

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm

The Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) met in room 114 (the Boardroom), VSB Education Centre, 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. and online in Teams on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was live-streamed.

Trustees Present in the Room:	Carmen Cho, Chairperson, Estrellita Gonzalez, Vice-Chairperson, Barbara Parrott
Trustees Present in Teams:	Fraser Ballantyne, Lois Chan-Pedley, Janet Fraser, Oliver Hanson, Jennifer Reddy, Allan Wong, Ricky Huang, Student Trustee
Senior Management Present in the Room:	Suzanne Hoffman, Superintendent J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer
Senior Management Present in Teams:	David Nelson, Deputy Superintendent Carmen Batista, Associate Superintendent-Employee Services Pedro da Silva, Associate Superintendent-Learning and Information Technology Jody Langlois, Associate Superintendent-Learning Services Rob Schindel, Associate Superintendent-School Services
Also Present in Teams:	Shehzad Somji, Assistant Secretary Treasurer Marlene Phillips, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1.1 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the meeting is being held in the traditional unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

1.2 Opening Remarks

The Chairperson acknowledged January 27th as Holocaust Remembrance Day. She also acknowledged February as Black History Month, with this being the 25th year of Black History Month in Canada.

The Chairperson informed everyone the meeting is being live-streamed and the audio and visual recording will also be available to the public for viewing after the meeting. The footage of the meeting may be viewed inside and outside of Canada. She reviewed meeting decorum for respectful behavior.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Meeting of December 14, 2020

Moved by F. Ballantyne, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the minutes of the December 14, 2020 meeting be adopted.

Trustee Parrott requested the minutes be revised to indicate that she voted against the motion in item 9.1 on page 8. The Chairperson requested the record be changed and the minutes be adopted with the change

noted by Trustee Parrott.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

2.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of December 14, 2020

2.2.1 School Liaison Officer (SLO) Program Review

Trustee Chan-Pedley provided a verbal update on the School Liaison Officer Program Review. She reviewed the background of the motion, which was broken into two parts at the October 26, 2020 Board meeting (creation of a background report and stakeholder engagement) and reported that since the last update:

- A consultant (Argyle Communications) has been engaged to gather information for a background and context report.
- The report produced has been shared with trustees and is being provided to participants of the engagement process and stakeholders.
- Stakeholder engagement is ongoing.
- Argyle Communications has been directed to include students as part of the engagement process, specifically those with lived experience of the SLO program and those that identify as part of the black, Indigenous, and people of colour communities.

Trustee Chan-Pedley clarified that the role of Argyle Communications is to gather input and feedback. They will not be making recommendations.

A trustee provided feedback and Trustee Chan-Pedley provided clarification.

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

3.1 Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent gave a PowerPoint presentation providing information on student achievement, including:

- 2019-2020 school year completion rates
- Students with learning designations
- 2019-2020 school year Indigenous completion rates

3.2 COVID-19 Update

The Superintendent continued her PowerPoint presentation providing an update on COVID-19, including:

- A summary of the number of school and worksite COVID-19 exposure notifications
- Changes/updates to guidance from the Provincial Health Officer
 - Updates to the District COVID-19 plan
 - COVID-19 supplies and materials as of January 19, 2021
 - COVID-19 research projects

Trustees provided feedback and the Superintendent provided clarification on further data that could be provided.

4. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

The Student Trustee provided a verbal report on:

- The Canley Cup
- A recent initiative taken by the Vancouver District Students' Council (VDSC) to help students navigate the university application and transition process
- The VDSC's work with the independent consultant regarding the School Liaison Officer Program

Trustees provided feedback.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE

5.1.1 Report: Meeting of December 16, 2020

The Chairperson of the Committee, A. Wong, presented the report of the December 16, 2020 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on the Long Range Facilities Plan.

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by J. Fraser, that the report of the December 16, 2020 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

5.1.2 Report: Meeting of January 13, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, A. Wong, presented the report of the January 13, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- Re-naming David Lloyd George and Sir Matthew Begbie Elementary Schools
- Motion referred from the December 14, 2020 Board Meeting – No Sale of Public Land
- 2020 Draft Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP), including:
 - Feedback received from the Joint Stakeholder/Trustee workshop held on January 6, 2021
 - Changes made to the 2020 LRFP from December 23, 2020 – January 11, 2021
 - Feedback received from members of the public up to 3:00 pm on January 13, 2021

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the report of the January 13, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

5.1.3 Matters Arising from the Meeting of January 13, 2021

5.1.3.1 Re-Naming of David Lloyd George Elementary School

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board approve the renaming of David Lloyd

George Elementary School.

During discussion of the motion, Trustee Wong informed everyone there was support from committee members, although it was not unanimous. He summarized why there was not unanimous support.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, J. Reddy, C. Cho

Against: A. Wong

5.1.3.2 Re-Naming of Sir Matthew Begbie Elementary School

In presenting the following motion, Trustee Wong informed everyone there was unanimous support amongst committee members for the recommendation.

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the Board approve the renaming of Sir Matthew Begbie Elementary School.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.1.3.3 Motion Referred from the December 14, 2020 Board Meeting – No Sale of Public Land

The Chairperson of the Committee reported this item was returning to the Board for consideration. However, the vote at the committee to support the motion was a tie vote, so it was not supported by the committee.

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by B. Parrott, that the Vancouver Board of Education not dispose of any of its land by sale or transfer in fee simple. This would not preclude land swaps or leases pursuant to the procedure in Policy 20.

Trustee Reddy reviewed the rationale for the motion.

Amendment

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the motion be amended as below:

Adding to the end of the first sentence “in such a way that would decrease the overall value of Public Assets”; and

In the second sentence after “This would not preclude” adding “(1) consideration of proposals or partnerships from other public land owners, for example the City of Vancouver and BC Housing, where the land would remain in the public portfolio, or from First Nations; or (2)”

Following discussion, trustees voted on the amendment.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson

Against: B. Parrott, J. Reddy, A. Wong

Main Motion

Trustees discussed the main motion, as amended, which now reads:

That the Vancouver Board of Education not dispose of any of its land by sale or transfer in fee simple in such a way that would decrease the overall value of Public Assets. This would not preclude (1) consideration of proposals or partnerships from other public land owners, for example the City of Vancouver and BC Housing, where the land would remain in the public portfolio, or from First Nations; or (2) land swaps or leases pursuant to the procedure in Policy 20.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the main motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson

Abstained: B. Parrott, J. Reddy, A. Wong

5.1.4 Report: Meeting of January 18, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, A. Wong, presented the report of the January 18, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on the 2020 Long Range Facilities Plan.

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by B. Parrott, that the report of the January 18, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

5.1.5 Matters Arising from the Meeting of January 18, 2021

5.1.5.1 Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP)

Main Motion

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by O. Hanson, that the Vancouver Board of Education approve the 2020 Long Range Facilities Plan.

A trustee called a point of privilege and requested someone other than the Chair of the committee move the motion, since a recommendation was not supported by the committee. The Chairperson called for a new mover and seconder.

Moved by F. Ballantyne, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Vancouver Board of Education approve the 2020 Long Range Facilities Plan.

Trustee Reddy presented six changes to the LRFP and requested they be considered as one amendment.

The Chairperson reported other changes to the LRFP had been received by trustees earlier in the day, from Trustees Parrott and Gonzalez, and she ruled amendments are to be considered in the

order they are received. Considering this, the amendment submitted by Trustee Reddy would be considered after the amendment from Trustees Parrott and Gonzalez.

Trustee Reddy called a point of order and the Chairperson provided further clarification.

Amendment #1

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the following changes be made to the Long Range Facilities Plan:

- 1) p. 5, last sentence – delete “all students and staff will be in seismically safe schools” and replace with “all Vancouver schools will be seismically safe” (mutatis mutandis)
- 2) pp. 8/9 – add “continue to monitor and assess the impact of development on forecast enrolment” to each region.
- 3) p. 17, last sentence in 1.3.3 – delete “Having said that, there is an understanding that, in line with one of the purposes of a Long-Range Facilities Plan, requests for funding for capital projects will reflect the area standards of the Ministry and the associated capacity utilization calculations.”
- 4) p. 19, Chapter 2 – that 2.3 “Guiding Principles” be updated to “Broad Educational Vision” and that the entire contents of Appendix A be added under this heading.
- 5) p. 42, 5.2 – add at the end, “These guidelines are attached as Appendix ____
- 6) p. 50, 2 – delete “which limits the options to organize and staff elementary schools efficiently and effectively”

Discussion followed, with each of the six changes discussed separately.

Trustees voted on the amendment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment #2

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by B. Parrott, that the following additional changes be made to the Long Range Facilities Plan:

- 1) That the LRFP Strategy 2020-2030 (currently contained in Appendix A) be moved in the document to replace the contents of Section 2.3 (Guiding Principles) to clarify that the LRFP Strategy has supremacy in guiding the actions and decisions of staff.
- 2) That the criteria that determine which schools are put forward in the capital plan for the Seismic Mitigation Program (Section 3.3.10), the criteria for the Land and Assets Strategy (Section 7.4), and the criteria used for school consolidation (Section 5.10) all be updated to include:
 - The ability to accommodate children living in the local catchment area based on catchment population forecasts.
 - Impacts on equity-seeking populations, including but not limited to students who

identify as Indigenous, people with disabilities, special needs, and affected by the impacts of poverty and/or trauma.

- 3) That a new bullet be inserted into Section 2.4 of the LRFP (planning assumptions), stating that, "The District recognizes that the LRFP currently contains insufficient information about the accessibility of facilities across the District for people with physical and learning disabilities, and that a lack of accessibility leads to segregation in a manner that is incompatible with District values. Therefore, the District commits that by [November 30, 2021](#), it will complete consultations with parents, students and stakeholders to define accessibility concerns so that comprehensive accessibility data and standards can be included within the 2022 LRFP. In the Interim, staff will report to trustees on any accessibility shortcomings for seismic upgrades and new builds (e.g. lack of elevator, lack of sensory room, etc.) and seek Trustees' direction about the use of District funds to address shortcomings in Ministry funding."
- 4) That bullet 3 in Section 2.4 (Planning Assumptions) be changed to read: "The enrolment projection methodology currently used by the District will remain for planning purposes but with the local knowledge component improved to consider how student yields might increase from City of Vancouver, University Endowment Lands and First Nations planning decisions that have been approved by their respective Councils. The VSB will request from these authorities 20-year forecasts for population change in school-aged children for each of the six District study regions contained in the LRFP."
- 5) That a new bullet be inserted into Section 2.4 of the LRFP (Planning Assumptions), stating that, "The Ministry of Education no longer mandates a 95% capacity utilization target and the District is currently making long-term planning decisions without any transparent understanding of its own capacity utilization targets. The District therefore commits to forming a stakeholder working group to determine capacity utilization targets by [November 30, 2021](#), to be included within the 2022 LRFP."
- 6) That Section 1.3.4 (Long-Range Facilities Plan Structure) is updated to include the sentence: "For the purpose of transparency, each annual LRFP will publish current data including: Kindergarten & Gr 8. Registration information, enrolment projections by catchment, population projections by catchment, movement of students out of catchment into choice programs, movement of students out of catchment to other catchments, 1st choice requests for district programs, and waitlist information by school."

During discussion, the Secretary Treasurer informed trustees that the first change listed in the amendment had already been addressed. He also provided additional feedback. The Chairperson asked trustees if there was any opposition to removing the first change in the amendment, and there was none.

During further discussion, the following motion was proposed.

Moved by J. Reddy that the Long Range Facilities Plan motion with approved amendment #1 and the proposed amendment #2 be referred to the Facilities Planning Committee. There was no seconder.

Trustees voted on Amendment #2.

DEFEATED

For: B. Parrott, J. Reddy

Against: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, A. Wong

Main Motion

Trustees then considered the main motion as amended, which reads:

That the Vancouver Board of Education approve the 2020 Long Range Facilities Plan with the amendments approved that were brought forward by Trustee Gonzalez and Trustee Parrott.

During discussion, the Chairperson of the Committee Trustee Wong summarized the importance of having an updated Long Range Facilities Plan in order to support the 5 Year Capital Plan and obtain funding. He also acknowledged that conversations on the LRFP will continue.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong

Against: J. Reddy

5.2 FINANCE COMMITTEE

5.2.1 Report: Meeting of January 20, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, O. Hanson, presented the report of the January 20, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- COVID-19 funding
- Budget Monitoring and Reporting Administrative Procedure
- 2020-2021 Amended Budget changes
- Budget Guide 2021-2022
- Business Development Update

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the report of the January 20, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

5.3 STUDENT LEARNING AND WELL-BEING COMMITTEE

5.3.1 Report: Meeting of January 20, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, J. Reddy, presented the report of the January 20, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- Music review
- COVID-19 Updates:
 - Option 4 – Learning from Home Transition
 - Secondary school programming

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by B. Parrott, that the report of the January 20, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chairperson announced the on-line link for submitting questions to this meeting will now be closed.

6. REPORT ON PRIVATE SESSION ITEMS

6.1 Meeting of January 25, 2021

The Chairperson reported that the Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the January 25, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of January 25, 2021, the Board discussed matters regarding personnel, legal opinions and property matters.

7. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

7.1 Report from Trustee Wong on the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee scheduled for January 14, 2021.

7.2 Reports from Trustee Fraser on the:

- Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee meetings held on December 10, 2020 and January 14, 2021.
- Vancouver City Planning Commission meeting held on January 13, 2021.
- BCSTA Metro Branch meeting held on January 20, 2021.

7.3 Report from Report from Trustee Parrott on the Vancouver Library Board meeting held on December 9, 2020.

7.4 Reports from Trustee Gonzalez on the:

- Vancouver Food Policy Committee meeting held on January 7, 2021.
- Vancouver Heritage Commission meeting held on January 11, 2021.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Selection of Auditor

The Secretary Treasurer presented and reviewed a memorandum entitled *Selection of Auditor* dated January 25, 2021. The report includes a recommendation.

Moved by L. Chan-Pedley, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the Board of Education appoints KPMG LLP as the District's auditor.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, A. Wong

Against: B. Parrott

Abstained: J. Reddy

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

9.1 Notice of Motion from Trustee Wong – Vaccine Letter

Trustee Wong updated the title of his submitted Notice of Motion to "Vaccine Letter".

Moved by A. Wong, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the motion be approved as presented in the Notice, which reads:

That the Vancouver Board of Education write to the Honorable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health and Dr. Bonnie Henry, Provincial Health Officer to prioritize school based teachers, administrators and support staff to be included immediately after phase 2 Vaccination Roll Out Plan for BC to be offered vaccinations against COVID-19.

Phase 1 – December 2020 to February 2021

- Residents, staff and essential visitors to long-term care and assisted living
- Individuals assessed for and awaiting long term care
- Hospital health care workers who may provide care for COVID-19 patients
- Remote and isolated Indigenous communities

Phase 2 – February to March

- Seniors 80+
- Remote Indigenous communities not done in phase 1
- Indigenous seniors aged 65+, Elders, and additional communities not yet immunized
- Hospital staff, community GPs and medical specialists not yet immunized
- Vulnerable populations in select congregated settings
- Staff in community home support and nursing for seniors

Phase 3 – April to June

- People aged 79 to 60 in five-year increments
- People aged 69 to 16 who are clinically extremely vulnerable

Phase 4 – July to September

- People aged 59 to 18 in five-year increments

Trustee Wong reviewed the rationale of the motion and trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 Notice of Motion from Trustee Parrott – Postponement of the FSA

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by A. Wong, that the Vancouver Board of Education write to the Minister of Education requesting the cancellation of the Foundation Skills Assessment for the 2020-2021 school year, and

That a 3 person sub-committee of the Board be established to research the efficacy of the FSA and report to the Board in September.

Trustee Parrott reviewed the rationale for the motion. A trustee requested the motion be divided into 2 parts and there was no objection.

Part 1 – Cancellation of the FSA for 2020-2021

That the Vancouver Board of Education write to the Minister of Education requesting the cancellation of the Foundation Skills Assessment for the 2020-2021 school year.

During discussion, the Superintendent reported the District has not sent any letters to parents regarding FSA for 2020-2021. Following discussion, trustees voted on Part 1 of the divided motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Part 2 – Sub-Committee to Research the Efficacy of the FSA

That a 3 person sub-committee of the Board be established to research the efficacy of the Foundation Skills Assessment and report to the Board in September.

Following discussion, trustees voted on Part 2 of the divided motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 Notice of Motion from Trustee Parrott – COVID-19 Funding

Referral Motion

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the following motion be referred to the Personnel Committee:

That \$3 million of unspent COVID-19 Federal grant money be used to hire additional teachers to work with Option 4 students.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

The Chairperson responded to questions regarding:

- Option 4 elementary program
- Remote teaching in secondary schools
- Donation of ventilation systems and physical barriers to work spaces
- Level of protection in schools
- Motion from the October 26, 2020 Board meeting regarding the School Liaison Officer Program

The Superintendent responded to a question on data collection on English Language Learners (ELL), black students and other racialized youth.

The Secretary Treasurer responded to a question on COVID-19 grant funding and improvements made to ventilation systems in schools.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Trustees agreed to adjourn by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer

Carmen Cho, Chairperson