

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1.1 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) and səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

1.2 OPENING REMARKS

The meeting is currently being broadcasted live, and both the audio and video recordings will be accessible to the public for viewing even after the meeting ends. Footage from this meeting may be viewed from Canada or anywhere else in the world.

2. NEW BUSINESS

2.1 2026-2027 Financial Plan Engagement Update

2.2 Trustee Motions Regarding the Draft 2026-2027 Financial Plan

- 2.2.1 Notice of Motion from Trustee Reddy: Budget 2026/2027 Increasing Out of School Care Spaces & VSB Recruitment and Retention Efforts
- 2.2.2 Notice of Motion from Trustee Fraser: Learning Technology and Information Systems Plan
- 2.2.3 Notice of Motion from Trustee Mah: Increasing Additional Hours for Supervision Aides for the 2026 2027 School Year
- 2.2.4 Notice of Motion from Trustee Mah: Reinstatement of 3.0 FTE SSB Staffing for the 2026 2027 School Year
- 2.2.5 Notice of Motion from Trustee Mah: Teachers Teaching on Call Coverage for Resource Teachers from Day One of Absence
- 2.2.6 Notice of Motion from Trustee Mah: Reinstatement of 1.0 FTE Teacher of the Visually Impaired and 1.0 FTE Hospital Homebound Teacher for the 2026 2027 School Year
- 2.2.7 Notice of Motion from Trustee Mah: Reinstatement of 1.0 FTE District Teacher Librarian staffing for the 2026 2027 School Year
- 2.2.8 Notice of Motion from Trustee Mah: Full designation of City of Vancouver Food Grant for the 2026 2027 School Year
- 2.2.9 Notice of Motion from Trustee Reddy: Budget 2026/2027 Increase Direct Classroom Support for Students with Disabilities or Diverse Abilities

3. ADJOURNMENT

April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Senior Team

RE: 2026-2027 Financial Plan Engagement Update

*Reference to
Education Plan*

GOAL: Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by ...

OBJECTIVE:

- Improving stewardship of the District's resources by focusing on effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability.

INTRODUCTION

The public engagement period for the 2026-2027 Financial Planning Process concluded on Thursday, April 16, 2026.

The Financial Plan Engagement Summary can be viewed on the VSB website at <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/budget>

April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Jennifer Reddy, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Budget 2026/2027 Increasing Out of School Care Spaces & VSB Recruitment and Retention Efforts

Reference to Education Plan

GOAL: Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by...

OBJECTIVE:

- Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive places for students and families.

PROPOSED MOTION

Therefore be it resolved that VSB allocate \$75,000 (for consultant fees, supplies and miscellaneous costs) to conduct a feasibility survey and study, in consultation with employee groups, on the planning, implementation, and costs of a VSB-operated pilot delivering licensed school-age child care (OOSC) at multiple school sites, delivered where feasible by existing support staff, with prioritized (but not exclusive) enrolment for current and prospective VSB employees, and aligned with provincial ChildCareBC expansion objectives.

Be it further resolved that the feasibility work include:

- a district-wide survey of VSB families and employees to identify unmet OOSC needs, including identification of VSB staff requiring care;
- assessment of potential school sites and available space, including multipurpose rooms and suitable classroom space;
- identifying staffing models and labour considerations, within existing collective agreements and regulatory frameworks, in consultation with employee groups;
- enrolment prioritization approaches for VSB employees, applying an equity lens; and
- estimated costs, revenues, and operational requirements of a multi-site pilot including space upgrades and program materials and supplies.

Be it further resolved that staff report back with an interim report by June 2026 and final report by September 15, 2026, on:

- baseline survey results and a plan for a one-year follow-up survey;
- feasibility, costs, and proposed scale of a multi-site pilot, including potential number of spaces and sites;
- employee-group interest and facility considerations; and
- anticipated impacts on recruitment and retention of VSB staff.

RATIONALE

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has identified school based childcare expansion as a priority through ChildCareBC and, through the BC Budget 2026, includes capital and operating funds for expansion of childcare on school grounds;

Whereas access to licensed school-age child care (out-of-school care, OOSC) remains insufficient to meet demand across the Vancouver School District;

Whereas many VSB employees experience barriers securing reliable before- and after-school care for their children;

Whereas lack of accessible child care affects employee recruitment, retention, and workforce stability in public education;

Whereas child-care responsibilities disproportionately affect employees with young families, particularly women and primary caregivers;

Whereas school-based child care programs delivered by qualified staff can expand access and support employee well-being;

April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Janet Fraser, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Learning Technology and Information Systems Plan

*Reference to
Education Plan*

GOAL: Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by...

