

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

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 7:30 PM
School Board Office
811 Ontario Street, New Westminster**

PRESENT	Anita Ansari, Vice Chair	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
	Dee Beattie, Trustee	Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer
	Danielle Connelly, Trustee	Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
	Gurveen Dhaliwal, Trustee	Robert Weston, Executive Director, Human Resources
	Mark Gifford, Chair	Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary
	Maya Russell, Trustee	
REGRETS	Mary Lalji, Trustee	

The New Westminster School District recognizes and acknowledges 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. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2019-105

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) adopt the agenda for the October 29, 2019 Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

a. Minutes from the Open Meetings held:

1. September 24, 2019 Regular Open Board Meeting

2019-106

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for the September 24, 2019 Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

3. COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS

David Brett addressed the Board regarding May Day. He would like to reach out to the Indigenous community to gain their support for May Day and would like the endorsement of the Board of Education.

Chair Gifford indicated that the Board has not received any correspondence regarding this matter. Any ideas, suggestions, etc. should be channeled through the District. However, he cautioned Mr. Brett that the District is unlikely to take on additional duties due to limited resources. David Brett thanked the Board.

Trustee Russell stressed that if Mr. Brett will be reaching out to Indigenous groups regarding May Day, this would not represent the wishes, support or endorsement of the Board of Education of New Westminster.

Superintendent Hachlaf confirmed that the coordinator, who oversaw the organization of May Day 2019, will organize the 2020 event.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received.

5. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Education Policy & Planning Committee, October 8, 2019

i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Dhaliwal

Trustee Dhaliwal was thrilled to welcome the Student Voice student trustees to their first meeting on October 8 and looks forward to their participation going forward.

ii. Approval of the October 8, 2019 Education Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

2019-107

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes from the October 8, 2019 Education Policy & Planning Committee meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iii. Services for Students with Dyslexia

2019-108

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) direct staff to articulate our current continuum of support, including prevalence and process for identification of students who are struggling to learn to read, and further that, staff identify gaps in support and make recommendations to close these gaps.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Operations Policy & Planning Committee, October 15, 2019

i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Connelly

Trustee Connelly thanked all the presenters at the October 15 meeting.

ii. Approval of the October 15, 2019 Operations Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

2019-109
Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes from the October 15, 2019 Operations Policy & Planning Committee meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iii. Climate Action

2019-110
Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) declare a climate emergency.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2019-111
Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) write a letter to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy advocating for climate literacy in schools, support for school districts to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and prioritizing the funding of greener school facilities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iv. School Naming / Renaming

Discussion followed regarding adding wording to Administrative Procedure (AP) 542 to reflect an educational component and historical context for re-naming. It was suggested that the wording from item #5 Guiding Principles in AP541 be added to AP542.

2019-112
Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) accept the Administrative Procedure: (Revised AP541) Naming New School and District Facilities; and (New AP542) Re-Naming Existing School and District Facilities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

v. Surplus Appropriation Approval

2019-113
Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) authorize further appropriation of unrestricted surplus in the amount of \$625,000 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- vi. Bank Signing Authority

2019-114

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster)'s bank signing authorities Mark Gifford, Chair, Anita Ansari, Vice Chair, Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent, and Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer be approved;

AND FURTHER that effective immediately, bank signing authority Kim Morris former Secretary-Treasurer, be removed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

- a. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Hachlaf acknowledged the work done by the Board of Education and District Staff to advance the Strategic Planning process. A draft of the Strategic Plan 2019-2024 will be presented at an upcoming Board meeting.

A very successful Innovation Grants meeting took place in early October. Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations Maureen McRae-Stanger will be providing an update at an upcoming Board meeting.

The October 24, 2019 Mental Health & Literacy event at Fraser River Middle School was well-received. 2020 events are being planned for Queensborough and Glenbrook Middle schools.

The “Drop Everything and Read” event where District staff spent a half-day in the District’s schools to read to a number of elementary school classes was very successful. Superintendent Hachlaf thanked District Staff for their support.

Superintendent Hachlaf attended the Joint Liaison meetings with the Ministry of Education. The District is well-aligned with various Ministry initiatives. Funding Review reports were reviewed, further information to be forthcoming from the Ministry.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Revision of Policy 7 - Board Operations

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham reviewed the suggested edits and provided rationale as to the changes in wording of Policy 7.

2019-115

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) accept the revised Policy #7 Board Operations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. TRUSTEE REPORTS

The Trustees provided highlights of events they attended in October.

Chair Gifford formally welcomed new Secretary-Treasurer Bettina Ketcham.

9. QUESTION PERIOD (15 Minutes)

The public was given the opportunity to ask questions on matters that arose during the meeting.

10. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

November 5, 2019: Education Policy & Planning Committee, 6:30pm - POWER, 200-1065 Columbia Street

*** Please note the new start times, meetings will commence 30 minutes earlier*

November 19, 2019: Operations Policy & Planning Committee, 7:00pm - School Board Office

November 26, 2019: School Board Meeting, 7:00pm - School Board Office

December 3, 2019: Combined Open Education and Operations Policy & Planning Committee Meeting, 7:00pm - School Board Office

11. REPORTING OUT FROM IN-CAMERA BOARD MEETING

a. Record of In-Camera September 24, 2019 Board Meeting

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer