

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR OPEN BOARD MEETING OF THE NEW WESTMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 7:00 PM Via Zoom Link

**PRESENT** Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair

Dee Beattie, Vice-Chair Mary Lalji, Trustee Mark Gifford, Trustee Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent

Maryam Naser, Assistant Superintendent Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer

Guests

Anita Ansari, Trustee Danielle Connelly, Trustee Maya Russell, Trustee Members of the Public

Dave Crowe, Director Capital Projects

DPAC Chair, Laura Kwong NWTU President, Kristie Oxley

Julie McClellan, New Westminster News Laura Goodman, Recording Secretary

**REGRETS** Robert Weston, Executive Director Human Resources

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.

#### 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2022-064 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) adopt the agenda for the October 25, 2022, Regular School Board meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

a. Minutes from the Open Meetings held:

i. September 27, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes.

2022-065
Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for September 27, 2022, Regular School Board meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

b. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

#### 3. PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

#### 4. <u>COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS</u>

- a. Qayqayt Childcare
- Members of the public voiced concerns regarding the recent discussions by the Board of Education to relocate the Qayqayt infant-toddler program to a nondowntown location.

Questions and discussion followed.

• Chair Dhaliwal reassured everyone present that no decisions would be made this evening in respect of a relocation, and that further information would be presented at the next Operations Policy and Planning meeting on November 8, 2022.

DPAC Chair: Laura Kwong provided an update:

- The October meeting had engaging presentations with Family Smart and Physical Literacy. The next meeting will be held at Skwo:wech elementary and will include a tour of the new school.
- Parent and Caregiver Survey will be distributed shortly pending final approval.
- DPAC is looking for the Board of Education to reaffirm their commitment to student safety.
- Capacity and Overcrowding: Discussion has occurred at DPAC meetings on the decision-making process re: capacity issues. A push for advocacy at City, District, and Provincial levels will be made to address the short term and long-term capacity issues regarding childcare.

#### 5. <u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>

 Chair Dhaliwal acknowledged the receipt of the letters from the Public regarding childcare relocation concerns.

#### 6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Education Policy & Planning Committee Meeting, Tuesday, October 4, 2022
  - i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Beattie.

Vice Chair Beattie noted that quorum could not be reached at the education meeting.

ii. Approval of the October 4, 2022 Education Policy and Planning Committee Minutes.

### 2022-066 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for the Education Policy and Planning Committee held on October 4, 2022.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. Operations Policy & Planning Committee Meeting, Tuesday, October 4, 2022.
  - i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Connelly.

Trustee Connelly stated that it was a difficult meeting, and that all these recommendations that were brought forward were spoken to at the last Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

ii. Approval of the October 4, 2022, Operations Policy & Planning Committee Minutes.

### 2022-067 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for Operations Policy and Planning Committee Minutes held on October 4, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iii. Conversion of NLC Space back to Classroom Use

# 2022-068 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the conversion of NLC space utilized for New Westminster Family Place at Qayqayt Elementary back to classrooms used for general instruction in anticipation for needs of the 2023-24 school year.

1 OPPOSED CARRIED iiiv. To Defer Staff Presentations Relating to Programs of Choice

2022-069 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) defer staff presentations and recommendations relating to programs of Choice and short-term capacity review until March 2023 Regular School Board Meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

v. Program of Choice Scope and Consultation Plan

2022-070 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) Direct staff to provide a programs of choice consultation plan and scope of work at the November 8, 2022, operations policy and planning meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

# 7. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

a. Superintendent Update (K. Hachlaf)

Superintendent Hachlaf provided an update on the following activities:

• In June 2022, the NWSS Grand Commons showcased several great projects that were occurring around the school district. The kick-off to this annual event began last week with the "Innovation Grant Pitch Event" in which several schools participated. This years' theme is 'Numeracy across the Curriculum', and great school proposals were submitted.

District & Provincial Professional Development Day Highlights Oct. 21st

- Universal Design for Learning Jennifer Katz
- Collaborative teaching series continues under the direction of Faye Brownlie with our elementary teachers and SLP's.
- Ongoing training for educational assistants continues with Richard Stalk.
- Upcoming November 14<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Day registration has gone out to all our staff - lot of diversity in terms of learning opportunities for teachers, councillors, SLPs, and E.A's.
- Anti-Racist Leadership DLT held on October 21<sup>st</sup> with the Senior Management Team, Principals, Vice-principals - a great learning opportunity.
- School Learning Plans: Superintendent Hachlaf and Assistant-Superintendent Naser continue to participate in 'school learning plan visits' an opportunity to work with principals.

- Registration for the 2023-24 school year will open up on November 7, 2022, to January 27, 2023 for families new to the District.
- Parents' Night Out: November 23, 2022 Digital Literacy Internet Safety at 6:30pm a 2-hour event via Zoom.
- b. Short Term Capacity Update (B. Ketcham)

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham provided an update on the Short-Term Capacity Review. She reiterated Chair Dhaliwal's sentiments in that the Board of Education is not making any final decisions this evening in regard to specific relocations. The recommendation on the floor this evening is based on a mutually exclusive conversation to the specific new spaces funding and potential relocations that are in consideration. Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham also noted that questions brought forward by the public in respect of the proposed daycare relocations would be addressed at the next operations meeting.

### Highlights:

- 2022-23 Enrolment 7,103 FTE compared to last year's 6,757 FTE an increase of approximately 350 FTE or 5.14% increase.
- K-12 Brick and Mortar Schools currently sitting at 110% of capacity.
- Due to the level of growth the Board of Education passed 2 Guiding Principles in which to base our work over the short-term capacity review work.
- Two (2) applications were put forward under the new spaces funding that is being provided by the Ministry of Education and Childcare proposing to relocate the infant toddler program currently housed at QayQayt and FRMS. The Ministry of Education has confirmed our application has been approved and with it \$2.8 million dollars which will allow the district to mitigate the loss of childcare space, and comes with a 15-year commitment to relocate these sites onto FW Howay and Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary schools.
- The Purpose Society is aware that these applications were put forward, and we have notified them of the approval. They are aware that the Board has still to deliberate on a final decision. Further updates will be presented at the Operations Policy and Planning Meeting on November 8, 2022.

Questions and discussion followed.

 Due to the New Spaces Funding approval, District has requested, and received permission to reopen a major capital plan submission for the 2023-24 year. The District is asking the Ministry of Education to consider \$1.5 million dollars in funding for renovations of spaces of classrooms

Trustee Ansari put forward a Motion to Amend the Amendment

2022-071 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster)
Approve the 2023-24 Major Capital Plan Amendment for submission to the
Ministry of Education and Childcare, to include classroom renovations for
QayQayt and Fraser River Middle School, with the understanding that the funding
be applied contingent to the Board's decision upon completion of their
consultation plan.

**MOTION DEFEATED** 

2022-072 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) Approve the 2023-24 Major Capital Plan Amendment for submission to the Ministry of Education and Childcare, to include classroom renovations for QayQayt and Fraser River Middle School.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Ansari brought forward the following motion.

2022-73 Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) write a formal letter to the City of New Westminster outlining our capacity challenges, the impacts this has on childcare in the downtown core and requesting support as a community partner.

Trustee Ansari requested that the city correspondence be an open letter, and urged all present to send a letter to the City of New Westminster to show the City that their constituents are also reaching out for help.

Chair Dhaliwal stated that she would send a letter to the City of New Westminster by the end of the week.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

c. Administrative Procedures (B. Ketcham)

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham provided a brief overview regarding the newly created Administrative Procedures 570 and 575. AP 513 would be deleted in favour of the newly created AP 570 on Travel.

Trustee Ansari stated that AP Travel 3.2 states that employee motor vehicle incidents during school business hours must be reported on the internal staff portal'. She stated that it would be prudent for the Board to receive this incident data.

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham stated that she will bring forward this request to the Director of HR for discussion, and report back.

#### 8. NEW BUSINESS

a. BCSTA 2 Year Term Certificate (Chair Dhaliwal)

Chair Dhaliwal handed out the BCSTA 2-Year Term Certificates to Trustees Gifford (completing an 8-year term) and Lalji (completing a 6-year term) and congratulated them both for receiving this award.

Chair Dhaliwal, on behalf of the Board, recognized the outgoing Trustees by presenting Trustees Gifford, Lalji, and Ansari each with commemorative artwork, and congratulated them for their service as a Trustee to the Board of Education, and the dedication they provided to our School District.

#### 9. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- a. Chair Dhaliwal presented her End of Term report and spoke to highlights during the Board's term, and stated that she looks forward collaborating with the new Board of Education in the future.
- b. Outgoing Trustees Ansari, Gifford, and Lalji also provided highlights of their terms in office.

# 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, November 1, 2022 - Oath of Office for Newly Elected Trustees - 6 pm - SBO

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham notified the pubic and Trustees that the inaugural board of education meeting would take place on Monday, November 7, 2022, at 5pm.

Tuesday, November 8, 2022 - Education Policy/Planning Committee at 3:30 pm Location: Skwo:wech Elementary School

Tuesday, November 8, 2022 - Operations Policy/Planning Committee at 6:30 pm - Virtual

Tuesday November 22, 2022 - Board Meetings (Open Board) 7:00 pm - In- person

# 12. REPORTING OUT FROM IN-CAMERA BOARD MEETING

a. i. Record of the September 27, 2022, In-Camera Meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT
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The meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm	
	Chair
	Secretary-Treasurer