

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

**Tuesday, April 26, 2022, 7:00 PM  
Via Webex Livestream**

**PRESENT**    Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair                      Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent  
                 Dee Beattie, Vice-Chair                      Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer  
                 Anita Ansari, Trustee                              Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent  
                 Mary Lalji, Trustee                                Robert Weston, Executive Director, Human Resources  
                 Danielle Connelly, Trustee                      Guests:  
                 Mark Gifford, Trustee                              Members of the Public  
                 Maya Russell, Trustee                              Dave Bollen, President CUPE Local 409  
                    Kathleen Carlsen, DPAC Chair  
                    Dave Crowe, Director, Capital Projects  
                    Amy Grey, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
                    Kristen Keighley-Wight, Communications Manager  
                    Laura Kwong, DPAC  
                    Julie MacLellan, Reporter, New Westminster Record  
                    Connie Swan, District Vice Principal Indigenous Education  
                    Sarah Wethered, President NWTU  
                    Leanne Sojka, Recording Secretary

***The New Westminster 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 called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**2022-021**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) adopt the agenda for the April 26, 2022 Regular School Board meeting as amended.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2.     APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

a.     Minutes from the Open Meeting held:

i.     March 8, 2022 Regular Open Meeting

**2022-022**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for the March 8, 2022 Regular School Board meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- b. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Sarah Wethered, President NWTU & Dave Bollen, President CUPE Local 409, New Westminster & District Labour Council, National Day of Mourning.

Sarah and Dave on behalf of the New Westminster District Labour Council read a statement in commemoration of the National Day of Mourning. For the full statement, please refer to the meeting [video](#) [02:50 mark].

- b. 2022-23 Preliminary Budget Stakeholder Presentations

2022-23 Preliminary Budget Stakeholder Presentations. To view the presentations please refer to the meeting [video](#) [11:10 mark].

- i. District Parent Advisor Council

DPAC feels the lack of funding from the Provincial government is a major cause for concern. Feedback from parents and caregivers was received. Based on this feedback, the following areas that require support and funding are:

- Student safety – gender-based violence
- academic support programs – accessibility for diverse and English language learners
- Enriched school experiences – support for field trip bus transportation along with continued support for arts and music
- Custodial staff – increased cleaning during school operating hours
- Before and after school childcare
- Transportation – funding for safe transportation from Queensborough to Fraser River Middle and NWSS along with a review of crossing guards

- ii. Canadian Union of Public Employees

Dave Bollen, President CUPE Local 409 shared the Local's priorities:

- Daytime custodians – need to bring them back
- The Local very much supports Indigenous graduation requirements for students and wants to ensure proper execution that would include appropriate resources to support the curriculum requirements
- Education Assistants should be full time like other positions in the District
- Recruitment and retention
- Displaced clerical staff have from last year's reductions

- iii. New Westminster Teachers' Union

Sarah Wethered, President NWTU highlighted the results of the survey that was delivered to their members and identified the Local's priorities:

- Classroom needs – student laptop and assisted technology as well as textbooks in print and online as well as resources for the new Indigenous graduation requirements
- School needs - District laminator and photocopier. Elementary schools would all like beautiful outdoor spaces as well as PE equipment
- Staffing concerns – full time Education Assistants to alleviate their need for second jobs and assist with recruitment and retention; full time daytime custodians; increased number of non-enrolling teachers; counsellors to help with the mental health of students; music education for all students K – 5
- District concerns – heat pumps in all schools; greener snow removal equipment and more snowplows; permanent site for POWER and RCAP; District funding for school libraries

iv. Indigenous Education Committee - Connie Swan

Connie Swan, District Vice Principal Indigenous Education shared the Committee's priorities came from a consultative and collaborative process of stakeholders from the Indigenous Education team, Advisory team, and the New Westminster Senior Secondary School Reconciliation Committee. They following priorities were identified:

- Maintain current staffing of six Indigenous support workers, one youth care worker, one Indigenous graduation coach and one vice principal indigenous education
- Provide curriculum support – including professional development opportunities, resources, and curricular materials
- Continue to move forward on equity and action initiatives – implementation of an elder residence knowledge program, Indigenizing spaces, new program offering, continuation of Qayqayt honouring.

v. Student Voice - Summary of Symposium Discussion Topics

Students Sam Killawee, Shantei Leal and Makena Thomas shared highlights of the general feedback that was received from the Student Symposium held April 14.

