

3. PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

4.

The public was given the opportunity to ask questions on items related to the agenda with staff responding where appropriate. To view the first full comment and question period, please refer to the meeting [video](#) at [7:03 pm].

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

6. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Education Policy & Planning Committee, November 14, 2023.

i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Andres.

Trustee Andres provided brief highlights of the meeting.

ii. Approval of the November 14, 2023 Education Policy and Planning Committee Minutes.

2023-076

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 November 14, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Operations Policy & Planning Committee, November 14, 2023.

i. Comments from the Committee Chair, Trustee Connelly.

Trustee Connelly provided brief highlights of the meeting.

ii. Approval of the November 14, 2023 Operations Policy and Planning Committee Minutes.

2023-077

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 November 14, 2023.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. REPORTS FROM SENIOR MANAGEMENT

a. Superintendent Update (K. Hachlaf)

Superintendent Hachlaf provided highlights on the following activities:

- NWSS District Pro-D: held on November 14th, 2023.

- A District wide event in which the focus for all staff is towards Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-racism. Hachlaf noted that the District is in the draft process of their own DEIA framework which will go before the 'Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-racism Advisory Committee for review. A DEIA update will be provided to the Board in the springtime.
- Recognition of 20- and 30-year Employees event was held on November 14th; Hachlaf acknowledged and congratulated employees for their significant career milestones and achievements within New Westminster schools.
- Keynote speaker: Angie Osachoff, Director of Canadian Programs at Equitas. The Ministry and the Board of Education has been working with Angie and Equitas to develop staff training modules centered around Human Rights.
- 2023 National Gathering for Indigenous Education. Hachlaf noted that he had the opportunity to attend the national conference for Indigenous education in Montreal, Quebec from November 15th to 17th. An opportunity to join in, and participate with, Indigenous team leads, keynote speakers, and a number of different breakout sessions; all of which

within their schools such as print, digital, and guest speakers, and 2). To ensure that the resources students are using are aligned with their curriculum. McRae-Stanger noted that the revised AP 251 is now aligned with goals on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-racism (DEIA); Truth and Reconciliation, and the BC Human Rights Code. The AP also outlines the roles and responsibilities of their educators on how to review, select, and use the various resources in their classroom.

c. Review and Approve Board / Authority Authorized Course (P. Craven)

Pam Craven, Director of Instruction for Secondary Programs presented her report to the Board on Board / Authority Authorized Course (BAA) 'Traditional Trades and Tool Making 11. Craven noted that BAA courses, are courses which are developed by teachers who are in alignment with students who share a joint passion and/or interest to learn a particular new course/skill set that is not offered within our Ministry of Education courses. The BAA courses are offered in grade 10 through 12, are for credit, and contribute to the regular Dogwood program. Craven noted that there are currently 88 (BAA) courses in total in the district; 36 of which are active.

The goal this evening is to acquire Board approval for this new Traditional Trades and Tool Making 11 course, so it can be offered in the District's January course selection guidelines for students in the fall of 2024.

Questions and discussion ensued.

To view the (BAA) presentation in its entirety, please refer to the [video](#) at [8:30 pm].

2023-078

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) approve the following Board Authority/Authorized Course for the 2024-2025 school year:
Traditional Trades and Tool Making 11.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Russell put forward a motion for a 5-minute recess at 8:40 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 8:47 pm.

d. Receive Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report (B. Ketcham)

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham stated that Districts are required to submit a SOFI Report. Two significant items within the SOFI Report are the financial statements which the Board approved in September 2023. The District is also required to report all employees who earn over \$75K per fiscal year (July 1st - June 30th) including their incurred expenses. The District is also required to send in a list of vendors for which they have spent over \$25K, most of which are related to capital projects and capital works.

2023-079

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) acknowledge receipt of the Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report for Information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. By-Election Update (B. Ketcham)

Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham stated that the majority of this information was reported by the City of New Westminster at their Open meeting held on November 28th, 2023; at which time, the City did appoint a Chief election officer and a Deputy Chief election officer for this upcoming By-election; the general voting day is February 3, 2024.

Ketcham acknowledged that the estimated \$300,000 overall cost for the By-election as noted by the City is on the higher side, a result from the fact that the City does not have staff capacity to run this By-election. The District will work with the City to offset the estimated \$300,000 by providing the necessary staffing related supports, and hardware as it relates to technology and communication related supports.

Trustee Dhaliwal put forward the following recommendation.

2023-080

Moved and Seconded

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) write a letter to the Ministry of Education and Child Care requesting dedicated financial supports to fund By- elections in school districts.

Trustee Connelly put forward an amendment to the recommendation.

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminster) write a letter to the Ministry of Education and Child Care requesting dedicated financial supports to fund By- elections in school districts; and to cover the costs of this By- election.

MOTION CARRIED AS AMENDED

f. Program of Choice – Montessori Recommendations (M. Naser)

Associate Superintendent Naser provided an update, and noted that staff recommend that Programs of Choice (POC) consolidation be considered in conjunction with the opening of a new elementary school. Staff also requested that the Board initiate a public consultation process in line with the IAP2 framework when the consolidation process becomes feasible in order to gain valuable input from the community re: the transition process for program consolidation.

2023-081
Moved and Seconded