

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

**Tuesday, May 26, 2020, 7:00 PM
Via Webex Livestream**

- PRESENT** Anita Ansari, Chair
Dee Beattie, Trustee
Danielle Connelly, Trustee
Gurveen Dhaliwal, Vice Chair
Mark Gifford, Trustee
- Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer
Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
Robert Weston, Executive Director, Human Resources
Guests:
Bruce Cunnings, Director, Instruction, Learning Services
Janet Kinneard, Educational Assistant
Marcel Marsolais, President CUPE Local 409
Maureen McRae-Stanger, Director, Instruction, Learning & Innovations
Kelly Proznick, District Arts Facilitator
Caroline Manders, Recording Secretary
- REGRETS** Mary Lalji, Trustee
Maya Russell, Trustee

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 7:01pm.

Amendment: Agenda Item 3. Comment & Question Period from Visitors: Marcel Marsolais, President CUPE Local 409

2020-034

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) adopt the May 26, 2020 agenda as amended for the Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

a. Minutes from the Open Meeting held:

i. April 28, 2020 Regular Meeting

ii. May 12, 2020 Special Board Meeting

2020-035

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for the April 28, 2020 Regular School Board and for the May 12, 2020 Special Board Meetings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

District Arts Facilitator Proznick confirmed that all teachers had autonomy in submitting their 'wish' list of arts supplies and equipment. She worked collaboratively with each school to assist with the prioritization of what would be the best purchase. It was mentioned that schools not reflected on the list, have a robust arts program in place and felt they did not require additional resources at this time.

The Board of Education thanked District Arts Facilitator Proznick and Director, Instruction, Learning & Innovations McRae-Stanger for their work.

c. 2020-2021 Budget Bylaw - 3rd and Final Reading

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham thanked the Board for their patience, understanding and support regarding the challenging 2020-21 budget process due to the pandemic. Readings 1 and 2 of the 2020-21 Budget Bylaw were passed at the May 12, 2020 Special Open Board meeting. Budget adjustments since May 12 were highlighted:

The impact is that the total operating shortfall increases to \$1,381,979 which will be funded out of accumulated surplus reserves.

The anticipated ending reserve balance of \$1,188,551 is below the recommended \$2M surplus balance. The figure does not include any surplus generated from 2019-20 resulting from the suspension of in-class instruction. Unused funds from the Massey Theatre will be included in year-end closing statements.

The Board thanked Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham for her work developing this

- x The draft recommendations were briefly reviewed with the Board. The report encompasses five themes: 1. Student Needs; 2. Authentic Team Approach; 3. Family Support and Engagement; 4. High-Quality Professional Learning; 5. Expert Knowledge of Effective Practices and District Protocols.

- x The timeline for May and June 2020 and next steps were reviewed.

Concern was expressed that Recommendation 2.4 pertaining to Educational Assistants' (EAs) involvement in SBT and/or IEP meetings is not worded strongly enough. EAs should be involved in these meetings. Director Cunnings indicated that the feedback from the EAs will be taken back to the consultants for consideration. Further work to take place with EAs and support staff.

It was asked that the final report be shared with the Ministry of Education to identify gaps and needs. This is a provincial matter of interest.

- e. Student Withdrawal & New Registration Report

Associate Superintendent Naser shared the December 2019 and January / February 2020 report. Majority of withdrawals (66) were primarily due to families moving out of the District. During this period there were 79 new registrations.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Nil.

8. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustees provided highlights of activities they participated in May.

Chair Ansari wished the students, who will compete in the Game of Apps Provincials' competition on May 30, best of luck!

9. QUESTION PERIOD (15 Minutes)

The public was given the opportunity to ask questiono(a)10.5(c)-2(A6(i)13m-6.6(i)4.6(he D)2.e)-6.6(JTJ