

**MINUTES OF THE NEW WESTMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
EDUCATION POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 7:30 PM
Hume Park Home Learners
521 Fader Street, New Westminster**

PRESENT	Anita Ansari, Vice Chair	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
	Dee Beattie, Trustee	Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer
	Danielle Connelly, Trustee	Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
	Gurveen Dhaliwal, Trustee	Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary
	Mark Gifford, Chair	Guests
	Maya Russell, Trustee	Jamie Sadler, Principal
		Karen Blackburn, Program Coordinator
	Gillian Gunderson, Teacher	
	Jodie Haraga, Teacher	
	Kim Kaila, Resource Teacher	
	Jennifer Purdon, Teacher	
REGRETS	Mary Lalji, Trustee	Bruce Cunnings, Director, Instruction, Learning Services

Chair Dhaliwal 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 7:32 pm.

Added: Item 4b. HPV9 Vaccination Equity

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda for the September 10, 2019 Education Policy and Planning Committee meeting be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Presentation

a. Hume Park Home Learner Program Learning Plan - Teaching Math with Confidence

Principal Jamie Sadler, introduced teachers Karen Blackburn, Gillian Gunderson, Jodie Haraga, Kim Kaila and Jennifer Purdon.

Program Coordinator Blackburn spoke briefly about the origins of the Home Learner Program. Currently, there are approximately 122 students enrolled in the program. The Trustees toured the school.

Teacher Gunderson presented the Hume Park Learners School Learning Goals for the 2019/2020 school year, which will focus on assessment. Learning is dynamic and flexible, and can be conducted anywhere, not only in classrooms. For the past two years, Hume Park has liaised with a math consultant who has been assisting the students, parents and teachers in exploring and creating their own learning journey. Home Learners is a program well-suited to students who thrive in a less-structured learning environment.

3. **Comment and Question Period**

Nil.

4. **New Business**

a. All On Board Endorsements

Trustee Connelly spoke to the provision of free transit for all students. She confirmed that the language in the recommendation is in line with similar initiatives brought forward in other districts. This recommendation would provide all students with an opportunity to be able to more easily travel to school and participate in field trips.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Education Policy and Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No.40 (New Westminster) to endorse the #AllOnBoard Campaign; and in doing so, write a letter to the TransLink Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation, the Board of Directors of TransLink, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, and the Ministry of Finance, asking TransLink to work with the provincial government to finalize and secure funding, and develop a plan that will provide free public transit for minors (aged 0-18), and reduced price transit based on a sliding scale for all low-income people regardless of their demographic profile as soon as possible in the Metro Vancouver TransLink region and all transit systems in BC to ensure our most at-risk youth can attend school.

AND FURTHER THAT the Board write a separate letter to the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation asking them to:

- 1) require TransLink adopt a poverty reduction/equity mandate in order to address the outstanding issue of lack of affordability measures to ensure those who need public transit the most can access the essential service, and***
- 2) to request the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation and TransLink immediately and without delay amend existing by-laws and cease ticketing all minors for fare evasion as the first step towards the full implementation of free transit for children and youth 0-18, unlink ICBC from fare evasion for youth and adults, allow low-income adults to access community service as an alternative to the financial penalty of a fare evasion ticket; and implement free transit for youth without delay.***

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. HPV9 Vaccination Equity

Trustee Connelly explained that the provision of free HPV9 immunization, which began in 2017, starts for boys born in 2006. Girls born in 1994 onwards are eligible for the free immunization. The cost of this vaccine is \$300-\$500, if not covered by insurance.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Education Policy and Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No.40 (New Westminster) to write a letter to the Minister of Health, the Minister of Education and the Secretary for Gender Equity requesting that the HPV9 vaccine be provided free of charge for all males age 9 - 26, making it equal to what is currently available for females age 9 - 26.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Reports from Senior Management

- a. New Board Policy 22 - Provision of Menstrual Products

Secretary-Treasurer Morris indicated that BCSTA Legal Counsel, Audrey Ackah, distributed a policy template to school districts, as presented to the Board for their consideration and adoption in order to comply with the requirement to provide menstrual products to students.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Education Policy & Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) to adopt new Board Policy 22 - Provision of Menstrual Products to Students; AND FURTHER that the Board Policy Manual be updated accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. 2019/2020 Board Annual Work Plan - Board Policy 2 - Appendix A

Superintendent Hachlaf briefly explained the primary edits made to the 2019-2020 Board Annual Work Plan. Specifically, Aboriginal education and student accountability report.

Associate Superintendent Naser explained that the September Aboriginal update now aligns with Orange Shirt Day; student accountability/achievement report to be presented in February when FSA scores, etc. are made available.

It was asked if National Administrative Professionals Day be added to the Work Plan.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Education Policy & Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) to adopt the School District No. 40 (New Westminster) revised Board Policy 2 - Appendix A: Board Annual Work Plan for 2019/2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- c. Special Education Review September Update

Associate Superintendent Naser and Director, Instruction, Learning Services Cunnings updated the Board as follows:

- The 2019/2020 timeline.
- Composition of the Advisory Group and its mandate.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the Chair/Co-Chair roles and it was confirmed that a Trustee fill one of those roles.
- The Advisory Group (a non-decision making body) will bring forward draft reports as the process progresses. A final report, including recommendations, will be brought to the Board for its consideration and prioritization.

- The methodology of the initiative was reviewed to ensure that it will capture all aspects of students' needs; as well as providing a platform for an authentic involvement and feedback resulting from the data collection.
- Consultants already participating in the Review could be called upon to facilitate the development of the framework, which is yet to be completed.
- The October 2019 Special Education Review Update will include specific feedback received from the first Advisory Group meeting.
- A follow-up meeting will be scheduled for staff and Trustee representatives, to solidify the Chair/Co-Chair roles, methodology and facilitator.

6. General Announcements

Tug-of-War at 2019 Homecoming, September 13 at Mercer Stadium - Trustees will participate.

It was mutually agreed by the Board of Education that the start time of the Education Policy and Planning Committee meetings be changed from 7:30 pm to 6:30 pm, which will enable students to participate in these meetings earlier in the day.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.