

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

**Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 7:00 PM  
Via Webex Livestream**

<b>PRESENT</b>	Anita Ansari, Chair	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
	Dee Beattie, Trustee	Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer
	Danielle Connelly, Trustee	Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
	Surveen Dhaliwal, Vice Chair	Robert Weston, Executive Director, Human Resources
	Mark Gifford, Trustee	Guests:
	Mary Lalji, Trustee	Members of the Public
	Maya Russell, Trustee	Pam Craven, District Principal, Alternate & Online Programs
		Bruce Cunnings, Director of Instruction and Learning Services
		Julie MacLellan, Reporter, New Westminister Record
		Maureen McRae-Stanger, Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations
		Kristie Oxley, Teacher-Librarian
		Sarah Wethered, President, NWTU
		Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary

*The New Westminister 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 of the Board called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

**2020-057**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminister) adopt the agenda for the October 27, 2020 Regular School Board meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

a. Minutes from the Open Meeting held:

i. September 29, 2020 Regular Meeting

**2020-058**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminister) approve the minutes as distributed for the September 29, 2020 Regular School Board meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

b. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Kristie Oxley, 2020 BCTLA Teacher-Librarian of the Year / Diana Poole Memorial Award Recipient

Chair Ansari congratulated Kristie and virtually presented her with the Certificate of Achievement. Kristie thanked the Board for their acknowledgment.

- b. K-8 Online Program & 9-12 Online Program

Director of Instruction, Learning & Innovations McRae-Stanger and District Principal, Alternate & Online Programs Craven provided highlights of the District's Online Learning programs. Director McRae-Stanger thanked the teachers for embracing this new way of learning. Professional development opportunities are offered to ensure that teachers are aware of the various online tools available.

For students who wish to return to in-class instruction, the next opportunity is December 6-11. Registration is currently closed for online learning as this program is full. Space may open in January 2021 depending on the number of students who may be returning to classroom instruction. Funding for the online programs has been captured in the September 1701.

**4. COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS**

Nil.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received.

**6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Education Policy & Planning Committee, October 13, 2020

- i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Beattie  
Trustee Beattie thanked Student Voice for their presentation.

- ii. Approval of the October 13, 2020 Education Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

**2020-059**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes from the October 13, 2020 Education Policy & Planning Committee meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- b. Operations Policy & Planning Committee, October 13, 2020

- i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Connelly  
Trustee Connelly thanked Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham for the Finance, Operations, and Maintenance teams' work. She enjoyed meeting Eric Kardoos, the new Director of Information Technology.

- ii. Approval of the October 13, 2020 Operations Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

**2020-060**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes from the October 13, 2020 Operations Policy & Planning Committee meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**7. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

- a. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Hachlaf provided an update regarding the communication steps pertaining COVID-19. The [Fraser Health school exposures website](#) is continually updated with the latest news.

- Professional Development - the various workshops were outlined.
- 2020 BCPVPA Connecting Leaders: Richard Gerver took place on October 23.
- Teaching to Diversity: Universal Design for Learning with Jennifer Katz on November 30.

It was asked whether funding for the District's professional development was allocated via the emergency funding grants. The District has a Professional Development budget from which these sessions are sponsored.

- New NWSS Site - an announcement will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

A concern was expressed regarding the pick-up and drop-off at Richard McBride Elementary and the inability to properly socially distance. Superintendent Hachlaf has taken this under advisement.

- b. Inclusive Practices Review

At the June 23, 2020 Regular Open Board meeting, the second half of a motion pertaining to the Review was postponed. The motion asked staff to prepare an action plan to outline how each of the recommendations was to be implemented. Director of Instruction and Learning Services Cunnings updated the Board regarding the 23 recommendations from the report, which will be implemented in a phased approach. Phase 1 has commenced and will be completed in 2023.

Director Cunnings will next update the Board at the March and June 2021 Board meetings.

Trustee Beattie, Co-Chair of the Inclusive Practices Review Committee, thanked Director Cunnings for all his hard work over the past year and a half.

**2020-061**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve Phase One of the Inclusive Education Implementation Plan (2020-2023) as presented.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

c. Enrollment & Staffing Report 2020/21

Associate Superintendent Naser reviewed the district enrollment status as of September 30, 2020. Overall district enrollment (1701): 6,253.8 (2019-20) and 6,240.4 (2020-21), slight increase overall enrollment 6,688.3 from 6,611.75. Executive Director of Human Resources Weston provided an update regarding the non-enrolling staffing. During current COVID-19, there are no Teacher Coaches. CUPE staffing, the number of Educational Assistants has increased from 168 to 189; custodial up 5 to 33 as per the COVID-19 requirements; school clerical has fluctuated slightly, currently at 35, couple of positions have not been filled (school nutritionist and an Educational Assistant position) total 357 CUPE staff; up from 342 last year.

d. Childcare Update

Associate Superintendent Naser updated the Board regarding plans to increase childcare for 3-5 year old at Connaught Heights. Due to licensing requirements, this posed challenges in terms of the amount of playground space required. However, the District's Before and After School Care enhancements was also a priority and the District, with the assistance of the Westminster Children's After-School Society, was able to license 17 additional spaces, double the current available spaces at Connaught. The program will share space with the StrongStart program. The District is looking at similar arrangements at Queensborough and Sapperton.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

Nil.

9. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Trustees shared highlights of activities they participated in October.

10. **QUESTION PERIOD (15 Minutes)**

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

Is there a plan to support teacher's mental health? Are the continuous changes, many uncertainties and heavily increased workloads impacting teacher mental health? How do we know? Director McRae-Stanger outlined the mental health resources put in place to assist teachers.

Trustee Connelly mentioned that Vancouver Foundation is offering Neighbourhood Small Grants of \$500 for individuals with ideas to help connect and engage residents in their neighbourhood are asked to apply. The deadline for applications is October 31.

11. **NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

Tuesday, November 17, 2020: Education Policy & Planning Committee, 5:00pm - Via Webex  
Tuesday, November 17, 2020: Operations Policy & Planning Committee, 6:15pm - Via Webex  
Tuesday, November 24, 2020: School Board Meeting, 7:00pm - Via Webex

Reminder:

Remembrance Day, November 11

12. **REPORTING OUT FROM IN-CAMERA BOARD MEETING**

a. Record of the September 29, 2020 In-Camera Meeting

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer