

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

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 7:00 PM
School Board Office
811 Ontario Street, New Westminister**

- PRESENT**
- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Anita Ansari, Chair | Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent |
| Dee Beattie, Trustee | Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer |
| Danielle Connelly, Trustee | Robert Weston, Executive Director, Human Resources |
| Gurveen Dhaliwal, Vice-Chair | Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary |
| Mark Gifford, Trustee | Guests: |
| Maya Russell, Trustee | Stephen Inniss, District Vice Principal, Pearson Adult Learning Centre |
| | Marcel Marsolais, President, CUPE Local 409 |
| | Maureen McRae-Stanger, Director, Instruction, Learning & Innovations |
| | Ken Millard, President, New Westminister Principals' and Vice Principals' Association |
| | Eric Young, President, New Westminister Teachers' Union |
- REGRETS**
- | |
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| Mary Lalji, Trustee |
| Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent |

The New Westminister 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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Add: Item 6e. Capital Bylaw No.2020/21 - CPSD40-01

2020-017

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminister) adopt the agenda as amended for the March 10, 2020 Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

a. Minutes from the Open Meeting held:

i. February 25, 2020 Regular Meeting

2020-018

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminister) approve the minutes as distributed for the February 25, 2020 Regular School Board Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Business Arising from the Minutes

i. Continuing Education

Superintendent Hachlaf indicated that meetings have taken place with the New Westminster Teachers' Union (NWTU) and the considerations brought forward are being done so with their full knowledge.

The Board discussed the following motion. Superintendent Hachlaf indicated that retaining an evening program of Continuing Education could be accommodated within the new NWSS. All courses offered would be based on enrolment.

2020-019

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve to discontinue the day time and late afternoon continuing education program as of the end of the 2019-20 school year and make efforts to optimize the evening program and continue to run the evening program for one year to assess the financial and educational viability with a decision to be made about future steps by February 2021 in time for the 2021-22 budget cycle.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS

CUPE Local 409 President Marcel Marsolais addressed the Board and indicated that the School District should reconsider their decision to reduce the Continuing Education Program.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received.

5. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Combined Education & Operations Policy and Planning Committee, March 3, 2020

i. Comments from the Committee Chairs, Trustees Beattie and Connelly

Trustee Beattie thanked Ken Millard, Principal of Lord Kelvin Elementary, for hosting the March 3 Combined Education and Operations meeting. The Board enjoyed the student presentations and the tour of the Sensory Room.

ii. Approval of the March 3, 2020 Combined Education & Operations Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

2020-020

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes from the March 3, 2020 Combined Education & Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iii. Board and Committee Meeting Calendar - September 2020 to June 2021

2020-021

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the Board and Committee Meeting Calendar 2020-2021 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

a. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Hachlaf provided highlights of his March report:

- Qayqayt Elementary:
 - How do you show inclusion?
 - Pink Shirt Day
 - Sensory Room
 - Hands-on Learning
 - Chocolate Chip Mining
- NWSS Site Tour with the Board of Education
- Fraser River Middle School
 - Student Council - time for a compliment
 - Gardening project
 - Deep Learning
 - Coding project
- Professional Development
 - Continuing opportunities into May
- May Day 2020
 - Sienna Vahra and Daniel Di Geso, students at F.W. Howay Elementary School, were respectively selected as May Day Queen and Royal Consort.

b. 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget

i. Stakeholder Submission Presentations

Marcel Marsolais, President of CUPE Local 409 addressed the following:

- Cleanliness of the schools – restore day custodians, which would allow for cleaning throughout the day.
- Restore Aboriginal Education support staffing.
- Eliminate allocating clerical education workers hours-of-work based on student enrolment by increasing their hours of work to address workloads throughout the District.
- Adopt the Living Wage Policy.
- Increase maintenance staffing levels by targeting provincial-designated funding and ensuring that all capital project revenue is preserved to fund additional staff in order for the District to continue to realize the savings achieved.

Eric Young, President of the New Westminster Teachers' Union, reiterated items submitted for the 2019 budget cycle.

Classroom needs:

- Flexible seating, furniture and accessories.
- 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 – more preparation time.
- Educational Assistants and Custodial Staff.
- Continuing use of Teacher Coaches.

Ken Millard, President of the New Westminster Principals' and Vice Principals' Association provided highlights:

- Committed to developing vibrant learning communities.
- Supporting the social/emotional needs of students and staff.
- Measurable goals are created and monitored; teachers collaborate on curriculum and assessment; promote collective efficacy of staff.
- Priority 1: Increase administrator time to support the success of all learners (students, teachers, support staff) at all levels of learning. Increase FTE time for Vice Principals.
- Priority 2: Increase resources for Social-Emotional Learning and mental health to support all learners (students, teachers, support staff) at all levels of learning. Continued support for recruiting, training and retention of trained, qualified, and experienced staff to support students with SEL/mental health concerns; additional administration time to implement universal and targeted programs.

Superintendent Hachlaf confirmed that 0.2 Vice Principal FTE at the elementary school level is a common ratio; the middle school allocation increases (as per school size) was increased in 2019 to 0.2 at Glenbrook; Fraser River may require a review; Queensborough is stable. The secondary school ratio was increased to support the upcoming move to the new school.

ii. 2020-2021 Superintendent Recommendations

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham summarized the information covered at the March 3, 2020 Combined Education and Operations Policy & Planning Committee meeting:

- Decrease in International Revenue.
- Purchase of Portables to accommodate increased enrolment.
- Continuing Education programming adjustments.
- Unfunded increases to P/VP and exempt for approved BCPSEA grid and performance increases.
- Several years of approved one-time surplus initiatives.

Superintendent Hachlaf presented the preliminary recommendations. A follow-up report of the recommendations, including budget numbers, will be presented at the April 21, 2020 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting. Highlights included:

Strategic Priority #1 - Transform the Student Experience:

- Surplus Initiatives – it was suggested to not continue the 2019-20 surplus initiatives and treat them as one-time initiatives.
- Students are meaningfully engaged and have an active voice - will maintain 2 positions which were added in 2018; professional development around mental health literacy.
- Neighbourhood Learning Centre - Wellness Centre which will provide support for Social-Emotional Learning.
- Staff are supported and encouraged to find purpose and meaning in their work and reach their full potential.

Strategic Priority #2 - Build Meaningful Relationships

- Families have opportunities to engage with the educational system to develop trusting relationships.
- Students are connected in a welcoming and inclusive learning community:
 - NWSS Welcoming Centre/Wellness Centre.
 - Improve and provide seamless transitions into elementary, middle and secondary school.
- Staff are valued and appreciated:
 - Recognize staff as mentors, facilitators, coaches, leaders in education, and as vital contributors to the students learning experiences.
 - Principals and Vice Principals have been trained as to how to conduct positive reviews; Unions will be engaged in discussion and anticipate to put in place support systems by fall.

Strategic Priority #3 - Lead into Our Future

- Commitment to truth and reconciliation guides and informs our work in the district.
- Maintain financial accountability, transparency and stability:
 - Ensure a transparent and consultative budget process, which aligns with strategic priorities and objectives.
 - Budget process and documents are all available online.
 - Attract, recruit and retain staff.
- Develop an environmental strategy and climate action plan and provide leadership in environmental education:
 - Recent seismic enhancements to existing schools is LEED Certified.
 - School enhancement programs help to reduce carbon footprint.
 - Digitizing documents will reduce necessity to print material.
 - Climate Action Plan will be developed and presented in September 2020.
 - Land acquisitions for future growth.

Strategic Priority #4 - Ensure full participation in learning

- Sustain ongoing commitment to address food security and healthy eating to ensure high quality food programs:
 - Superintendent Hachlaf acknowledged the feedback received regarding the School Nutrition Program; District is committed to finding solutions; School Nourishment Coordinator to be confirmed soon.
 - Increasing child care spaces - 100 spaces; District, in partnership with the City of New Westminster, will continue to pursue other opportunities.

The Board will continue the discussion at the April 21, 2020 Open Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting.

- c. District Calendar 2020-2021

2020-022

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the 2020/2021 District Calendar as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- d. Student Withdrawal & New Registration Report

Due to Associate Superintendent Naser being absent from the meeting, Chair Ansari postponed review of the report to the April 28, 2020 Regular Open Board meeting.

- e. Capital Bylaw No. 2020/21 - CPSD40-01
Secretary-Treasurer announced the School Enhancement Program Upgrades. Most work will take place over the summer. Capital Projects have to be completed by March 31, 2021. The District was also approved to begin planning the next stages of the Queen Elizabeth Elementary School expansion. A Project Definition Report will be submitted in draft by October 2020 to the Ministry of Education. Due to the upcoming NWSS move, it was necessary to allocate \$1M of surplus for NWSS furniture and equipment.

2020-023

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) complete all three readings of Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2020/21-CPSD40-01.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020-024

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve first and second reading of Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2020/21-CPSD40-01.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020-025

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve third reading, reconsideration and final adoption of Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2020/21-CPSD40-01.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020-026

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) transfer \$1,000,000 of surplus to local capital and approve expenditure of these amounts for the investment of furniture and equipment related to New Westminster Secondary School.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- a. BCSTA Substantive Motion

Trustee Gifford explained that the motion arose as a result of a staff presentation at the February 11, 2020 Open Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting. Unfortunately, the motion was submitted after the deadline and BCSTA felt it did not meet their standard for reconsideration.

If the Board so wishes, the BCSTA motion can be challenged at the AGM. BCSTA would require notification by April 6.

The Trustees provided highlights of events they attended in February/March.

8. QUESTION PERIOD (15 Minutes)

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

9. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 14, 2020: Education Policy & Planning Committee, 6:00pm - New Westminster Secondary School, 835 Eighth Street

Tuesday, April 21, 2020: Operations Policy & Planning Committee, 7:00pm - School Board Office

Wednesday, April 22, 2020: District Volunteer Appreciation Event, 7:00pm -
Lord Kelvin Elementary School, 1010 Hamilton Street

Tuesday, April 28, 2020: School Board Meeting, 7:00pm - School Board Office

Reminder: National Day of Mourning, April 28, 2020

10. REPORTING OUT FROM IN-CAMERA BOARD MEETING

- a. Record of In-Camera February 25, 2020 Board Meeting

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourn at 9:18pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer