



Tuesday, September 27, 2022, 7:00 PM
Via Zoom Link

PRESENT	Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair Dee Beattie, Vice-Chair Anita Ansari, Trustee Danielle Connelly, Trustee Mark Gifford, Trustee Maya Russell, Trustee Mary Lalji, Trustee	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent Robert Weston, Executive Director Human Resources Guests: Members of the Public Dave Crowe, Director Capital Projects Amy Grey – Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Kristen Keighley-Wight, Communications Manager Dan Healy, KPMG Dave Bollen, CUPE President Kristie Oxley, NWTU President Cyrus Sy, DPAC Laura Goodman, Recording Secretary
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The New Westminster School District recognizes and acknowledges the Qayqayt First Nation, as well as all Coast Salish peoples, on whose traditional and unceded territories we live, we learn, we play and we do our work.

The Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) adopt the agenda for the September 27, 2022, Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

a. Minutes from the Open Meetings held:

1. i. June 21, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for June 21, 2022, Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. Business Arising from the Minutes
Nil.

2. PRESENTATIONS

- a. 2021-2022 Audit Findings Report (Dan Healy, KPMG)
Dan Healy presented his executive summary report, and highlighted four areas of focus: compliance opinion, expense salaries and benefits, school generated funds, and accounting policy change.
- Audit is substantially complete pending discussions with the committee and obtaining a signed representation letter and Board approval. There have been no changes to the audit plan which was originally presented back in June 2022.
- b. 2021-2022 Year-End Review (B. Ketcham & A. Grey)
- i. 2021 - 2022 Year End Financial Statements
- Secretary-Treasurer thanked Dan Healy for attending this evening Board meeting, and the work that he and his team put in towards completing the 2021-2022 Year End Audit. She also extended recognition to the internal finance team for their hard work.
- Secretary Treasurer Ketcham shared highlights of the 2021-2022 Year.
 - Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham shared the 21-22 Priorities that were executed and the 22-23 priorities that were supported for the upcoming Year.
- ii. Financial Statements Discussion and Analysis
- Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Grey shared highlights of the operating, special purpose, and capital funds.
- Vice-Chair Beattie stated that she is pleased to see that the Finance Team continues to hold road shows, and meeting with principles to encourage them to draw down on school related funds. Disappointed to hear that COVID is still having an effect on our financials, and that there has been no increase in student funding.
- A number of Trustees acknowledged the Secretary-Treasurer and her team for all their hard worked in preparing the 2021-2022 financials.

Vice-Chair Beattie put forth a call for comments and questions, and discussion followed.

2022-062

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) recommend the approval of the 2021-2022 Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS

NWTU: New NWTU president Kristie Oxley, shared her gratitude for the funds that were set aside to hire additional replacements including the hiring of priority TTOC's to deal with the teacher absences. Mentorship event held was well attended. Orange Shirt Day, and the Day for National Truth and Reconciliation - good to see teachers and students wearing orange shirts.

CUPE 409: Dave Bollen – CUPE national has concluded its negotiations for a provincial framework agreement. Dave stated that he was pleased with the district's decision to hire 10 priority E.A. positions, including extra support at NWSS to offset the workload.

DPAC: Cyrus Sy - reported on an advocacy around the Ministry Area Standards document. The first DPAC meeting of the school year was a success. Guest speakers from the district will also attend future DPAC meetings and will present on a variety of topics. Caregiver & Parent Survey: working on finalizing the content and format of our caregiver parent survey. DPAC is hosting an all candidates meeting at the NWSS grand commons and candidates will be asked to complete questions. DPAC shared their opinion on a missed communication opportunity following the passing of the Queen. Members of the public also shared their experiences and concerns.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

7. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

a. Superintendent Update (K. Hachlaf)

Welcome Back Message, and kick off to the school year - Good things are happening!

- Superintendent Hachlaf recognized the end of term for our Board of Education and thanked the entire team for their efforts during a number of challenging years.

- Recognition of Orange Shirt week - encouraging all students, staff and community members to wear their orange shirts this Thursday, September 29th.
 - Skwo:wech School - Drum Building and Birthing Ceremony which provided the opportunity to students to build their own drums.
 - EGMS Unity - staff & students created a version of their school logo that incorporated indigenous designs.
 - Superintendent Hachlaf introduced two new district team members - Melanie Smith - District Vice-Principal for Safe & Caring Schools, and Ken Headley - District Vice-Principal for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism.
 - 2022-23 Student Enrolment Update
 - Superintendent Hachlaf reviewed and highlighted the data regarding the current capacity pressures within our schools and the urgent need to look at the long-term impact of this growth within our schools.
 - Currently advocating for an elementary school in the Fraser River Zone. Short-Term Capacity Review which highlights the 2 Guiding Principles will anchor future work.
 - Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham shared with the Board the actions that took place based on long-range facility recommendations that were approved in October 2021. Highlights: Concept plan for the Fraser River Zone Elementary School is nearing completion and calls for a 600-capacity, urban-designed school, that the District proposes to build adjacent to the current Fraser River Middle School and includes purpose-built space for the alternate education program (Ministry still to determine if District recommendation will be supported); land acquisition of 2 properties in close proximity to QMS and Queen Elizabeth Elementary, Long Range Facility Plan Refresh - last updated LRFP was approved October 2021, another refresh is required due to rapid growth of Municipality.
- b. Five-year capital plan - Minor capital projects (B. Ketcham)

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham provided a report on the Minor Capital Plan Submission Highlights included the School Enhancement Program, (SEP) The Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCP), and the Playground Equipment Program (PEP). Total Minor Capital Project requests total \$7,865,000.

Vice-Chair Beattie put forth a call for comments and questions, and discussion followed.

2022-063

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the Five-year capital plan - Minor capital projects as presented for submission to the Ministry of Education and Childcare.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Student & Family Affordability Fund Update (B. Ketcham)

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham provided an update on the Student Family Affordability Fund, a one-time investment of \$60 million province-wide which is intended to directly support students and families who have been affected by the effects of global inflation and cost of living challenges. New West Schools will be working to distribute and invest almost \$700K across the community. A significant amount of consultation with PACs on how best to utilize this funding to support families was completed. The approach was shared on the 3 tiers of funding allocation created – universal funding, funding for nutrition and funding for local customized supports. Priority of funding: to expand meal programs, ensure students have school supplies, and to cover additional student fees e.g., field trips.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Nil.

9. TRUSTEE REPORTS

a. Chair Report (Chair Dhaliwal)

Nil.

Trustees provided highlights of the events they attended in September.

10. QUESTION PERIOD (15 Minutes)

The public was given the opportunity to ask questions on matters that arose during the meeting. Please refer to the meeting video for full comments.

11. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 4, 2022: Education Policy & Planning Committee Meeting, 3:30pm - Herbert Spencer Elementary.

Tuesday, October 4, 2022: Operations Policy & Planning Committee Meeting, 6:30pm - via MS Teams.

Tuesday, October 25, 2022: Board Meetings (In-Camera & Open) - (SBO)

12. REPORTING OUT FROM IN-CAMERA BOARD MEETING

a. i. Record of the June 21, 2022, In-Camera Meeting

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer