

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

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 7:00 PM
Via Zoom Link**

PRESENT Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair
 Maya Russell, Vice-Chair
 Dee Beattie, Trustee
 Danielle Connelly, Trustee
 Elliott Slinn, Trustee
 Marc Andres, Trustee
 Cheryl Sluis, Trustee

 Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
 Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
 Bettina Ketcham, Secretary-Treasurer
 Robert Weston, Executive Director Human Resources
 Amy Grey, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
 Dave Crowe, Director Capital Projects

 Members of the Public
 DPAC: Laura Kwong, Chair
 CUPE: Janet Kinneard, Vice-President
 NWTU: Kristie Oxley, President
 Laura Goodman, 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 7:00 pm.

2023-039

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) adopt the agenda for the May 23, 2023, Regular School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- ii. May 2, 2023, Special Open Board Meeting

2023-041

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for May 2, 2023, Special Open School Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. Business Arising from the Minutes

Nil.

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Scott Rains (NWSS Sr. Student) - May Day Youth Committee.

Scott Rains, New Westminster May Day Youth Committee lead, provided a comprehensive overview of the history, tradition, and celebration of the May Day event. The 153rd May Day Celebration will be held this Saturday, May 27, 2023, at 3:00 pm at Queen's Park Stadium in New Westminster. *To view the full presentation, please refer to the meeting [video](#) at the [44 second mark].*

4. **COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS**

DPAC: Laura Kwong, Chair

- DPAC attended the BCCPACs Parent Education Conference & AGM. DPAC held its AGM last week.
- DPAC Chair stated that there is a need for school districts and the Ministry to collaboratively and quickly develop comprehensive extreme heat and air quality management plans.

CUPE 409: Janet Kinneard, Vice-President

- CUPE 409 participated in the recent CLC convention in Montreal and the CUPE BC convention in Victoria.
- CUPE is currently waiting on a draft copy of their ratified collective agreement.
- CUPE shared feedback about superintendent recommendations.
- CUPE urges the school board to act quickly on practical solutions to cooling schools.

NWTU: Kristie Oxley, President

- Kristie thanked the Trustees and the School Board for their prompt response to the three letters they received from NWTU last week.
- She also spoke to the current heat issues in many of the district schools including NWSS, Skwo:wech and the portables.
- A parent voiced a concern which was redirected to Superintendent Hachlaf who stated that he will follow-up with the parent directly to acquire the details of the incidents, and will support her through the District's process.

The public was given the opportunity to ask questions on matters that arose during the meeting with staff responding where appropriate. *To view the full comment and question period, please refer to the meeting [video](#) at the [14 minute mark].*

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil.

6. **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

a. Education Policy & Planning Committee, May 2, 2023.

- i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Andres.
Trustee Andres provided highlights and stated that the last EPPC meeting was eventful and positive -27.546

