

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 (DELTA)

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: April 20, 2021 7:30 p.m.
via Zoom

PRESENT: Trustees: V. Windsor, Chairperson
D. Boisvert, Vice-Chairperson
E. Beard
L. Dixon
J. Dosanjh
N. Kanakos
B. Reid

D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools
J. Angelidis, Director, Learning Services –
Inclusive Learning
B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent
C. Bromley, Manager, Information Technology Services
N. Christ, Secretary-Treasurer
D. Duff, Director, Facilities & Planning
R. Faust, Director, Finance & Management Services
N. Gordon, Assistant Superintendent
T. Johnson, Director, Learning Services –
Equity & Success
J. Maranda, Director, Human Resources
T. Nelson-Trick, Executive Assistant
N. Stephenson, Director, Learning Services –
Education Programs
K. Symonds, Director,
International Student Programs
C. Tucker, Communications Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Windsor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Chairperson Windsor opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territory of the Tsawwassen and Musqueam First Nations and of all the Hun'qumi'num speaking people who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial, and also offered her respect to all the Elders who have gone before us and to all Canadians who are on the journey of Reconciliation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S Trustees Kanakos/Dosanjh
THAT the agenda be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

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NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

Daun Frederickson, President, and Joanne Gill, 3rd Vice President and Occupational Health & Safety Officer, of CUPE Local 1091, presented on the National Day of Mourning. Observed in Canada each year on April 28th, the National Day of Mourning is dedicated to remember those workers killed, infected or seriously injured on the job. In BC, 173 workplace fatalities were reported to Worksafe BC in 2020. CUPE Local 1091 is thankful not to have lost anyone in Delta, however, there are many members that have been injured on the job and affected by COVID-19 that are still recovering. This past year has been especially challenging for CUPE members as they work to provide front line services through the pandemic. CUPE Local 1091 requested that the Delta School District declare April 28 a Day Mourning in the workplace, and invited Trustees, district staff and Education Partner representatives at a safe distance to the raising flag of the CUPE Day of Mourning flag at 8:00 am at the School Board Office on April 28th. If COVID safety protocols do not allow it, they hope everyone will take a moment and join workers from around the world to renew their resolve to demand healthier and safer workplaces, and remember and honour those who have been injured or killed at work or affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI)

Joanna Angelidis, Director of Learning Services, and Andrea Lemire, Coordinator, Delta Child and Youth Council, presented a high-level overview of the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI). The MDI is produced by UBC, specifically the School of Population Health, Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP). It's a self-report questionnaire that asks children in Grades 4 & 7 (and this year for the first time Grade 8 students as well) about their thoughts, feelings and experiences using a strength-based approach. It is being used in most of BC and is being rolled out in parts of Canada. Ms. Angelidis and Ms. Lemire highlighted what the MDI measures, how it displays results, the reports, how the data is used, what's exciting about the data this year, resources and next steps. Ms. Angelidis acknowledged school staff for administering the MDI this year in the midst of COVID, noting it was a tremendous effort and commitment to gather the data. She also acknowledged community partners Delta Child & Youth Committee, Fraser Health, MCFD and Delta Police Department, as well as the children who engaged and their parents.

Chairperson Windsor introduced the Trustees, and also welcomed the following education partners joining the meeting via Zoom:

- Daun Frederickson, President, and Joanne Gill, 3rd Vice President and Occupational Health & Safety Officer, of CUPE Local 1091
- Lakhvir Brar, Chair of the Delta Parent Advisory Council
- Mike Annandale, Representative of the Delta Principals & Vice-Principals' Association, and Vice-Principal at Delta Secondary

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Vice-Chair Boisvert/Trustee Reid

THAT the Minutes of the Regular meeting of April 6, 2021 be approved.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Trustee Dixon reported on the following meetings she recently attended virtually:

- BC School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) Metro Branch meeting – There were discussions around the state of school district budgets. Chairperson Windsor also attended.
- BCSTA Provincial Council meeting – The budget was passed for BCSTA, there was a business session, and members successfully went through all of the motions. Congratulations goes out to the successful candidates in the BCSTA's Board of Directors Election.
- Delta Parent Advisory Council meeting – Senior Leadership staff presented on the budget process, encouraging parents and community members to refer to the school district website for upcoming opportunities to provide input when the draft budget is made available; on the new Vision 2030 process that will engage everyone including students, school-based staff, community members and all stakeholders; and on anti-racism, including the new Ministry grant that will fund some student voice based videos. Trustee Dixon is pleased to hear that students are wanting to engage in social solidarity, and to see the progress the district has made. Chairperson Windsor and Trustee Dosanjh also attended.

Trustee Beard reported that the BCSTA AGM was very productive, there were a lot of good conversations and overall went well. Vice-Chair Boisvert added that he hopes they will be able to meet in-person for the next AGM as it provides the opportunity for more constructive dialogue when assessing motions.

Chairperson Windsor reported on the following meetings she recently attended virtually:

- In addition to Trustee Beard and Vice-Chair Boisvert's comments on the BCSTA AGM, Chairperson Windsor added that keynote speakers included Carole James, former Deputy Premier, and Andy Hargreaves. Both were enlightening presentations and conversations. Superintendent Doug Sheppard and Secretary Treasurer Nicola Christ also attended.
- Equity in Action meeting – After Doris Fox opened the meeting, the committee listened to the Tsawwassen First Nation Treaty Day video, and worked on policies and procedures as they relate to Indigenous Education.
- Inclusive Learning Advisory Committee meeting – Claire Clancy, District Principal, provided an update on the new IEP which launches in September. Pilot sessions are happening in three Delta schools: Jarvis Elementary, Port Guichon Elementary and Sands Secondary. The committee debriefed on the presentation on institutionalization and segregation, and there was a presentation on Universal Design for Learning, another initiative going on in Delta schools.

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Chairperson Windsor added it was announced that Elder Roberta Price, who works with the district, will be receiving an honorary degree from UBC. Congratulations to Elder Roberta for the wonderful acknowledgement for all of the work she has done over the years in Indigenous Education.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

May 4, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustee Kanakos/Vice-Chair Boisvert

THAT the Delta School Board meeting of April 20, 2021 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 8:18 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer