

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

Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 7:00 PM
Via Zoom Link

PRESENT Maya Russell, Chair Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
Cheryl Sluis, Vice

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.

3. PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

4. COMMENT & QUESTION PERIOD FROM VISITORS

DPAC: Krista Macaulay, DPAC Treasurer shared highlights of their recent meeting.

- At DPACs October meeting members passed two motions; one was to write a letter of advocacy re: parent communication procedures during safety incidents, and one was to write a letter re: issues with the District's hot lunch provider.
- Parents shared their value in participating in the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) information sessions.
- DPAC is pleased to learn that the District has referenced the Individual Education Plan (IEP) framework for engagement.
- DPAC would like to add their voice to parent Naomi Perks request this evening, which is for greater visibility re: the district's commitment to supporting SOGI in their schools.
- DPAC shares their excitement in the District's announcement of the Queensborough bus pilot project.
- Parents at FRMS and West End were disappointed to learn that FRMS was not selected as a pilot school for the walking school bus.

NWTU: Kristie Oxley, President

- Kristie thanked the HR Department for their ongoing effort to recruit and hire teachers,

inclusion and diversity, as doing so has the potential to make a profound impact on their schools, and most importantly, the lives of their students.

Trustee Sluis acknowledged Naomi's contributions and continued advocacy for the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Sluis also spoke about pride month being an opportunity to celebrate the love, diversity, and connection to 2SLGBTQ+ people in their community.

- NWSS update re: capacity issues: A public town hall will be held on Wednesday, October 25th and Andres encouraged everyone to participate. An update will be provided at the next EPPC meeting on November 14th, followed with a proposal being presented to the Board at the Open Board meeting on December 12th; at which time the Board will decide the best course of action.
- Andres was pleased to introduce a new member of their team, Amy Laidlaw, Coordinator of Indigenous Curriculum and Transitions. Amy's focus will be on improving Indigenous graduation outcomes for their students, and decolonizing the Curriculum.

ii. Approval of the October 10, 2023 Education Policy and Planning Committee Minutes.

2023-069

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for the Education Policy and Planning Committee held on October 10, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Operations Policy & Planning Committee, October 10, 2023.

i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Connelly.

Trustee Connelly provided brief highlights of the meeting, and recommended that individuals review the October 10th agenda package, if they are interested in learning what the District is doing to manage capacity issues. Connelly noted that it contains a lot of the information that was covered at the two Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) Information sessions held on October 3rd and 5th, 2023 which she was able to participate in.

ii. Approval of the October 10, 2023 Operations Policy and Planning Committee Minutes

2023-070

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the minutes as distributed for the Operations Policy and Planning Committee held on October 10, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

iii. Approval of the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP)

Chair Russell provided an overview of the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) process, and noted that the Board of Education held an intensive LRFP workshop on the plan, followed by a Board discussion at the Operations Policy and Planning meeting held on October 10, 2023. The District also held two information sessions; October 3rd at NWSS (in-person), and October 5th (virtual) to ensure their community understands the direction they are taking with this plan. Russell noted that this item was brought forward to the Board this evening for a final adoption of the updated plan which comes with a commitment to update and / or to refresh the LRFP every 18 months to 2 years.

2023-071
Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the 2023 Long Range Facilities plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

a. Superintendent Update (K. Hachlaf)

Superintendent Hachlaf provided an update on the following activities:

- Acknowledgement of September 30th as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and Orange Shirt Week which encompassed activities at all schools within their District.
- Superintendent Hachlaf, and the Board of Education acknowledged World Teachers Day which was held on October 5th. Hachlaf noted that it was a pleasure for him to visit different school classrooms over the last six weeks, and wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge with gratitude to the teachers, staff, and educators within their school district for their continued support with our students.
- October Staff Learning Events: District wide event in which many of their staff participated in an array of professional development opportunities which are tied to the District's initiatives and strategic directions more explicitly.
- Pro-D Day on November 14th: The focus for all staff is towards, diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism. Part of the District's commitment to building meaningful and critical learning opportunities for staff. Hachlaf stated that he will provide an update re: these learning experiences at the next Open Board meeting on November 28, 2023.

b. Bank Signing Authority (B. Ketcham) 8:00 PM

Moved and Seconded
2023-072

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster)'s bank signing authorities Trustee Maya Russell and Trustee Cheryl Sluis, Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent; and Bettina Ketcham, Secretary- Treasurer be approved;

AND FURTHER that effective immediately, bank signing authority Gurveen Dhaliwal former Chair, be removed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Queensborough Bussing (Verbal) (B. Ketcham)

- Secretary-Treasurer noted that on October 26, 2023, the Province announced up to \$1.6 million for dedicated school bus funding for Queensborough resident students to NWSS. It is a pilot project; the grant will be provided in January 2024 for service to commence at this time.

- World Mental Health Day – Tuesday, October 10, 2023 Represent Board at the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council Meeting – Friday, October 20 – Saturday, October 21, 2023.
- Indigenous focused professional development • Canada School Library Day – Monday, October 23, 2023.

12. REPORTING OUT FROM IN-CAMERA BOARD MEETING

- a. Record of the September 26, 2023 In-Camera Meeting.
- b. Record of the October 5, 2023 Special In-Camera Meeting.
- c. Record of the October 10, 2023 Special In-Camera Meeting.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer