

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL OPEN BOARD MEETING
OF THE NEW WESTMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Friday, October 1 , 2021, 12:00 PM
Via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT	Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair	Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
	Dee Beattie, Vice-Chair	Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer
		Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
		Robert Weston, Executive Director – Human Resources
	Anita Ansari, Trustee	Guests:
	Danielle Connelly, Trustee	Members of the Public
	Mark Gifford, Trustee	Julie MacLellan, Reporter, New Westminster Record
	Maya Russell, Trustee	Mike, CTV
	Mary Lalji, Trustee	Kristen Keighley-Wight, Communications Manager
		Sarah Wethered, President NWTU
		Dave Bollen, CUPE 409 President
		New Westminster DPAC
		Leanne Sojka, Recording Secretary

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Chair of the Board called the meetin3(72t)-6.6 (16.6 (i)2.6 (n3(72h* o)10.5 (r)-6 (de)10.5 (r)-5.9 (a3

2. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Mask Update (K. Hachlaf)

Superintendent Hachlaf shared the Provincial Health Officer's formal announcement K-3 mask mandate effective October 4, 2021 provides District the formal authority to exercise the mask requirement. He reiterated that the Provincial Health Authority confirms that schools remain a safe place and that the Delta variant transmissions have not fundamentally changed how we deal with the pandemic. He noted that the District intends to implement the expanded K-3 mask mandate in a supportive, inclusive approach as has been done during the entire pandemic to support their youngest learners - above all else students to remain in school. Communication will be forthcoming to families later today.

Discussion ensued.

2021-071

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) indefinitely postpone the motion to extend the current grade 4 to 12 mask mandate to include kindergarten – grade 3 students.

Trustee Beattie offered the explanation that given the Ministry of Education, with the support of the PHO, have implemented a mask mandate, the original motion proposed before the announcement is not necessary.

Discussion ensued.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. COVID-19 - Other Matters (K. Hachlaf)

i. School-based Vaccinations

Superintendent Hachlaf reiterated the District will continue to work collaboratively with Fraser Health with respect to school based vaccinations.

ii. COVID-19 Mouth/Gargle Rinse Test Kits

Superintendent Hachlaf shared that similar to last year, the District will be volunteering again to pilot mouth/gargle rinse test kits working collaboratively with Fraser Health. He wanted to clarify that these tests get sent back to the lab.

iii. COVID-19 School Notifications

Superintendent Hachlaf shared that Fraser Health has already begun to post notifications on their website, posting a day after the exposure letter

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:27 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer