must be 100% post-consumer recycled or FSC-certified (Forest Stewardship Council) recycled. Electronics must be ENERGY STAR, EPEAT (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool), or equivalent certified when replaced.

b. The purchase of single-use plastic items is prohibited at all School District 61 work sites, except where required for accessibility, health, or safety purposes. The purchase of the following items is prohibited without exception: single-use plastic cutlery, straws, and cups; single-use or plastic promotional items/swag.

c. ~~b. Where products are similar in function, the following criteria will be prioritized in purchasing, in order of importance, (1) not burning fossil fuels in any aspect of daily function, (2) locally manufactured and/or sold, (3) made of renewable non-plastic materials, and (4) energy efficiency that is the least~~

~~harmful to the environment shall be purchased.~~

2. *Waste Management*

- a. The district shall substantially reduce paper waste.
- b. The district shall foster environmental practices based on the concepts: reduce, reuse, recycle.

~~c. Where feasible, waste products shall be recycled.~~ The District shall implement a full recycling and composting system at all School District 61 work sites. The program shall include outreach and educational materials to ensure its proper use. The District commits to ending the practice of sending recyclable and compostable materials to the landfill in the 2027-2028 school year budget.

d. The district shall encourage ~~the participation of staff, students and parents in~~ to use the recycling program. The program shall be implemented by custodial staff and will not rely on custodial, teacher, educational assistant (EA), principal or vice-principal, parent, or student volunteers.

3. *Facilities Management*

a. The district shall practice energy conservation in the operation of all facilities and equipment.

b. The district shall use, ~~where feasible,~~ environmentally friendly products for all facilities, equipment, and grounds. This means selecting the option with the lowest lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions and lowest amount of waste during operation and at end-of-life.

c. As of the 2027-2028 school year, the district shall no longer approve plans to install gas boilers in new buildings. Where the Ministry of Education will fund retrofitting or upgrading existing school heat systems, the District commits to phasing out existing gas boilers as they come to their end-of-life and replacing them with electric heating and cooling systems.

d. The District commits to reviewing and updating their Climate Action Plan annually with input from GVTA, CUPE 947, CUPE 382, parents, and students. The district will publish an annual report which evaluates progress towards the Climate Action Plan objectives, commitments, and annual district greenhouse gas emissions. The district will use a consistent methodology for measuring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions.

4. *Transportation*

A. By June 2028, the district shall ensure that each school site has covered and secure bike storage.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

1. *Integrated Environmental Studies*

a. The district shall foster the use of an environmental theme, at every level, as a focus for integrating existing curriculum.

b. The district shall encourage inclusion of environmental education resources in school library/resource centres.

2. *Environmental Studies*

a. The District shall encourage the inclusion of Ministry of Education and locally developed Environmental Studies course and/or units in the program offerings of schools.

3. *Environmental Field Trip Sites*

a. The district shall support learning activities that utilize a wide range of appropriate environmental field trips.

C. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

1. The district ~~encourages~~ **will** ~~consideration of~~ environmental impact in the planning of all operational and educational programs.

2. The district encourages school-based leadership in environmental education at each school.

3. The district shall respond to identified environmental education needs as resources permit, including such measures as:

- a. providing appropriate environmental resources to schools;
- b. providing instructional assistance and in-service to school personnel;
- c. coordinating appropriate community-district environmental initiatives.

4. The district will endeavour to work with community and government agencies in supporting good environmental practices.

Greater Victoria School District

Adopted: May 28, 1990

Moved by Trustee Kwan

That the motion "That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) make the following amendments to Policy 3324 The Environment:

POLICY 3324 THE ENVIRONMENT

Rationale

As of August 2026, Policy 3324 has not been updated since 1990. In that time, the climate crisis has become a reality due to emissions of greenhouse gases. The Board of School Trustees recognizes the importance of taking serious climate action which includes: reducing

actual greenhouse emissions, ensuring School District Policy and practice adhere to local environmental bylaws, and being a leader in the Greater Victoria community and the broader community of BC school districts.

The Board of School Trustees believes that the maintenance of our environment is necessary to the quality of our lives. Further, it believes that the district and its schools have the responsibility of fostering and reinforcing positive environmental concepts, concepts that will enhance the relationship between living things and their natural and built surroundings.

The introduction of these concepts must begin early in the life of each child in order to develop a responsible environmental ethic which will be sustained throughout life.

Policy

B. ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES

1. *Purchasing*

a. ~~Where feasible, and a~~At all School District 61 work sites, products shall be purchased that are manufactured from recycled materials.

Paper must be 100% post-consumer recycled or FSC-certified (Forest Stewardship Council) recycled. Electronics must be ENERGY STAR, EPEAT (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool), or equivalent certified when replaced.

b. The purchase of single-use plastic items is prohibited at all School District 61 work sites, except where required for accessibility, health, or safety purposes. The purchase of the following items is prohibited without exception: single-use plastic cutlery, straws, and cups; single-use or plastic promotional items/swag.

c. ~~Where products are similar in function, the following criteria will be prioritized in purchasing, in order of importance, (1) not burning fossil fuels in any aspect of daily function, (2) locally manufactured and/or sold, (3) made of renewable non-plastic materials, and (4) energy efficiency that is the least harmful to the environment shall be purchased.~~

2. *Waste Management*

a. The district shall substantially reduce paper waste.

b. The district shall foster environmental practices based on the concepts: reduce, reuse, recycle.

c. ~~Where feasible, waste products shall be recycled.~~ The District shall implement a full recycling and composting system at all School District 61 work sites. The program shall include outreach and educational materials to ensure its proper use. The District commits to ending the practice of sending recyclable and compostable materials to the landfill in the 2027-2028 school year budget.

d. The district shall encourage ~~the participation of staff, students and parents in~~ to use the recycling program. The program shall be implemented by custodial staff and will not rely on custodial, teacher, educational assistant (EA), principal or vice-principal, parent, or student volunteers.

3. *Facilities Management*

a. The district shall practice energy conservation in the operation of all facilities and equipment.

b. The district shall use, ~~where feasible~~, environmentally friendly products for all facilities, equipment, and grounds. This means selecting the option with the lowest lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions and lowest amount of waste during operation and at end-of-life.

c. As of the 2027-2028 school year, the district shall no longer approve plans to install gas boilers in new buildings. Where the Ministry of Education will fund retrofitting or upgrading existing school heat systems, the District commits to phasing out existing gas boilers as they come to their end-of-life and replacing them with electric heating and cooling systems.

d. The District commits to reviewing and updating their Climate Action Plan annually with input from GVTA, CUPE 947, CUPE 382, parents, and students. The district will publish an annual report which evaluates progress towards the Climate Action Plan objectives, commitments, and annual district greenhouse gas emissions. The district will use a consistent methodology for measuring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions.

4. *Transportation*

A. By June 2028, the district shall ensure that each school site has covered and secure bike storage.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

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3. *Environmental Field Trip Sites*

a. The district shall support learning activities that utilize a wide range

of appropriate environmental field trips.

D. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

4. The district encourages ~~will~~ consideration of environmental impact in the planning of all operational and educational programs.
5. The district encourages school-based leadership in environmental education at each school.
6. The district shall respond to identified environmental education needs as resources permit, including such measures as:
 - a. providing appropriate environmental resources to schools;
 - b. providing instructional assistance and in-service to school personnel;
 - c. coordinating appropriate community-district environmental initiatives.
4. The district will endeavour to work with community and government agencies in supporting good environmental practices.

Greater Victoria School District

Adopted: May 28, 1990" be referred to the November 16th, 2026
Operations Policy and Planning Committee Meeting.

Motion Carried Unanimously

O. NOTICE OF MOTION

None.

P. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

Q. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Kwan
That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

POLICY 5145

POLICE QUESTIONING OF STUDENTS IN SCHOOL

Adopted: []

Revised:

Frequency of Review: []

The Board of Education (the "Board") is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students. That commitment extends to the Board's responsibility to protect the interests and rights of students in its care in a manner consistent with the law.

The Board believes that school is not a proper place for the police to conduct interviews of students. Therefore, police interviews with students should not be conducted at school except in emergency situations. The Board of Education (the "Board") expects that unless there is an emergency School District staff will advise police to contact the students' parent(s)/guardian(s) by telephone and to make arrangements to interview a student.

The Board recognizes that in an emergency it may be necessary for the police to conduct an interview at school subject to the policies and regulations established by the Board and in accordance with the relevant law. An emergency is a sudden, urgent, and critical situation that poses an immediate threat to life, health, safety, or property, requiring immediate police intervention or enforcement action. In any case, the Board expects that School District staff act in compliance with the law and in accordance with Board policies and regulations to ensure the rights and interests of students are upheld.

The Board considers that it has a responsibility to protect the interests and rights of students in its care in a manner consistent with the law. School District staff should take immediate steps to inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) when a students' rights or interests are a matter of concern.

The Board expects that the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be contacted by telephone immediately upon the Administrator or their delegate receiving notice of the police request to interview a student. The Administrator or their delegate will inform the police that they should make arrangements to interview the student through that student's parent(s)/guardian(s).

- 1) In an emergency where the police insist on conducting an interview of a student at school the Administrator or their delegate should take the following actions as appropriate:

- i. Contact by telephone and wait for, in the following order of precedence: (a) the student's parent(s)/ guardian(s); (b) another adult relative; or (c) a trusted adult of the student's choosing.
- ii. Contact by telephone and wait for legal counsel for the student in question, including by assisting the student with accessing legal aid. In British Columbia, legal aid is freely available for youth under the age of 18 who face potential criminal sanctions.
- iii. Explain to the student that they are allowed to have both their lawyer and a parent, close relative, or trusted adult present when questioned by the police.
- iv. Ensure the student has been informed of their rights. The student should be informed of their rights immediately, in language appropriate to their level of understanding. These rights include the right to remain silent, the right to counsel, and the right to know why they are being detained. Nothing in this policy or any administrative regulation relieves police of their responsibility to provide any caution, rights information, explanation, or opportunity to consult with counsel or another person required by law.
- v. Ensure that the student is safe from violence, racially derogatory language, or otherwise abusive treatment of the student by the police. This includes, for instance, not requesting, authorizing, participating in, or facilitating unlawful, discriminatory, coercive, degrading, humiliating, abusive, or unnecessarily intrusive treatment of a student. the student being kept safe from the use of strip searches at school.
- vi. Document all police interactions with students, including the reason for the interaction, the individuals involved, and any outcomes.

Administrators or any other school district staff should not present themselves as the student's legal advocate, and should clarify this point to the student prior to the police interview. It is misrepresentation to claim to be a legal representative when you do not have this authority.

- 2) In rare circumstances, at the request of a student, or their parent(s)/ guardian(s), where the student is a victim of an alleged crime the police may be asked to attend the school to conduct an interview. In such a case the Administrator or their delegate will:
 - i) Consider whether there is a legal duty it is appropriate to notify the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), or to make other appropriate notifications such as those related to child protection; and
 - ii) Ensure that appropriate supports are provided to the student, such as from a counselor, Youth and Family Counselor (YFC), or social worker.

Financial Services

Julie Lutner – Associate Secretary-Treasurer

TO: The Board of Education

FROM: Julie Lutner, Associate Secretary-Treasurer

DATE: October 19, 2026

RE: **2026-2027 Enrolment Update**

Background

Baragar prepared the K-12 enrolment projections for the 2026-2027 school year in December 2025. Baragar provides enrolment planning software to over 100 school districts across Canada and the United States.

A team consisting of the Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Deputy Superintendent, Associate Superintendent and Director of Finance, Budgets and Financial Reporting reviewed Baragar's projections and made minor adjustments based on local knowledge. The projections were updated in February 2026 to reflect preliminary kindergarten registration data.

Enrolment projections for the Supplement for Unique Student Needs were developed using input from department heads, anticipated kindergarten enrolment, graduating grade 12 students, and other relevant factors that may affect enrolment. These projections were compared to the February 2026 enrolment snapshot to assess reasonableness.

The projections were submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care (the "Ministry") mid-February 2026. The Ministry used the enrolment projections to calculate the District's preliminary funding, which was used in the preparation of the Annual Budget.

The funding will be recalculated in December 2026, based on actual enrolments as at September 29, 2026. The revised funding is used in the preparation of the Amended Annual Budget.

The District also reports enrolment in July, February and May for specific funding purposes:

- July: Summer Learning and cross-enrolled Grade 8 and 9 students.
- February: Continuing Education and Distributed Learning, Inclusive Learning enrolment growth since September and Newcomer Refugee funding. Actual enrolments will not be available until April 2027 and are therefore excluded.
- May: Continuing Education and Distributed Learning. Actual enrolments will not be available until June 2027 and are therefore excluded.

This report compares actual enrolment as of September 29, 2026, with the 2026-2027 projections and actual enrolment as of September 29, 2025.

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

K-12 School-Aged Enrolment

Kindergarten to Grade 12 enrolment was 169.8 FTE (0.8%) below projections and 405.3 FTE (2.0%) below the prior year.

Kindergarten enrolment was 30.0 FTE above projections and 44.0 FTE above the prior year. Despite the increase in kindergarten, overall elementary enrolment was 100.0 FTE below projections and 397.0 FTE below the prior year.

Middle school enrolment was 68.0 FTE below projections but 33.0 FTE above the prior year.

Secondary enrolment was 35.0 FTE below projections and 46.9 FTE below the prior year. The variance from projections reflects a decrease of 29 students and a 6.0 FTE reduction resulting from a change in the headcount-to-FTE ratio.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 9 are funded at 1.0 FTE per student. Secondary students in Grades 10 to 12 are funded based on eligible courses taken, with 8 courses equivalent to 1.0 FTE. As students typically take more than 8 courses, funded FTE is generally higher than student headcount.

The table below compares the historical and projected headcount-to-FTE ratios for Grades 9 to 12.

Grade 9 to 12 Headcount-to-FTE Ratio					
2022-2023 Actual	2023-2024 Actual	2024-2025 Actual	2025-2026 Actual	2026-2027 Projected	2026-2027 Actual
1:1.097	1:1.090	1:1.103	1:1.107	1:1.100	1:1.0995

Supplement for Unique Student Needs

The District receives additional funding to support students with unique needs, recognizing that some students require additional supports or services to fully access and participate in educational programs. The table below compares actual enrolment in 2025–2026 with projected and actual enrolment for 2026–2027.

	2025-2026 Actual	2026-2027 Projected	2026-2027 Actual
Level 1 Inclusive Learning	20	18	16
Level 2 Inclusive Learning	1,223	1,200	1,317
Level 3 Inclusive Learning	464	465	408
English Language Learning	2,633	2,400	2,501
Indigenous Education	1,465	1,464	1,430
Adult Education (non-grad)	14.100	13.375	10.3125

Funding

The Ministry will announce recalculated funding, based on actual enrolment as of September 29, 2026, in mid-December. Any funding adjustments will be reflected in the revised deficit projection presented with the Amended Annual Budget in February.

Preliminary estimates show a decrease of \$1.5 million compared to budget due to school-age enrolment decline, an increase of \$0.2 million in English Language Learning due to higher enrolment than projected and an increase in Inclusive Learning funding of \$2.0 million due to more Level 2 Inclusive Learning students than projected.

The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
2026/2027 Enrolment as at September 29, 2026 (pending Ministry Sign-off)

	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL	FINAL		Pending Ministry Sign- off		
	2020/21 Actual FTE	2021/22 Actual FTE	2022/23 Actual FTE	2023/24 Actual FTE	2024/25 Actual FTE	2025/26 Actual FTE	2026/27 Projected FTE	2026/27 Actual FTE	2026/27 Actual vs 2026/27 Projected Enrolment	2026/27 Actual vs 2025/26 Actual Enrolment
						FTE				
Kindergarten - English	1,134.0	1,071.0	1,087.0	1,076.0	1,031.0	911.0	916.0	941.0	25.0	30.0
Kindergarten - French	334.0	365.0	317.0	314.0	326.0	284.0	293.0	298.0	5.0	14.0
	1,468.0	1,436.0	1,404.0	1,390.0	1,357.0	1,195.0	1,209.0	1,239.0	30.0	44.0
1 to 5 - English	5,704.0	5,928.0	5,972.0	6,073.0	6,111.0	5,974.0	5,705.0	5,572.0	(133.0)	(402.0)
1 to 5 - French	1,594.0	1,612.0	1,629.0	1,630.0	1,592.0	1,597.0	1,555.0	1,558.0	3.0	(39.0)
	7,298.0	7,540.0	7,601.0	7,703.0	7,703.0	7,571.0	7,260.0	7,130.0	(130.0)	(441.0)
Total Elementary	8,766.0	8,976.0	9,005.0	9,093.0	9,060.0	8,766.0	8,469.0	8,369.0	(100.0)	(397.0)
Middle - English	3,095.0	3,203.0	3,312.0	3,444.0	3,545.0	3,640.0	3,739.0	3,663.0	(76.0)	23.0
Middle - French	1,101.0	1,111.0	1,052.0	1,041.0	1,087.0	1,066.0	1,068.0	1,076.0	8.0	10.0
Total Middle	4,196.0	4,314.0	4,364.0	4,485.0	4,632.0	4,706.0	4,807.0	4,739.0	(68.0)	33.0
Secondary - English	5,183.2	5,317.3	5,364.6	5,575.1	5,748.7	5,911.3	5,980.7	5,965.7	(15.0)	54.3
Secondary - French	961.7	971.8	1,068.2	1,035.4	1,082.3	1,073.5	992.2	972.3	(20.0)	(101.3)
Total Secondary	6,144.9	6,289.1	6,432.8	6,610.4	6,830.9	6,984.8	6,972.9	6,937.9	(35.0)	(46.9)
Victor	13.0	18.0	19.0	18.0	15.0	9.0	7.0	8.0	1.0	(1.0)
Continuing Education	11.3	4.6	5.0	6.9	6.3	5.5	6.4	6.3	(0.1)	0.8
The Link	16.8	28.9	5.9	7.5	4.7	7.8	7.1	11.5	4.4	3.7
Alternative Education	204.0	164.0	168.0	161.0	174.0	172.0	147.0	178.0	31.0	6.0
Total	245.1	215.6	197.9	193.4	199.9	194.3	167.5	203.8	36.3	9.4
Total School-Age	19,351.9	19,794.7	19,999.7	20,381.8	20,722.8	20,651.1	20,416.4	20,249.7	(166.7)	(401.5)
Non-Graduated Adults	10.1	8.0	8.8	17.3	18.4	14.1	13.4	10.3	(3.1)	(3.8)
Grand Total	19,362.0	19,802.7	20,008.5	20,399.1	20,741.2	20,665.3	20,429.8	20,260.0	(169.8)	(405.3)
							English School-Age	(162.8)	(285.2)	
							French School-Age	(4.0)	(116.3)	
							Adults	(3.1)	(3.8)	
							Total	(169.8)	(405.3)	
Note: July 2026, Feb 2027, and May 2027 counts not included										

Note: July 2026, Feb 2027, and May 2027 counts not included