

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

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: May 9, 2023 7:30 p.m.
District Administration Building

PRESENT: Trustees: V. Windsor, Chairperson
N. Daula
A. Dhillon
M. Gooch
N. Kanakos
J. Muego

D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools
B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent
N. Christ, Secretary-Treasurer
D. Duff, Director, Facilities & Planning
J. Duffin, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
P. Klassen, Director, Learning Services - Inclusive Learning
J. Maranda, Assistant Superintendent
N. Stephenson, Director, Learning Services - Education Programs
K. Symonds, Director, International Student Programs
C. Tucker, Director of Communications
R. Sonsalla, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: Trustee: E. Beard, Vice-Chairperson

T. Johnson, Director, Learning Services –
Equity & Success
A. Mascati, Director, Employee Services

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 / Gooch
THAT the agenda be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

Chairperson Windsor introduced the following education partners attending the meeting:

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- Daun Frederickson – President, CUPE Local 1091
- Petra Hoy – 2nd Vice President, CUPE Local 1091
- Bea Dempsey – Recording Secretary, CUPE Local 1091
- Jeanie Mackay – Professional Development Chairperson, DTA
- Kathy Macfarlane – 2nd Vice President, DTA
- Joanna Macintosh - DPVPA

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Trustees Daula / Dhillon

THAT the Minutes of the Regular meeting of April 25, 2023 be approved.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chair Windsor advised that all Trustees, except Vice Chair Beard, attended the BCSTA AGM from April 27 – 29, 2023, and will now share their experiences from the event:

Trustee Kanakos reported on keynote speaker, the Honourable Jodie Wilson Raybould, former Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. She is the first Indigenous woman to hold the position, and she spoke on the challenges she faced in trying to bridge the gap between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultures. Trustee Kanakos felt her message was a call to action for all of us, and he feels confident that the Districts current Vision 2030 is working towards the Truth and Reconciliation Recommendation 94.

Trustee Daula reported on the April 28 morning session, which was a presentation by students from W.J. Mouat Secondary school in Abbotsford. They talked about governance, personal experiences about racism in and outside the school, indigenization and decolonization, and also identity based discrimination. They also discussed what student success means to them, and what should be the framework to enhance student learning. The students presented many items of discussion, and she enjoyed hearing what they had to say.

Trustee Dhillon reported on the overall value of the AGM and spoke highly of the presentations provided by various presenters such as Dr. Yong Zhao, Hon. Jodie Wilson-Raybould and Hon. Rachna Singh. She found the seminars covering topics such as racism/diversity, Board governance, and effective advocacy very helpful.

Trustee Muego attended the Provincial Council Business Meeting, which was focused on the approval of the Annual BCSTA Budget, and the Appointment of Auditors – Smythe LLP. He also attended the AGM Business meeting where over 37 motions were put forward. Two of note were Motion 2 – A20232: Delegates Voting Powers at General Meetings, and Motion 25 – A202325:

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Funding Supports for COVID-related Operational Costs in the “New Normal”, both of which were defeated.

Trustee Gooch attended the information session on Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL), which is a report outlining strategic goals and priorities to assist in ensuring positive outcomes for students in the district. Attendees also heard from a panel of students on issues in schools which was emotional, but the information was sadly, not surprising. Trustee Gooch felt that everyone came out of the weekend with new ideas and a positive outlook on the happenings of the Delta School District.

Trustee Kanakos also reported the following:

- May 8 – Attended the playground openings at Ladner and Pt. Guichon Elementary schools, along with City, School District, and Board representatives. He enjoyed the opening and mentioned the “hit” of the playground was the ZIP line.

Trustee Muego also reported the following:

- May 4 – Attended the Amazing Race culmination at the Ladner Boys & Girls club. Over 30 students, with a few from each school, spent a few hours with their adult supervisors running the race. He enjoyed seeing the community partnerships in action.

Trustee Daula also reported the following:

- May 3 – Attended the Delta Youth Advisory Committee’s (DYAC) last meeting for this school year. The primary topic was how DYAC can build a stronger sense of community and connectivity among students within the school district, and what have they done so far to achieve their goals. Many ideas were discussed and overall, the students recognize that the best community is the one which is connected in and outside the school.

Trustee Gooch also reported the following:

- May 8 – Attended the playground opening at Ladner Elementary. It was an exciting atmosphere with students, the Board, and City Council giving thanks to the PAC and many community partners for making the playground a possibility.
- May 8 – Attended the Healthy Schools Committee meeting, where she received updates and heard discussions on the increased food funding, re-launching information on youth clinics available, the most recent MDI reports, and the collection of resources to assist educators on health related topics.

Trustee Dhillon also reported on the following:

- April 21 – Participated in a discussion with Directors of Learning Services, Patrick Klassen and Neil Stephenson around the continued integration of diverse cultural experiences into sexual health programs and proactive approaches to educate our teens about healthy and unhealthy relationships. She was so encouraged by the District’s engagement in this important work.
- May 2 – Attended the Mental Health in Schools Conference hosted by the Ministry of Education and Childcare. The conference was very well attended and involved interactive components alongside some very compelling speakers.

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- May 5 – Attended the Cross-Cultural Mental Health: Research and Practice Forum, a collaborative effort between Moving Forward Family Services and CAMH (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health). The main objective of the symposium was to consider mental health interventions with a cultural lens. She was really impressed by local representation by younger leadership effectively starting up a range of successful initiatives. One of the resounding takeaways was that we need more first-person representation from our culturally diverse communities delivering services.
- May 8 – Attended the playground openings at Ladner and Pt. Guichon Elementary Schools. She was very impressed by the young MC's at both schools for taking on the role and also hearing directly from the playground users about their experiences with the new equipment.

Chair Windsor reported the following:

- May 3 – Attended the DYAC meeting alongside Trustee Daula, who reported on the event earlier.
- May 4 – Attended the Board Chairs Zoom meeting, which included the topic of Boards' Code of Conduct. Each Board's language will be examined and a letter will be sent to each Board Chair and Superintendent about their Code of Conduct language, with suggestions on how to make them better. In place of the annual meeting in Vancouver, on October 19th Board Chairs will meet in Victoria, B.C. for a day of advocacy. They will meet with local MLA's to talk about local issues. Other issues discussed at the Zoom meeting were Board budgets, and there was an opportunity to provide feedback on the AGM.
- May 5 – Attended the Delta Annual Heritage Fair at the Douglas Husband Discovery Centre, which was the first Fair in 4 years. A group of grades 3 and 4 students submitted their projects for judging and some of the projects will be proceeding to the Provincial competition. Chair Windsor congratulated the students and thanked the teachers involved, and the City of Delta for sponsoring the event.
- May 8 – Attended the Ladner and Pt. Guichon Elementary School playground openings. She thanked the PAC's at each school, as well as everyone involved in making these projects become a reality. She also thanks the City of Delta for their financial contribution to these projects.

2023/2024 ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD PROGRAM

Chair Windsor introduced Darren Duff, Director, Facilities & Planning who reviewed the proposed 2023/2024 Adult School Crossing Guard Program. The School District proposed to increase the current number of twenty-eight (28) adult crossing guards to twenty-nine (29) at nineteen locations for the 2023/2024 school year. The change is the result to the following updates:

- Gibson Elementary (11451 90th Ave) adding an additional crossing guard at the 91st block of 116th St.

The total cost of \$118,800 for these services will be funded by the City out of the funds set aside each year for the program.

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M/S Trustees Kanakos/Muego

THAT the Delta Board of Education approves the 2023/2024 Adult School Crossing Guard Program as presented.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were presented.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

June 6, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustees Daula / Dhillon

THAT the Delta School Board meeting of May 9, 2023 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 8:08 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer