

BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:05 pm

The Board of Trustees of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) met in the Boardroom, VSB Education Centre, 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:05 pm.

Trustees Present: C. Richardson in the Chair, J. Alexander, P. Bacchus, F. Ballantyne, J. Fraser, M. Lombardi, S. Robertson, A. Wong, J. Wang (student trustee)

Also Present: S. Robinson, Superintendent of Schools
R. Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer
M. Ciarniello, Associate Superintendent-Learning Services
J. Stewart, Associate Superintendent-Human Resources
J. Meschino, Director of Facilities
R. Schindel, Director of Instruction-Field Services
C. Caparas, Administrative Coordinator (Recorder)

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

The Chairperson outlined the procedure for Question Period.

II. PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

A. Multi-Age Cluster Class (MACC) 4 / 5 Class Projects

The Grades 4 – 5 Multi-Age Cluster Class (MACC) students from Osler Elementary School presented on:

- a class project which involved proposing names for the new International Village School, and
- their fundraising initiative, KIVA, in support of entrepreneurs in developing countries.

III. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

A. Meeting of February 10, 2015

Moved by S. Robertson, seconded by Janet Fraser, that the minutes of the February 10, 2015 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Matters Arising from the Minutes of February 10, 2015

1. Class Size and Class Composition Report

The Director of Instruction – Field Services reported that district staff investigated the class size and composition situation at Tyee Elementary. He noted that after analysis of student needs, an additional 0.5 FTE Student Support Assistant (SSA) will be provided to Tyee Elementary to the end of the school year.

III. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

B. Matters Arising from the Minutes of February 10, 2015 (continued)

2. Metro Vancouver Transportation and Transit Referendum

In response to a Trustee inquiry, the Superintendent of Schools reported on actions taken by the district to date in support of a “Yes” vote in the upcoming Metro Vancouver Transportation and Transit Referendum.

3. Advocacy Committee Recommendations

In response to a Trustee inquiry, the Secretary Treasurer clarified the status of meetings to be scheduled between the Board and MLAs regarding the district’s financial situation.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE: None

V. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

The Student Trustee reported on the following items:

- Mini-We Day event at Gladstone Secondary;
- VDSC project – Sister School Switch and Students’ Council Handbook; and
- her attendance at the Ontario Student Trustees Board Council Conference in Ottawa, Ontario.

VI. COMMITTEE I: MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATING

A. New Business / Enquiries

1. Proposed Revision to the 2014-2015 VBE Trustee – School Liaison Appointments

Moved by M. Lombardi, seconded by P. Bacchus, that the Board accept the revised list of 2014-2015 VBE Trustee – School Liaison Appointments.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VII. COMMITTEE II: PLANNING & FACILITIES

A. Reports

1. Meeting of February 18, 2015

The Chairperson of the Committee, S. Robertson, presented the report of the February 18, 2015 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The Board considered the following information items from the report:

- Delegation: L’Ecole Bilingue Parent Advisory Council
- Delegation: Maple Grove Out of Catchment Montessori Program
- Maple Grove Montessori Cross-Boundary Request
- 0 – 4 childcare – Nelson and Fleming Elementary
- Queen Mary Seismic Project Update

VII. COMMITTEE II: PLANNING & FACILITIES

A. Reports

1. Meeting of February 18, 2015 (continued)

Moved by S. Robertson, seconded by J. Alexander, that the report of the February 18, 2015 meeting be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. COMMITTEE III: EDUCATION & STUDENT SERVICES

A. Reports

1. Meeting of February 11, 2015

The Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, J. Fraser, presented the report of the February 11, 2015 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The Board considered the following information items from the report:

- Update on Social Responsibility Initiatives
- Report on Elementary Band and Strings Program

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the report of the February 11, 2015 meeting be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Matters Arising from the February 11, 2015 Report

a. Update on Social Responsibility Initiatives

(i) Universal Washrooms

The Director of Facilities confirmed universal washrooms will be created in new facilities and have been included in tenders for L'Ecole Bilingue, Gordon Elementary, International Village, and the Strathcona Elementary seismic upgrade. A trustee requested the Pride Advisory Committee be invited to a future Committee II meeting.

IX. COMMITTEE IV: PERSONNEL & STAFF SERVICES: None

X. PLENARY COMMITTEE V: FINANCE & LEGAL

A. Reports

1. Meeting of February 25, 2015

The Chairperson of the Committee, J. Fraser, presented the report of the February 25, 2015 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The Board considered the following items from the report:

X. PLENARY COMMITTEE V: FINANCE & LEGAL

A. Reports

1. Meeting of February 25, 2015 (continued)

a. Second Quarter Financial Report and 2014/2015 Amended Annual Operating Budget

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2014/2015 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw (attached) be given all three readings at the Board meeting on March 2, 2015.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2014/2015 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw be:

Read a first time on the 2nd day of March 2015;

Read a second time on the 2nd day of March 2015;

Read a third time, passed and adopted on the 2nd day of March 2015.

That the Board approve that any unrestricted operating surplus for 2014/2015 (currently estimated to be \$7.35 million) be appropriated to assist in offsetting the 2015/2016 projected operating budget shortfall.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Human Resources / Payroll Staffing

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the Board approve the proposed staffing changes as outlined in the report, on the basis of a further report to be provided to the Committee after a year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. 2015/2016 Funding Shortfall Update

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by P. Bacchus, that a restoration budget be prepared for the 2015/2016 budget process.

CARRIED

For: J. Alexander, P. Bacchus, J. Fraser, M. Lombardi, C. Richardson, A. Wong
Against: F. Ballantyne, S. Robertson

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by M. Lombardi, that the VSB send a letter to the Government of BC, copy the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA), to amend the 2015 provincial budget to increase funding for the K – 12 Education system by fully covering the costs of provincial collective agreements, employee benefit costs due to premium increases, BC Hydro increases, and inflation.

CARRIED

For: J. Alexander, P. Bacchus, J. Fraser, M. Lombardi, C. Richardson, A. Wong
Against: F. Ballantyne, S. Robertson

X. PLENARY COMMITTEE V: FINANCE & LEGAL

A. Reports

1. Meeting of February 25, 2015

c. 2015/2016 Funding Shortfall Update (continued)

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by M. Lombardi, that the VSB send a letter to the provincial government, copy the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA), to amend the 2015 provincial budget by rescinding the requirement for School Boards to make \$29 million in administrative cuts for the 2015-2016 school year.

Moved by M. Lombardi, seconded by P. Bacchus, to amend the main motion as follows:

- replace the words “\$29 million” with “\$54 million”; and
- at the end add “and 2016-2017 budget”.

The Chairperson called to treat the proposed amendment as a friendly amendment.

The amended motion reads:

That the VSB send a letter to the provincial government, copy the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA), to amend the 2015 provincial budget by rescinding the requirement for School Boards to make \$54 million in administrative cuts for the 2015-2016 year and 2016-2017 budget.

Discussion ensued on:

- sending one letter to the Ministry of Education combining the two motions above; and
- the rationale for and against sending the proposed letter to the Ministry of Education.

A vote was taken on the amended motion and it was declared

CARRIED

For: J. Alexander, P. Bacchus, J. Fraser, M. Lombardi, C. Richardson, A. Wong

Against: F. Ballantyne, S. Robertson

The Board considered the following information items from the report:

- Sale and Lease Back
- Furniture and Equipment Budget
- Donations

X. PLENARY COMMITTEE V: FINANCE & LEGAL

A. Reports

1. Meeting of February 25, 2015 (continued)

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by A. Wong, that the report of the February 25, 2015 meeting be received.

The following correction to the report was noted:

Under item 6, Donations, replace the words, “It was proposed that staff conduct a review of” with “It was noted that the Senior Management Team is currently reviewing”.

A vote was taken on the motion and it was declared

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chairperson called for Question Period forms to be submitted to the meeting recorder.

XI. REPORTING OF PRIVATE / RESTRICTED SESSION ITEMS

The Chairperson reported that at Private Session on February 10, 2015:

- the Board approved a motion regarding the Employment Practices Liability Program; and
- the Board approved a recommendation for Vice-Principal, Student Support Services.

XII. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS / ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Trustee Bacchus and Trustee Fraser reported on the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) budget forum held February 26, 2015.

Trustee Bacchus acknowledged the passing of B. Senft and her contributions to the school district and in the Renfrew-Collingwood neighbourhood community.

Trustee Bacchus provided information regarding the upcoming Adult Education public forum to be held at the Croatian Cultural Centre on March 5, 2015.

Trustee Robertson and Trustee Ballantyne reported on their attendance at a play performed by students from the Templeton Secondary theatre program.

Trustee Robertson reported on his attendance at the Vancouver Giants Game in recognition of Acceptance and Pink Day.

Trustee Wong reported on a tour of Vancouver libraries with the Vancouver Public Library Board on February 21, 2015.

Trustee Fraser reported on the following items:

- a meeting with the Sustainability Advisory Committee held February 25, 2015;
- a meeting held with the VSB Active Transportation Advisory Committee held February 17, 2015.

XII. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS / ADVISORY COMMITTEES (continued)

Trustee Alexander reported on attending a presentation of science projects by students of some Vancouver elementary schools at Science World.

Trustee Ballantyne reported on the following items:

- Sexsmith Elementary visit;
- a meeting with the Vancouver Association of Secondary Schools Administrators (VASSA) at Tupper Secondary; and
- Churchill Secondary visit.

The Chairperson reported on the Farewell Tour of Schools by outgoing Superintendent of Schools, S. Cardwell.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS / ENQUIRIES

A. Letters to the Ministry of Education

In response to a Trustee inquiry, the Secretary Treasurer provided an update on the status of recent letters sent to the Ministry of Education by the Board.

XIV. QUESTION PERIOD

The Chairperson and staff responded to questions regarding:

- funding from the City of Vancouver for the hot meal program in district schools;
- a meeting invitation to Vancouver MLAs with regard to the district's budget process; and
- extra costs incurred by the district for various construction projects as a result of the switch from the Harmonized Sales Tax to the Provincial Sales Tax.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by P. Bacchus, seconded by J. Alexander, that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

{Signed by}

Christopher Richardson, Chairperson

{Signed by}

Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer