

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

**Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 4:30 PM
School Board Office (In-person & virtual via Zoom)**

PRESENT

Marc Andres, Committee Chair
Danielle Connelly, Trustee
Dee Beattie, Trustee
Cheryl Sluis, Trustee
Elliott Slinn, Trustee
Maya Russell, Trustee

Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
Maureen McRae-Stanger, Director of Instruction-Learning
& Innovation
Robert Weston, Executive Director Human Resources
Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer
Ileana Neilson, Manager, Early Learning and Child Care
Dominic Pistor, Teacher - NWSS
Anne-Marie Martin, Recording Secretary

Members of the public

Nancy Brennan, External Consultant – Programs of Choice

REGRETS

Gurveen Dhaliwal, Trustee

Committee Chair Andres 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 4:30 pm

Moved and Seconded

THAT the agenda for the June 6, 2023, Education Policy and Planning Committee meeting be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. PRESENTATIONS

Monkey Rebel Club and teacher Angela Jurgensen from Glenbrook Middle School presented Make New Westminster a 15-minute city. The Club will be presenting this motion to New Westminster City Council on Monday June 12th, 2023, and asked that the District (verbally) support them.

3. **COMMENT AND QUESTION PERIOD**

No comments or questions

4. **STUDENT VOICE**

Shantei and Julia provided a summary of the work done by Student Voice this year. This included the fall survey, student symposium and Mental Health and Wellness initiatives.

Chair Andres and Trustee Connelly provided encouraging comments and thanked both Shantei and Julia.

5. **CHAIR COMMENTS**

Chair Andres took a few moments to address the Board Members, Senior Management, and all participants, to contextualize the importance and purpose of the committee.

Chair Andres reflected on the presentations and reports that were presented at each of the Education Policy & Planning Committee meetings.

6. **REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

a. Programs of Choice (Nancy Brennan)

- The New Westminster School District's review of the K-12 Programs of Choice (French Immersion, Montessori, Home Learners Program) is nearing completion. The review began in January of this year and a final report will be presented at the Board of Education meeting in October of 2023.

A summary of the primary objectives, and work to date was given, along with a breakdown of the surveys, focus groups, and emerging themes.

Work will begin this summer on collating all the information and including it in the draft report document. The final report will be shared with Senior Staff in late August/early September and then presented to the Board at an Education Committee meeting in October 2023.

Questions and comments ensued.

b. Childcare update (Ileana Neilson)

- Ileana provided information on Administrative Procedure 225 – Child Care Services In District Facilities, Environmental Scan, Funding and Subsidies, and Child Care 2022-23.

An amendment to Administrative Procedure 225 was made and read to the committee.

Detailed information on the Environmental Scan was provided, including funding and subsidies.



Trustee Connelly requested a presentation on the funding and grants to be made in the future.

Trustee Beattie requested detailed information to be provided on the Environmental Scan (*attached*).

c. Climate action update report (Maureen McRae-Stanger, Dominic Pistor)

- The Climate action update report included information on the following.
 - Climate Action Education Initiatives
 - Climate Action Leads
 - Climate Action Grants
 - Howay Climate Action Initiatives
 - Connaught Climate Action Initiatives
 - QMS Climate Action Initiatives
 - Professional Development
 - Climate Education in Schools
 - Climate Action Challenge
 - Staff Portal Climate Education Resources
 - Climate Action Conference

7. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Inclusive Education (M. Andres)

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Education Policy & Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No.40 (New Westminster) to direct staff to present an action plan on the continuation of the Inclusive Education Plan, including a parent survey to assess District progress towards key themes and objectives at the January 2024 meeting of the Education Policy and Planning Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Advocacy Assessment Wait Times (D. Connelly)

Moved and Seconded

THAT the New Westminster School Board (SD40), advocate to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Child and Family Development, and Ministry of Education and Childcare to reduce wait times for students who have been identified as requiring educational assessments.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.