**Anti-Racism:** Schools could offer more diverse curriculum, more clubs and better representation in learning resources. The District could offer more professional development and resources for teachers and teachers and TTOC's could be reminded to be sensitive to name pronunciation.

**Technology:** Schools could ensure all subject areas and departments have access to technology. The District could offer more laptops and newer and better-quality technology, reliable, faster Wi-Fi and support for those students who cannot bring their own devices.

**Climate Action:** Schools can share more dialogue and optimism across the curriculum, provide awareness to dispose of items and more vegan/vegetarian options in the servery. the District could provide guest speakers and clarify for students, what the District's climate action goals are.

**Mental Health & Supports:** The most urgent concerns were around the grade 12 CLC course, online classes, homework, mental illnesses and eating disorders. Schools could provide a variety of support on an academic level as well as a health and wellness level. The District could bring in external experts to help educate and inspire as well as the District could provide equity around IEP.

*Trustee Lalji put forward the following motion:*

**Moved**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster direct staff to provide a report to the Board of Education by the May 10, 2022 Operations Policy & Planning Committee Meeting to outline the financial savings as a result of the discontinuation of the daytime custodial staff working in our facilities and the implementation of the afternoon custodial working-hours.***

**MOTION NOT SECONDED**

Chair Dhaliwal confirmed the existing frameworks that are in place to hear the various Stakeholders budgetary concerns.

Discussion and gratitude followed.

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

Sophie Hansen, Grade 12 student shared the feedback from Safety Education Advocacy and Supports (SEAS) club, previously called Safety in Schools (SIS) club.

Extensive discussion followed. Following various comments on student safety and culture at the high school, it was noted that Associate Superintendent Naser will meet with Principal MacLeod tomorrow, April 27. Associate Superintendent Naser confirmed the June 7 Education Policy & Planning Committee meeting will take place at NWSS where Principal MacLeod will share examples on student leadership and initiative around student safety and school culture. Participation is encouraged.

**DPAC:** Laura Kwong highlighted questions still outstanding regarding special needs funding, transportation issues for students, desire to know more about what the new CYLO strategy looks like and concerns about the new foods guidelines.

**CUPE:** Dave Bollen, President, CUPE Local 409 shared that CUPE is in the mid-stages of provincial bargaining. There is a stall in the social sector whereby unions have collaborated on a campaign to create more awareness on how the social sector provided their support during the pandemic.

**NWTU:** Sarah Wethered, President NWTU shared 10 members attended the equity audit workshop. Follow up will occur June 2. A nomination meeting will occur on Tuesday, May 3. If any nominations are contested, elections will be held May 5. An in-person retirement tea will take place June 9. A successful ratification vote occurred today on the NWTU Local Matters Agreement.

*Trustee Lalji put forward the following motion:*

**2022- 023**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of SD No. 40 (New Westminster) have a meeting with Student Trustees and students who have spoken tonight regarding this safety culture should be meeting this week or next week at the latest depending on their schedule.***

**MOTION NOT CARRIED**

Discussion ensued. Clarity was provided on follow up next steps with student and administration at the high school.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil.

**6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Education Policy & Planning Committee, April 12, 2022

i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Beattie

Trustee Beattie referenced the fabulous Skwo:wech presentation, what was planned for the April 14 Student Symposium as well as a follow-up after the event.

ii. Approval of the April 12, 2022 Education Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

**2022-024**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes from the April 12, 2022 Education Policy & Planning Committee meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

b. Operations Policy & Planning Committee, April 12, 2022

i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Connelly

Nil.

ii. Approval of the April 12, 2022 Operations Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

**2022-025**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes from the April 12, 2022 Operations Policy & Planning Committee meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- iii. 2022-23 Capital Plan Bylaw Response

**2022-026**  
**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) complete all three readings of Capital Bylaw No. 2022/23-CPSD40-01.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2022-027**  
**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve first and second reading of Capital Bylaw No. 2022/23 – CPSD40-01.***

**CARRIED**  
**1 Opposed**

**2022-028**  
**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve third reading, reconsideration, and final adoption of Capital Bylaw No. 2022/23 – CPSD40-01.***

**CARRIED**  
**1 Opposed**

**7. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

- a. Superintendent Update (K. Hachlaf)

Superintendent Hachlaf provided an update to the 2022-23 budget planning. He shared there will be a prioritization process that aligns with the Strategic Plan which will advance the District’s collective priorities. More broadly, student, staff, and parent input from the recent budget survey are currently being reviewed. Staff was highly engaged in several diverse development activities during the April 14 professional development day and were able to successfully develop inclusive strategies to use within their classrooms. Following the Bakau report, ongoing engaging work is occurring, professional staff development, review of policies and procedures and an intensified review on incident reporting is occurring to ensure the process is a safe, supportive, and inclusive place for students and staff to report incidents. Broader training will be unpacked this year and next as recommendations from the Bakau report are implemented.

- b. 2022-2023 Budget Survey Results (B. Ketcham)

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham reviewed the graph results of the 1026 responses received for the 2022-23 Budget Survey.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Sanctuary Schools Report (Trustee Russell)

Trustee Russell presented the annual Sanctuary Schools Policy Review Report. The review is a new template that will be provided annually in the Spring to address misconceptions or myths around students living in the community with precarious or no immigration status. During the 2020-21 school year, there were six students of five families registered and seven students of five families registered for the 2021-22 school year - all are fully funded by the Ministry. New Westminster Schools is the first BC district to introduce a Sanctuary Schools Policy and the communication of "access to all" has been clearly stated within the Policy. She noted that training and education of staff is essential to ensure the Policy is understood at the school level. Recommendations moving forward were reviewed.

- b. Postponed Motion from April 12, 2022 Operations Policy & Planning Committee Meeting - Board and Committee Meeting Calendar - September 2022 to June 2023 (Chair Dhaliwal)

- i. Revised Option 2 Board and Committee Meeting Calendar September 2022 to June 2023

Chair Dhaliwal presented the revised option 2 Board and Committee Meeting Calendar.

Discussion followed.

**2022-029**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the Board and Committee Meeting Calendar 2022-2023 Revised Option 2 as presented.***

**CARRIED  
1 Opposed**

**9. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Trustees shared details of the events they attended in April.

*Chair Dhaliwal put forward the following motion:*

**2022-030**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of SD No. 40 (New Westminster) extend the Board of Education meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

The public was given the opportunity to ask questions on matters that arose during the meeting. Please refer to the meeting [video](#) [2:33:46] for full comments.

**11. NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 Education Policy & Planning Committee, 5:00 pm - via Webex  
Tuesday, May 10, 2022 Operations Policy & Planning Committee, 6:30 pm - via Webex  
Tuesday, May 10, 2022 Special Open Board Meeting, 8:45 pm - via Webex  
Tuesday, May 24, 2022: In-Camera Board Meeting, 6:00 pm - via MS Teams  
Tuesday, May 24, 2022 School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm - via Webex

Reminder:

District Volunteer Recognition - April 24 - 30

Administrative Professionals' Day - April 27

National Day of Mourning - April 28

Asian Heritage Month - May

BC Child Care Month - May

Principals and Vice-Principals Appreciation Day - May 1

Red Dress Day and the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls - May 5

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia - May 17

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

a. Record of the March 8, 2022 In-Camera Meeting

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 pm

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer