

**MINUTES OF THE NEW WESTMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPERATIONS POLICY & PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019, 7:30 PM
School Board Office
811 Ontario Street, New Westminster**

PRESENT	Anita Ansari, Vice Chair Danielle Connelly, Trustee Gurveen Dhaliwal, Trustee Mark Gifford, Chair Maya Russell, Trustee	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent Robert Weston, Executive Director of Human Resources Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary Marcel Marsolais, President, CUPE Local 409 Sue McMillan, Vice President, CUPE Local 409 Eric Young, President, NWTU Sarah Wethered, Treasurer, NWTU
REGRETS	Dee Beattie, Trustee Mary Lalji, Trustee	

Chair Connelly recognized and acknowledged the Qayqayt First Nations, 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. Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda for the April 9, 2019 Open Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Correspondence

Nil.

3. Comment & Question Period from Visitors

Nil.

4. Reports from Senior Management

a. 2019-2020 Preliminary Budget

i. Stakeholder Submission Presentations

CUPE Local 409 President Marsolais highlighted the concerns outlined in CUPE's written submission to the Board included in the Board agenda:

- Underfunding in the K-12 sector have resulted in cutbacks such as custodial services. Understaffing and overwork in this function has resulted in health and safety issues.
- Wage increases not keeping pace with inflation in the region.
- Aboriginal Education support staffing is at an all-time low.

- Clerical workload and part-time positions.
- Request that the Board focus on restoring and increasing CUPE education workers' hours of work and create additional positions to address unreasonable workloads.

NWTU Treasurer Wethered addressed the following needs:

Classroom needs:

- Flexible seating, furniture and accessories.
- Chromebooks.
- Technology that students need to access the curriculum through Google Read and Write, e.g. headsets, iPads, Chromebooks.
- Comprehensive list of standard classroom supplies.
- Textbooks (print and online).
- Self-regulation tools (e.g. beanbag chairs, wobble chairs, fidgets, noise-blocking headsets).

School needs:

- Photocopiers.
- Laminator.
- Art, Math, science and Applied Design Science & Technology supplies.
- Easy to use reading assessment kit (more than one per school).

Teacher needs:

- Improve class size and composition.
- Resource/learning support for teachers.
- Educational Assistants and Custodial Staff

NWTU President Young acknowledged that the District's Human Resources department has done great work in handling the matter of non-enrolling teachers however, with the current process, gaps are created when a teacher is absent without adequate coverage.

The Board asked about resources for arts, with regard to performing arts, a lot of money is spent to rent the Massey Theatre (approximately \$5,000 of a typical production cost).

Professional Development is valued by the teachers. Teacher Coaches seem to be very effective.

Innovation Grants provide an opportunity for teachers to be able to invest further in subjects of interest. Aboriginal Education initially was for Aboriginal students only; however, since the Truth & Reconciliation Report, Aboriginal Education should be for both Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal students.

CUPE President Marsolais echoed the need to support for Aboriginal Education. CUPE is working with the provincial government to develop credentials for Educational Assistants, which will continue to support students' needs into the future.

Flexible furniture would be optimum, for schools who do not have flexible furniture; zones can be created to introduce flexible furniture. A plan will need to be created to outline how this concept could be introduced within the District.

The District laminator currently resides in the media centre so it can be accessed by those who would like to use it. Many schools also have their own laminator.

Importance of mental health education in the classroom should be as common as other topics of instruction.

CUPE Vice President Sue McMillan left the meeting at 8:50pm.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Operations Policy and Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) to place Bylaw reading No. 2 in the amount of \$81,971,497 on the floor; and further; that the Board postpone carrying Bylaw No. 2 to April 30, 2019 Regular Open Board of Education meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ii. Superintendent's Recommendation

Superintendent Hachlaf and staff presented the preliminary 2019-2020 balance budget highlighting:

- Allocations to close gaps in student achievement, as outlined at the February 2019 Education Policy & Planning Committee of the Whole meeting.
 - Budget process engagement including Thought Exchange, Student Symposium, Talking Tables, stakeholder written submissions and presentations.
 - Technology equity and access to ensure all students and staff have access to tools and support learning.
 - Salary Increases:
 - CUPE* - 1.25% stability dividend wage increase
 - NWTU* - 1.25% stability dividend wage increase;
 - Principals & Vice Principals - 3.08% (potential salary structure adjustments & increment increases)
 - Exempt - 5.31% (potential salary structure adjustments & increment increases)
- *CUPE and NWTU wages do not include any Spring/Fall 2019 collective bargaining outcomes as these are assumed to be funded by the Ministry once ratified.

CUPE Local 409 President Marsolais indicated his opposition to the proposed salary increase for Exempt employees.

- Overview Assumptions:
 - staffing aligned to 19/20 enrolment and wage increases
 - inclusion level 2 students with autism EA support increased 25%
 - international & island discovery downsized
 - 18/19 surplus initiatives eliminated

- 19/20 initiatives included with no use of surplus
- professional development and technology zero-based
- maintains technology refresh schedule including \$300,000 for schools
- sustainable: no surplus funds required
- all staffing levels status quo or increased

School Allocations:

- Overall 11% increase to school budgets: \$104,500.
- Including:
 - enrolment growth furniture & equipment: \$48,000
 - intentional learning resource allocation: \$174,577
 - intentional curricular travel allocation: \$31,824
 - intentional small school supplement Connaught & Howay: \$15,175

Surplus Appropriation:

- Approximately one-time ask for \$405,495
- Total Restricted & Unrestricted Reserves \$3,255,704

LINK budget \$1,689,201 (includes 0.6 FTE teacher increase for counselling, 0.2 FTE SOGI moved from Operating and 0.9 FTE Board Certified Behaviour Analyst.

Next steps: Further questions pertaining to the budget will be collected until April 30, at which time the Board will debate second reading of the 2019-2020 budget bylaw.

CUPE Local 409 President Marsolais, NWTU President Young and NWTU Treasurer Wethered left the meeting.

5. General Announcements

Nil.

6. New Business

- a. Youth Trade Capital Equipment Program Final Industry Training Authority (ITA) Funding Letter.

Secretary-Treasurer Morris addressed the funding received from ITA to support year 2 funding of the Youth Trade Capital Equipment Program in the amount of \$32,485.

7. Old Business

- a. Board Policy Revision: Policy 7 Board Operations

Proposed revisions were reviewed and final changes to wording were made.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Operations Policy and Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) acceptance of the revised Policy #7 Board Operations and Policy #8 Board Committees.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Question Period (15 Minutes)

Nil.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:56pm.