

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

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: April 26, 2022 7:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

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

D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools
B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent
N. Gordon, Assistant Superintendent
N. Christ, Secretary-Treasurer
C. Tucker, Director of Communications
J. Maranda, Director, Employee Services
R. Faust, Director of Finance & Management Services
T. Johnson, Director of Learning Services – Equity & Success
N. Stephenson, Director, Learning Services –
Education Programs
D. Duff, Director, Facilities & Planning
C. Gartry, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
C. Bromely, Manager IT
S. Labrosse, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Windsor called the meeting to order at 7:31 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 offered her respect to all the Elders who have gone before us and to all Canadians who are on the journey of Reconciliation.

Chairperson Windsor introduced the Trustees, and welcomed the following that were in the audience:

- Daun Frederickson, President, CUPE Local 1091
- Kim Barnes, Lead Shop Steward, CUPE Local 1091
- Petra Hoy, 2nd Vice-President, CUPE Local 1091
- Beatriz Dempsey – Recording Secretary, CUPE Local 1091
- Kevin Pencer – 1st Vice President, CUPE Local 1091
- Cyndi Smith – Trustee, CUPE 1091
- Aaron Akune, Principal, North Delta Secondary
- John Pavao, Principal, Delta Secondary

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

CARRIED

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

Daun Frederickson, President of CUPE Local 1091, introduced Joanne Gill, 3rd Vice President and Occupational Health & Safety Officer of CUPE Local 1091, who presented on the National Day of Mourning. Observed in Canada each year on April 28th, the National Day of Mourning is dedicated to remembering those who lost their lives on the job and to inspire others to advocate to prevent further tragedies. Ms. Gill shared that this year marks the third Workers' Day of Mourning since the start of the COVID 19 pandemic and that measures to increase ventilation, limit capacity and prevent COVID positive people from entering the workplace must remain in force. Ms. Gill sadly shared that three CUPE members were lost this year, Leslie Sharpe, Education Assistant, Joel Panado, Custodian, and Walter Geisbrecht, Education Assistant. Ms. Gill requested that once again the district declare April 28th a Day of Mourning in our workplace.

M/S Trustees Dixon/Reid
THAT the CUPE Day of Mourning flag be raised in front of the board office on April 28, 2022.

CARRIED

WELLNESS SURVEY PRESENTATION

Judy Maranda, Director, Employee Services introduced Nicole Braid, District Principal, Recruitment, Retention & Wellness. Ms. Braid presented some of the data that came out of the of the recently conducted employee wellness survey. Ms. Braid highlighted the District Goal 4 which is, "Engaged, empowered and healthy workforce" which became the framework of Self, Site and System. February 9 – March 11, 2022 the district conducted the mental health and wellness survey, there were 924 respondents. Ms. Braid shared a few of the comments that were received from district employees as well as the results from the survey questions. The District Employee Wellness Committee will continue to work on the key elements of Self, Site and System. May 2 – 8, 2022 is the start of a campaign for the Canadian Mental Health Association around empathy.

Ms. Braid concluded her presentation with sharing, "Employee wellness is more than just the absence of illness, it is about optimizing the health of all employees and the various elements that impact it."

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Vice-Chair Boisvert/Trustee Kanakos

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2022 be approved.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Vice-Chair Boisvert reported:

- Attended the annual BCSTA AGM this past weekend with Trustee Kanakos, Trustee Dixon and Chairperson Windsor. Very powerful day on Friday some highlights were First Nations peoples who shared their stories, struggles, trials, memories and experiences in both school and their lives in general. Incredibly powerful to hear the stories. Sarain Fox was a powerful speaker, she focused on what it is that Trustees can do to improve the relationships with First Nations students' success.

Trustee Dixon reported:

- April 8, Canadian Schools Mental Health Association meeting. The focus for the meeting was ACES (adverse childhood experiences) and the impact on brain development.
- Attended the BCSTA AGM Conference. Thanked Superintendent Sheppard and Secretary Treasurer for attending as well. Trustee Dixon shared that they did the conference in a long house format and used the protocol of the First Nations of the lands they were meeting on rather than imposing the traditional structures. Thursday night the keynote speaker was Kendal Netmaker and Trustee Dixon shared how powerful Kendal was as a public speaker.
- A new BCSTA President was elected, Carolyn Broad, and Trustee Dixon expressed a thank you to Stephanie Higginson for all her hard work and leadership.

Trustee Kanakos reported:

- Prior to the meeting this evening, attended an address by Jo Chrona on epistemic racism, bias, privilege to building a stronger education system. Ms. Chrona challenged all educators to look at themselves and then to facilitate change in themselves first.
- Trustee Kanakos also attended the Thursday session of the BCSTA AGM, which was walking alongside or going home with the 215 missing children from the Kamloops residential school. Trustee Kanakos shared his experience of visiting a residential school and seeing the unidentified graves of the residential school children and how that impacted him.

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Trustee Dosanjh reported:

- April 14 attended a DYAC meeting with Superintendent Sheppard and Chairperson Windsor. Trustee Dosanjh expressed that he enjoyed being there in person with the students.

Chairperson Windsor reported:

- April 11 attended the DPAC meeting. There was a presentation by Rebecca Winthrop on, “Transforming Education Systems Through Family-School Collaboration.” There were a number of insights taken from the meeting including, “the more receptive teachers are to parents’ inputs, the more parents feel they share teachers’ beliefs about schooling” and “parent frequently think teachers are much more focused on academics than teachers report they are, even though globally parents and teachers focus more on wellbeing.”
- April 12 attended the “End the Stigma Forum – the Opioid Crisis”. The forum was intended to provide information for Delta residents on the ongoing opioid crisis. The main speakers included– Curtis Joe – DSD Youth Worker and survivor, Dr. Maulik Baxi, Fraser Health, Guy Filicella – motivational speaker and survivor. Panel included the main speakers as well as: Kirsten Hermanson – DSD Manager of Prevention and Wellness, TFN Counsellor, Katie Alexander, Sean Cessford, DPD, drug division and Kam Singh, Mukhti Society Substance Use counsellor. People who use drugs should not be defined by their drug use. Kirsten Hermanson explained what the school district is doing to make students more aware of the dangers of drug use. The plan is to involve Grades 8-10 students in the program.
- April 13 attended the Sands play, “The Addams Family” – kudos to Sands students and staff including Drama teacher, Alexandra Thomason, for a great evening of entertainment.
- April 25 visited liaison schools, English Bluff, Holly, Sands and Hellings, with Superintendent Sheppard.
- April 26 attended the Delta Youth Leadership Conference which was a joining event between the City of Delta, DPD and the school district.

FIELD TRIPS

In accordance with Administrative Procedure 260, the Board was advised of the following multiple-day field trips:

- Seaquam Secondary – Field trip to Dallas, Texas to participate in the VEX World Championship from May 2 – 8, 2022.
- Burnsvew Secondary - Field trip to Dallas, Texas to participate in the VEX World Championship from May 2 – 8, 2022.

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BUDGET 2022/23 – PROCESS UPDATE

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer provided a brief overview over the final steps in the new multi-year budget process.

- Thursday, April 28 budget media release will be published via news media and website.
- Tuesday, May 3 public input at the board meeting.
- We will provide a budget survey for those that wish to provide input either instead or in addition to their input at the board meeting. This will be available on our website and via news media.

Under the new budget engagement process there are still two items:

- We will be sharing the district plan on how to support the 2022-23 budget through the accumulated operating surplus funds which is scheduled for the May 10 public board meeting.
- The multi-year budget report will give a detailed management analysis review of the 2022-23 budget and the impact on the next two years which is scheduled for the June 7 public meeting at which time the final budget package will be approved.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

May 3, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustees Dixon/Dosanjh

THAT the Delta School Board meeting of April 26, 2022 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 8:24 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer