

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

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 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
Danielle Connelly, Trustee Robert Weston, Executive Director, Human Resources
Mark Gifford, Trustee Guests:
Mary Lalji, Trustee Members of the Public
Maya Russell, Trustee Pam Craven, District Vice Principal, Alternate Programs
 Ravinder Johal, District Principal, Equity & Inclusion
 Kristen Keighley-Wight, Communications Manager
 Julie MacLellan, Reporter, New Westminster Record
 Marcel Marsolais, President, CUPE Local 409
 Jennifer Scorda, Principal, Connaught Heights / HLP
 Sarah Wethered, NWTU
 Caroline Manders, 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 7:00pm.

2021-001

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) adopt the agenda for the January 26, 2021 Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

a. Minutes from the Open Meeting held:

i. December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting

2021-002

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for the December 15, 2020 Regular School Board Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

3. COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS

Chair Dhaliwal briefly reviewed the order of the agenda topics and reminded all meeting participants to be respectful during discussions. It was clarified that the motion pertaining to the Alternate and Hume Park Home Learners Relocation included as Item 5b.iii is a direction to staff to gather information only; not to relocate the programs. The chat feature was disabled for this meeting to minimize distractions during the meeting. Participants were asked to use the 'raise hand' function to be called upon to speak.

Sarah Wethered, President NWTU, spoke to the Board regarding the proposal to relocate the Alternate and Hume Park Home Learners programs. Please see the meeting [video](#) (starting at 5:16) for her full remarks and those of the speakers noted below.

Jana Buhlmann, Alternate sdam(nat)4. (t)-6.62 (t)-6.e6 (e)1tand4.9 tp.3 D rs m

6. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

a. Superintendent Update

Superintendent Hachlaf provided highlights:

- Central Registration opened on January 11; since then a total 587 registrations (including 400 Kindergarten registrations) have been received. Every family has been contacted regarding their registration. Kudos and thank you to Leslie Nichol and Shannon Milne.
- Lord Tweedsmuir – Congratulations to Grades 4 and 5 students who were one of eight classes selected from across BC to take part in the Young PowerPlay Leaders Online Showcase. Thank you to Vice Principal Isabella Lam, teacher Matt Sol, and Principal Jen Richter for supporting this program.
- Consultations – appreciate the feedback received from the recent Townhalls. Thank you to staff, students and parents for participating; as well as Principals Pam Craven, Jennifer Scorda, Kathleen Chad, and Sarah Phelan, Secretary-Treasurer Bettina Ketcham, Associate Superintendent Maryam Naser, Communications Manager Kristen Keighley-

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c. Alternate Programs Relocation

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham provided highlights of the report, which captures the feedback received since the January 12, 2021 Operations Policy & Planning Committee meeting. The context of the report involves work done around the District's Strategic Plan:

- Option 1: Stay at current location – Columbia Square
- Option 2: Move to another rental location
- Option 3: Explore another District-owned site
 - Option 3A – move Hume Park Home Learners Program to Lord Tweedsmuir
 - Option 3B – co-location of RCAP/POWER and Home Learners at Hume Park

Please refer to the meeting [video](#) (starting at 43:00) for the detailed discussion.

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) direct staff to extend the lease at Columbia Square until August 2023 with a request that staff develop a plan for suitable long-term space that meets the needs of Power/RCAP and provide an update to the Board in January 2022.

The Board confirmed that it does not support the move of Hume Park Home Learners Program to the Lord Tweedsmuir location at this time. The Temporary Use Permit (TUP) process pertaining to 522 Fader Street property will not begin until further consultation/research has been completed. The Board decided to extend the Columbia Square lease (Alternate Programs.6 (A)2.6 (P)1.9 ()11.3 (and pr)5TJ0 -1.6

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

Nil.

8. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- a. Provincial Policy Matters - Direction to Board Representative to BCSTA
Provincial Council Meeting