

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

**Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 7:00 PM  
School Board Office  
811 Ontario Street, New Westminister**

**PRESENT** Anita Ansari, Vice Chair Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent  
Dee Beattie, Trustee Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer  
Danielle Connelly, Trustee Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent  
Gurveen Dhaliwal, Trustee Robert Weston, Executive Director, Human Resources  
Mark Gifford, Chair Bruce Cunnings, Director, Instruction, Learning Services  
Maya Russell, Trustee Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary

**REGRETS** Mary Lalji, Trustee

*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**

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Add: Item 3f. Board Committee Appointments

**2019-116**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminister) adopt the agenda as amended for the November 26, 2019 Regular School Board meeting.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

a. Minutes from the Open Meeting held:

1. October 29, 2019 Regular Open Meeting

**2019-117**

**Moved and Seconded**

***THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminister) approve the minutes as distributed for the October 29, 2019 Regular School Board meeting. The New Westminister School District recognizes and***

**3. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

a. **Outgoing Board Report, Chair Gifford**

Chair Mark Gifford reported out on the accomplishments of the 2018-2019 Board of Education, a copy of the report has been appended to the Minutes.

Chair Gifford thanked NWTU, CUPE Local 409, Parent Advisory Committees, District staff and looks forward to continuing the great work of the Board and the District in 2020.

b. **Election of Chair**

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham called for nominations for the position of Chair for to

***Vice-Chair Dhaliwal accepted the nomination.***

Chair Ansari called for nominations for the position of BCPSEA Representative Alternate for the 2020 Board of Education a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

There being no further nominations, ***Vice-Chair Dhaliwal was declared BCPSEA Representative Alternate*** for the 2020 Board of Education (by acclamation).

e. **Election of BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate**

Chair Ansari called for nominations for the BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate for the 2020 Board of Education.

***Vice-Chair Gurveen Dhaliwal nominated Trustee Danielle Connelly for BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate*** for the 2020 Board of Education.

***Trustee Connelly accepted the nomination.***

Chair Ansari called for nominations for the position of BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate for the 2020 Board of Education a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

There being no further nominations, ***Trustee Connelly was declared BCSTA Provincial Delegate*** for the 2020 Board of Education (by acclamation).

**BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate Alternate**

Chair Ansari called for nominations for the BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate Alternate for the 2020 Board of Education.

***Trustee Danielle Connelly nominated Trustee Maya Russell for BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate Alternate*** for the 2020 Board of Education.

***Trustee Russell accepted the nomination.***

Chair Ansari called for nominations for the position of BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate Alternate for the 2020 Board of Education a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

There being no further nominations, ***Trustee Russell was declared BCSTA Provincial Delegate Alternate*** for the 2020 Board of Education (by acclamation).

f. **Committee Appointments**

Trustee Dee Beattie was appointed and accepted to be Chair of the Education Policy & Planning Committee.

Trustee Danielle Connelly was appointed and accepted to continue as Chair of the Operations Policy & Planning Committee.

Trustee Maya Russell was appointed and accepted to be part of the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee and continue as CUPE Management Labour Representative.

Trustees Mark Gifford and Maya Russell continue to serve on the Memorialization Advisory Committee.

Trustees Gifford and Russell to continue to support Sanctuary Schools.

Trustees Gurveen Dhaliwal and Anita Ansari to continue to support Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI).

Trustees Dee Beattie and Maya Russell to continue to serve on Special Education Advisory Committee.





**7. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

a. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Hachlaf provided highlights of his November report:

- Remembrance Day events - "No Stone Left Alone"
- School visits included:
  - Richard McBride: StrongStart, Community Garden, Mindfulness Exercises at Richard McBride Elementary
  - Hume Park Home Learners Program: Outdoor Learning; Reflection & Mapping
  - F.W. Howay: Classroom Reading
  - CERA - Restorative Justice Symposium on Friday, November 15
  - Fall Superintendent's Conference

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourn at 7:57pm.

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer

## Chair Report

It's my pleasure to provide the Annual Report of the Board.

I want to take a few minutes to take stock of some of the work of this Board in its first year, and share some of my gratitude for the work of so many. As a Board, we can look back on our first year together as one of tremendous learning, development, and growth. In partnership with students, families, community partners, and especially, staff - we have made remarkable strides as a District. 2018-2019 was a busy year, which included:

- New Board
- New Senior Staff
- New Funding Model
- Collective Bargaining
- Graduation Requirements

## Highlights:

- Strategic Plan
- Financial Health
  - Budget Consultation
  - ThoughtExchange
  - Talking Tables
- Public Engagement
  - Student Voice
  - Budget Consultation
  - Strategic Plan
- Capital – on pace, with facilities serving more than 50% of our students in progress:
  - New Westminster Secondary School
  - Richard McBride Elementary
  - Tweedsmuir Elementary
  - Sapperton Green
  - Queen Elizabeth Elementary to come
  - Five-Year Capital Plan
  - Long Range Facilities Review
  - Childcare
- Inclusion – Public Education where everyone is welcome
  - Menstrual Initiative
  - Arts Strategy
  - Special Education Review
  - Fuel Up
  - Living Wage
  - Climate Action Plan
  - Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement
  - Expanding Child Care
  - Improved District Communications
  - Live Streaming
  - May Day
  - Memorialization – relationship with Tsilhqot'in and other stakeholders



- Budget:
  - Arts
  - Operational Improvements
  - Staffing Levels – custodial/EA
  - Increased school allocations for classroom resources
  - Pro-D – Teacher Coaches
  - Student Advisory

In a little city of big hills...this District has felt a bit of the Little Blue Engine that Could

- I think I can, I think we can, We think we can
- Hard-working, optimistic, and not afraid of a challenge or two...

We have been at our best when we stay open-minded, support each other's learning, and keep our focus on the systems that support student success. We've worn our hearts on our sleeves, while trying to find agreement on vision and strategies. I like this character.

When we have not given each other or staff the benefit of the doubt, tried to go it alone, or looked for credit before impact, we've found ourselves in choppy waters.

As we move to a place of more focused, strategic action, our progress – with Board, staff, community – will continue to move at the speed of trust. Working together, rather than in isolation, we have learned we can do so much more.

- Gratitude:
  - For staff
  - NWTU & CUPE
  - Student Voice
  - Community Partners
  - District Students and Families
  - Our own Families and significant others, who've made space and time for us to be of service to the District.

Chair Mark Gifford