OBJECTIVE:

- Improving stewardship of the District’s resources by focusing on effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability

PROPOSED MOTION

THAT the Board direct the superintendent to develop a Learning Technology and Information Systems Plan for trustees’ consideration as part of the 2027-2028 financial planning process.

RATIONALE

Students today learn, communicate, and participate in their school communities in many ways, including through digital tools. Behind the scenes, the District relies on complex information systems to keep students safe, support teaching and learning, and ensure that staff can do their work effectively. As these systems continue to grow in importance, so do the costs and risks associated with maintaining them.

This year’s financial plan highlighted several pressures: rising hardware costs, the risk of cybersecurity threats or breaches, and gaps in records management and data backup. At the same time, during our budget process principals and vice-principals have raised concerns about equitable access to technology across the District, and students themselves—through the Vancouver District Students’ Council—have emphasized the need for responsible and equitable use of AI in education.

These issues all point to the need for a cohesive, long-term approach. A Learning Technology and Information Systems Plan would help the District prioritize investments, address inequities, strengthen cybersecurity and data stewardship, and ensure that our digital infrastructure can support both high-quality learning and efficient operations. Developing this plan as part of the 2027–2028 financial planning process will allow trustees to make informed, strategic decisions that reflect the needs of students and staff in the District.

April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Suzie Mah, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Increasing Additional Hours for Supervision Aides for the 2026 2027 School Year

Reference to Education Plan

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by ...
- Encouraging students to reach beyond previous boundaries in knowledge and experience.
 - Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive places for students and families.
 - Increasing literacy, numeracy and deep, critical, and creative thinking.
 - Ensuring that students develop and can implement a plan for a successful transition upon completion of secondary school.
 - Ensuring the alignment among school, district, and provincial education plans.
 - Reporting student results about performance, well-being and outcomes to community and using the results to improve the quality and effectiveness of the education and supports provided to students.
- Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by ...
- Eliminating gaps in achievement and outcomes among students.
 - Eliminating racism and discrimination in all forms.
 - Evaluating and renewing plans for the improvement of Indigenous learners’ education.
 - Improving stewardship of the District’s resources by focusing on effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability.

PROPOSED MOTION

THAT the Board amend the 2026-2027 draft financial plan and budget to add up to 300 additional hours of Supervision Aide staffing for the 2026-2027 school year.

RATIONALE

In the spring of 2025, the Board offered to increase of 1.5 hours per day to permanent Supervision Aides so instead of working the 10:30 am to 1:00 pm day, they would work from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. The additional hours offered were taken as voluntary and the cost of applying the additional hours was \$188,000 from spring break to the end of June.

These additional hours allowed the schools to conduct various meetings (e.g. IEP meetings) during the day. Supervision Aides would support by supervising students.

April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Suzie Mah, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Reinstatement of 3.0 FTE SSB Staffing for the 2026 2027 School Year

Reference to Education Plan

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by ...
- Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive places for students and families.
 - Ensuring that students develop and can implement a plan for a successful transition upon completion of secondary school.
- Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by ...
- Eliminating gaps in achievement and outcomes among students.
 - Evaluating and renewing plans for the improvement of Indigenous learners’ education.

PROPOSED MOTION

THAT the Board amend the 2026-2027 draft financial plan and budget to reinstate 3.0 FTE SSB staffing for the 2026-2027 school year.

RATIONALE

At the April 13, 2026, Special Board/Committee of the Whole meeting, Vancouver District Students’ Council’s representatives spoke about the importance of supporting student mental health in our secondary schools. They surveyed students, and survey results showed that students identified youth workers as playing important roles in supporting student mental health.

Recently, at the City of Vancouver’s Children Youth and Family Advisory Committee, serving as the VSB’s liaison trustee to this committee, city of Vancouver staff showed a report from their Building Safer Communities’ recent survey where they surveyed over 400 youth asking them about what would improve their quality of life. Mental health support was stated as critically needed and the survey showed that student mental health continues to decline in our city.

In last year’s budget, we reallocated 9 FTE from the Safe and Caring Schools programs to fund more SSAs. Some of the 9 FTE were SSB positions.

Student Support Worker Bs or SSBs work with our at-risk youth who need additional support and in the areas of social-emotional learning, behaviour, mental health and/or learning difficulties.

The draft 2026-2027 Financial Plan proposes a 3.0 FTE cut to SSB staffing and states that these cuts will affect Britannia and David Thompson. If this staffing is not needed specifically for these two programs, the SSB positions could be redeployed elsewhere to other schools where they can continue to support our at-risk youth. Indicators show that the need for mental health supports have not gone down so cutting this valuable staffing will negatively impact vulnerable youth.

April 20, 2026

ITEM 2.2.5

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Suzie Mah, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Teachers Teaching on Call Coverage for Resource Teachers from Day One of Absence

*Reference to
Education Plan*

**GOALS AND
OBJECTIVES:**

Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by ...

- Encouraging students to reach beyond previous boundaries in knowledge and experience.
- Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive places for students and families.
- Increasing literacy, numeracy and deep, critical, and creative thinking.

Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by ...

- Eliminating gaps in achievement and outcomes among students.

PROPOSED MOTION

That the VSB 2026-2027 budget fund the provision of teachers on call to replace absent Resource Teachers on their first day of absence and that this funding will come from a reduction in the Divisional Superintendent and Divisional Superintendent Office budgets and other areas in the budget that do not affect direct instruction to students.

RATIONALE

The Vancouver School district has operated for at least over ten years of not replacing resource teachers on their first day of absence. The years of lost days and hours of service has had a severe domino effect on some of our at-risk students who are neurodivergent and those who have learning challenges.

Resource teachers play a critical role in our schools in helping our students with diverse learning needs achieve better academic success. We continue to hear from our stakeholder groups and from parents and students that having a resource teacher in the school providing consistent programming for children and youth is essential to not only a better learning environment for the child receiving services, but it also benefits the learning environment for all.

When resource teachers are away and they are not replaced with a teacher teaching on call, meeting with other professionals to develop and implement an Individualized Education Plan or IEP may be delayed, forms to submit to get further assessments such as a psych education assessment could be delayed, and student assessments could be delayed.

From the student's perspective, students with learning and behavioral challenges need consistency in getting the support they need to build on academic and social skills. This means having a teacher replacing that absent Resource teacher and providing that continued support. When Resource teachers are away, like all teachers in our district, they leave a learning plan so when a teacher teaching on call replaces them, the TTOC can continue providing the much-needed services to the students.

I can speak from experience as when I was an ELL Resource Teacher in my teaching days, when I was absent, I always left detailed plans so my replacement could follow what I was working on with my students. At the school I was at, I also worked in class supporting the teacher working with students who needed extra help. When Resource teachers are not replaced on day one of absence, the classroom teacher and students in the classroom are negatively impacted.

When we do not replace resource teachers and other non-enrolling teachers from their first days of absence, where does this cost savings go? The dollars should be going back to support these students who generated the funding so they can get the supports they need to be successful in their learning.

On page 63 of 68 in the 2026-2027 Draft Financial Plan, there is a statement that says, "A TTOC would not be able to replicate this targeted support on a casual basis." We cannot use this rationale to continue with the non-replacement policy as we are stating to the public that we would rather not provide a needed service to students and that their programs stop for a day or two. We hire qualified teachers who can provide this needed service and I believe in their ability to do so.

April 20, 2026

ITEM 2.2.6

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Suzie Mah, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Reinstatement of 1.0 FTE Teacher of the Visually Impaired and 1.0 FTE Hospital Homebound Teacher for the 2026 2027 School Year

*Reference to
Education Plan*

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by ...
- Encouraging students to reach beyond previous boundaries in knowledge and experience.
 - Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive places for students and families.
 - Increasing literacy, numeracy and deep, critical, and creative thinking.
 - Ensuring that students develop and can implement a plan for a successful transition upon completion of secondary school.
 - Ensuring the alignment among school, district, and provincial education plans.
 - Reporting student results about performance, well-being and outcomes to community and using the results to improve the quality and effectiveness of the education and supports provided to students.
- Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by ...
- Eliminating gaps in achievement and outcomes among students.
 - Eliminating racism and discrimination in all forms.
 - Evaluating and renewing plans for the improvement of Indigenous learners’ education.
 - Improving stewardship of the District’s resources by focusing on effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability.

PROPOSED MOTION

THAT Board amend the 2026-2027 draft financial plan and budget to reinstate 1.0 FTE Teacher of the Visually Impaired staffing and 1.0 FTE Hospital Homebound teacher staffing for the 2026-2027 school year.

RATIONALE

The decrease in 1.0 FTE visually impaired teacher who works at the district level will result in leaving two teachers to provide service to the entire district. This service is highly specialized, and it will be extremely difficult to recruit this position in the future should support needs increase. The position took a whole year to fill, and this indicates the scarcity of these types of teaching professionals in B.C.

The teacher of the visually impaired not only directly supports students with just visual impairments but works with other school staff and parents to ensure that the student programs are met with continuity with that specialized support. In addition, if service needs go up due to newly designated visually impaired students, it is doubtful that we would be able to find a TTOC to temporarily help with the increased workload.

Also, the decrease of 1.0 FTE to the Hospital Homebound teacher staffing will result in leaving one teacher to service the entire district. The Vancouver Learning Network program (VLN) may not be able to provide such services to students who are unable to physically attend school, and the program does not have teachers visiting student homes or in hospital settings. Some students may not be able to do online work due to their health challenges. The 1.0 FTE would need to be able to teach both at the elementary and secondary level and it may lead to an increase in teacher workload, resulting compromising the overall quality of instruction and support to our most vulnerable students.

April 20, 2026

ITEM 2.2.7

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Suzie Mah, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Reinstatement of 1.0 FTE District Teacher Librarian staffing for the 2026 2027 School Year

Reference to Education Plan

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by ...
- Encouraging students to reach beyond previous boundaries in knowledge and experience.
 - Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive places for students and families.
 - Increasing literacy, numeracy and deep, critical, and creative thinking.
 - Ensuring that students develop and can implement a plan for a successful transition upon completion of secondary school.
 - Ensuring the alignment among school, district, and provincial education plans.
 - Reporting student results about performance, well-being and outcomes to community and using the results to improve the quality and effectiveness of the education and supports provided to students.
- Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by ...
- Eliminating gaps in achievement and outcomes among students.
 - Eliminating racism and discrimination in all forms.
 - Evaluating and renewing plans for the improvement of Indigenous learners’ education.
 - Improving stewardship of the District’s resources by focusing on effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability.

PROPOSED MOTION

THAT the Board amend the 2026-2027 draft financial plan and budget to reinstate the 1.0 FTE District Teacher Librarian staffing for the 2026-2027 school year.

RATIONALE

Currently, there is only one full time district teacher librarian to liaise and work with all elementary and secondary school teacher librarians. At the 2026, April 15th Special Public Delegation Board meeting, we heard from two delegates who spoke about the importance of our school libraries.

The removal of this position would mean that there would be no teacher to coordinate professional development, support building resource collections, and working with teacher librarians to support digital literacy in our schools.

As a district we continue to push forward with our commitment to teaching our students how to critically think when using both digital and paper-based resources. Many of our school libraries no longer have full time teacher librarians. We have libraries in our schools where they are not being utilized to their fullest potential. Retaining one district teacher librarian could provide a centralized service to help support library programs in our schools.

April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Suzie Mah, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Full designation of City of Vancouver Food Grant for the 2026 2027 School Year

*Reference to
[Education Plan](#)*

**GOALS AND
OBJECTIVES:**

Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by ...

- Encouraging students to reach beyond previous boundaries in knowledge and experience.
- Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive places for students and families.
- Increasing literacy, numeracy and deep, critical, and creative thinking.

Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by ...

- Eliminating gaps in achievement and outcomes among students.
- Eliminating racism and discrimination in all forms.
- Improving stewardship of the District’s resources by focusing on effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability.

PROPOSED MOTION

THAT the Board amend 2026-2027 draft financial plan and budget to reflect the full \$325,000 City of Vancouver food grant for the 2026-2027 school year as soon as the grant is confirmed by the City of Vancouver.

RATIONALE

In 2025-2026, the City of Vancouver’s food grant of \$325,000 was restored by a unanimous decision by city council. The draft 2026-27 Financial Plan shows that there is only \$162,500 applied in the plan as the 2026-2027 grant has not been confirmed by the City of Vancouver.

This motion is intended to express the Board’s continued support for and advocacy for the ongoing provision of the City of Vancouver food grant and to reflect the full annual amount of \$325,000 in the 2026–2027 Draft Financial Plan, should the funding be confirmed.

April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Jennifer Reddy, Trustee

RE: Notice of Motion – Budget 2026/2027 Increase Direct Classroom Support for Students with Disabilities or Diverse Abilities

*Reference to
[Education Plan](#)*

GOAL: Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by...

OBJECTIVE:

- Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming, and inclusive places for students and families.

PROPOSED MOTION

That the Board approve that any and all funding for students with disabilities or diverse abilities that is being spent on Principals and Vice Principals' salaries be redirected to direct classroom support for students with disabilities or diverse abilities. Any further increase in funding for inclusive education from MECC for 2026-2027 be spent directly on classroom support, not administrators nor redirected to surplus.

RATIONALE

WHEREAS inclusive education funding has been used to pay the salaries of principals and vice-principals and can be redirected to direct classroom support.