

# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 28, 2022 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. on Monday, February 28, 2022, at 7:00 pm. The meeting was live-streamed.

Trustees Present in the Room: Janet Fraser, Chairperson, Estrellita Gonzalez, Vice-Chairperson, Fraser Ballantyne, Lois Chan-Pedley, Carmen Cho, Oliver Hanson, Barb Parrott, Allan Wong, Ricky Huang, Student Trustee

Trustees Absent with Regrets: Jennifer Reddy

Senior Management Present in the Room: Helen McGregor, Superintendent  
David Nelson, Deputy Superintendent  
David Green, Secretary Treasurer  
Pedro da Silva, Associate Superintendent-Learning & Information Technology  
Jody Langlois, Associate Superintendent-Learning Services  
Pete Nuij, Associate Superintendent-Employee Services  
Rob Schindel, Associate Superintendent-School Services  
Shehzad Somji, Assistant Secretary Treasurer

Staff present in Teams: Rosie Poetschke, Director of Instruction, Learning Services

Also Present in the Room: Patricia MacNeil, Director of Communications  
Judy Mah, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

### 1.1 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and acknowledged that we are unlearning and relearning on the traditional and unceded lands of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) and səliiwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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.

### 1.2 Opening Remarks

In her opening remarks, the Chairperson acknowledged the following:

- The current global issue in Ukraine and prioritizing the mental health and well-being of students, families, and staff at this time.
- Black History Month, providing examples of how the Vancouver School Board (VSB) has celebrated Black History and Excellence.
- Recognition days, including Pink Shirt Day, Family Day, Lunar New Year Celebrations, and Valentine's Day.

- March 3<sup>rd</sup> virtual keynote session featuring Dr. Ghody Muhammad, writer of the book *Cultivating Genius – An Equity Framework for Culturally and Historically Responsive Literacy*.
- The VSB Education Plan and next steps.

## 2. PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### 2.1 VSBean Coffee Cart

The Director of Instruction, Learning Services, R. Poetschke and the District Resource Teacher, P. Neuman presented the Program Highlight, entitled VSBean Coffee Cart. Ms. Neuman provided background on the coffee cart as a unique work experience for secondary special education students. She presented a video which featured students from the secondary special education program at Garibaldi Annex and students from the Tupper Tech Class, who helped build the cart. In the video, students John Gaor, Georgia Wootton, Andrei Ibaan, Yianni Papastamatiou, and Michael Coleman-Hughes spoke about their experiences working at the coffee cart.

## 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

### 3.1 Meeting of January 31, 2022

Moved by F. Ballantyne, seconded by C. Cho, that the minutes of the January 31, 2022 meeting be adopted.

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

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

### 3.2 Special Meeting of February 23, 2022

Moved by E. Gonzalez, seconded by A. Wong, that the minutes of the February 23, 2022 special meeting be adopted.

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

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

### 3.3 Meeting of February 23, 2022 (Delegation Committee of the Whole)

Moved by C. Cho, seconded by L. Chan-Pedley, that the minutes of the February 23, 2022 Special Board/Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted.

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

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

## 4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

The Superintendent gave a PowerPoint presentation, entitled *Superintendent's Highlights*, a copy of which is on file with the meeting agenda.

In highlighting the District's work on diversity, the Superintendent introduced VSB Farsi settlement worker, Soheila Ansari, in Teams. Ms. Ansari provided information about her role in supporting students and

families in adjusting to living in Canada. The presentation also included shared experiences from Sahar Aghazadeh, a grade 12 King George student, and Sodeh Fazeli, a VSB parent.

The Superintendent continued her presentation by providing an overview of her work in February, including establishing connections with stakeholders, and Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA)s. She reviewed the District highlights for February, including District Professional Development Day, Black History Month, and an update on the Education Plan.

She concluded her presentation with an update on COVID-19, which included information on Rapid Antigen test kit distribution for students and staff, informing that there have not been any new public health notices and there have been no functional closures across VSB schools. The Superintendent also commented on the work of the communicable disease prevention plan, and resumption of sports activities. She indicated future COVID-19 updates from her would only come forward if there were new developments with the pandemic as part of the Superintendent's Highlights.

## 5. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT:

The Student Trustee provided a verbal report on:

- Canley Cup and Greater Vancouver Food Drive
- Vancouver District Student Council (VDSC) General Meeting on March 1, 2022
- VDSC upcoming events
- Acknowledgement and gratitude for Superintendent McGregor

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 6.1 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

#### 6.1.1 Report: Meeting of February 2, 2022

The Chairperson of the Committee, E. Gonzalez, presented the report of the February 2, 2022 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information and updates on:

- Staffing and recruitment
- Wellness and employee engagement
- Living wage employer certification

Moved by E. Gonzalez, seconded by C. Cho, that the report of the February 2, 2022 meeting be received.

In speaking to the report, Trustee Gonzalez highlighted that the Vancouver School Board has now been certified as a living wage employer.

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

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

### 6.2 FINANCE COMMITTEE

#### 6.2.1 Report: Meeting of February 16, 2022

The Chairperson of the Committee, O. Hanson, presented the report of the February 16, 2022 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- Financial Update to December 31, 2021 (Operating Fund)
- COVID-19 Spending Update
- 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the report of the February 16, 2022 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

**6.2.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of February 16, 2022**

**6.2.2.1 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget (attachment)**

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education adopt the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022 in the amount of \$663,966,970.

Trustee Hanson spoke to the motion and requested an amendment to the wording. The Secretary Treasurer informed everyone that the wording of the bylaw should include three readings.

Discussion on the amended budget then ensued. Trustees asked questions and provided comments and staff responded.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the amended motion.

**Main Motion:**

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022 be read a first time the 28th day of February 2022;

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

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

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022 be read a second time the 28th day of February 2022;

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

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

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) approves having all three readings of Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022 the 28th day of February 2022;

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, That the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022 be read a third time the 28th day of February 2022;

And further

That the Board of Education adopt the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022 in the amount of \$663,966,970.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

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

### 6.3 AUDIT COMMITTEE

#### 6.3.1 Report: Meeting of February 16, 2022

The Chairperson of the Committee, B. Parrott, presented the report of the February 16, 2022 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- Update on 2019-2020 Auditor's Management Letter
- Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Project Update

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by A. Wong, that the report of the February 16, 2022 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

### 7. REPORT ON PRIVATE SESSION ITEMS

#### 7.1 Meeting of February 7, 2022

The Chairperson reported that the Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the February 28, 2022 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of February 7, 2022, the Board discussed a personnel matter.

#### 7.2 Meeting of February 28, 2022

The Chairperson reported that the Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the February 28, 2022 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of February 28, 2022, the Board discussed property, personnel, legal matters and business interests.

**8. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES**

8.1 Report from Trustee Wong on the VSB Diversity Advisory Committee meeting held on February 1, 2022

8.2 Reports from Trustee Fraser on the:

8.2.1 Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee meeting held on January 20, 2022

8.2.2 Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee meeting held on January 24, 2022

8.2.3 Vancouver City Planning Commission meeting held on February 09, 2022

8.3 Report from Trustee Parrott on the Vancouver Public Library meeting held on December 08, 2021

8.4 Reports from Trustee Gonzalez on the:

8.4.1 Renters' Advisory Committee meeting held on January 19, 2022

8.4.2 Vancouver Heritage Commission meeting held on January 31, 2022

**9. NOTICES OF MOTION - none**

**10 PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

The Chairperson responded to questions regarding:

- Revisioning of the MACC (Multi Age Cluster Classes) Program
- The Olympic Village land lease
- Masking policy and public health orders

**11 ADJOURNMENT**

Trustees agreed to adjourn by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer

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Janet Fraser, Chairperson