

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

Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 5:00 PM

Via Webex Livestream

PRESENT Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
Dee Beattie, Vice-Chair Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer
Anita Ansari, Trustee Robert Weston, Executive Director Human Resources
Danielle Connelly, Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
Trustee Guests:
Mark Gifford, Trustee Members of the Public
Mary Lalji, Trustee Tanis Anderson, District VP Early Learning
Maya Russell, Trustee Kathleen Carlsen, Chair, DPAC
Bruce Cunnings, Director Instruction, Learning Services
Amy Grey, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Kristen Keighley-Wight, Communications Manager
Jeanne Kentel, Teacher, FW Howay
Mark Layzell, Manager Operations & Transport
Julie MacLellan, Reporter, New Westminster Record
Maureen McRae-Stanger, Director, Instruction Learning
& Innovations
Marian Schellenberg, VP, NWSS
Kai Smith, Teacher/SOGI Lead
Sarah Wethered, President, NWTU

Committee Chair Beattie recognized and acknowledged 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 meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda for the May 10, 2022, Education Policy and Planning Committee meeting be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. PRESENTATION

a. F.W. Howay Elementary

Principal Sarah Phelan introduced the F.W. Howay Elementary School presentation and video. To view the full presentation, click [here](#) [8:10 mark]

3. COMMENT AND QUESTION PERIOD

Nil.

4. STUDENT VOICE

Due to scheduling conflicts, students were unable to attend.

5. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

a. SOGI Update (K. Smith, M. McRae-Stanger, M. Schellenberg)

Teacher and SOGI Lead, Kai Smith provided an introduction to the SOGI Update. They thought it was important to connect with staff as caring, compassionate professionals who are passionate about supporting youth. The SOGI focus is equity, inclusion, and diversity. Kai provided statistics on 2SLGBTQ+ students at NWSS. Using data retrieved from Ipsos and the Bakau Consulting JEDI report, they provided a statistical number of NWSS students who identify as transgender/non-binary (80 students) or identify as not straight (560 students).

Highlights of the SOGI work include:

- Student Voices: NWSS GSA - anonymous suggestions submitted on sticky notes
- SOGI School Leads Meetings - increased confidence among teachers and new inclusive lessons
- GSA/Diversity Clubs
- New Resources
- Parents' Night Out SOGI event which took place May 5
- Continued Cooperation with Burnaby - IDAHAT virtual celebration taking place May 17
- Pronouns and Names Process at NWSS - a "getting to know you" questionnaire that facilitates teachers better supporting students
- Universal Washroom Timeline along with revised signs and education

Trustees shared their appreciation for the SOGI work and support it provides students.

b. New Westminster Schools and NWPD (M. McRae-Stanger)

Director Instruction, Learning & Innovation McRae-Stanger shared the New Westminster Schools and New Westminster Police Department (NYPD) update.

Highlights include:

- A Transition Plan identifying four key directives that will guide the ongoing relationship between the District and NYPD
- Communication and support are the two key aspects of this relationship and centre to the Transition Plan
- Communication Process on Non-Emergency Matters – clear communication to ensure gaps are eliminated
- Accessing Police Support – three separate supports which include emergency situations, emerging situations, and a referral process (prevention, intervention, training, and education)

Discussion followed.

c. Nutrition Guidelines (T. Anderson)

District Vice Principal Anderson provided her report on the updated, proposed BC School Food Guidelines which are intended to support a healthy school food environment. She confirmed the proposed 2022 guidelines are not mandatory nor are they intended to support student food and nutrition curriculum. The proposed guidelines identify one of two categories: foods to offer, serve or sell and foods to avoid. The Ministry is currently gathering data and expects the 2022 guidelines to be launched sometime next year.

d. 2022-2023 School Fees (M. Naser)

Trustee Beattie put forward the following motion:

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Education Policy and Planning Committee move the 2022-2023 School Fees Report and Recommendation to the May 24, 2022 Regular Open Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm