

MINUTES OF AN INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 (DELTA)

DATE, TIME AND PLACE:

November 7, 2023 7:00 p.m.
District Administration Building

PRESENT:

Trustees: E. Beard
 N. Daula
 A. Dhillon
 M. Gooch
 N. Kanakos
 J. Muego
 V. Windsor

Staff: D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools
 B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent
 N. Christ, Secretary-Treasurer
 J. Duffin, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
 J. Maranda, Assistant Superintendent
 R. Sonsalla, Executive Assistant

ABSENT:

D. Duff, Director, Facilities & Planning
P. Klassen, Director, Learning Services –
 Inclusive Learning
A. Mascati, Director, Human Resources
N. Stephenson, Director, Learning Services –
 Education Programs
K. Symonds, Director, International Student Programs
C. Tucker, Director of Communications

Mr. Doug Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools, opened the meeting by acknowledging the traditional territory of the Tsawwassen First Nation and Musqueam Indian Band and of all the Hun'qumi'num speaking people who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial, and also offered his respect to all the Elders who have gone before us and to all Canadians who are on the journey of Reconciliation.

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Sheppard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

CARRIED

MINUTES OF AN INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 7, 2023

Page 2

INAUGURAL

Superintendent Sheppard called three times for nominations for Board Chairperson for the November 7, 2023 to November 4, 2024 period.

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Dhillon
Trustee Windsor for Board Chairperson.

As no other nominations were received, Trustee Windsor was acclaimed Chairperson.

Chairperson Windsor assumed the chair.

Chairperson Windsor called three times for nominations for Vice-Chairperson for the November 7, 2023 to November 4, 2024 period.

M/S Trustees Gooch / Daula
Trustee Muego for Vice-Chairperson.

As no other nominations were received, Trustee Muego was acclaimed Vice-Chairperson.

Chairperson Windsor called three times for the nomination of a Trustee Representative to the Provincial Council of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.

M/S Trustees Daula / Beard
Vice Chair Muego for Trustee Representative to the Provincial Council of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.

As no other nominations were received, Vice Chair Muego was acclaimed Provincial Council Representative to the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.

Chairperson Windsor called three times for the nomination of Alternate to the Provincial Council of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Gooch
Trustee Dhillon for Alternate to the Provincial Council of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.

As no other nominations were received, Trustee Dhillon was acclaimed Alternate to the Provincial Council of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association.

Chairperson Windsor called three times for the nomination of a Trustee Representative to the BC Public School Employers' Association and the Provincial Bargaining Council.

MINUTES OF AN INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 7, 2023

Page 3

M/S Trustees Beard / Dhillon

Trustee Kanakos for Trustee Representative to the BC Public School Employers' Association and the Provincial Bargaining Council.

As no other nominations were received, Trustee Kanakos was acclaimed Trustee Representative to the BC Public School Employers' Association and the Provincial Bargaining Council.

Chairperson Windsor called three times for the nomination of Alternate to the BC Public School Employers' Association and the Provincial Bargaining Council.

M/S Vice Chair Muego / Trustee Gooch

Trustee Beard for Alternate to the BC Public School Employers' Association and the Provincial Bargaining Council.

As no other nominations were received, Trustee Beard was acclaimed Alternate to the BC Public School Employers' Association and the Provincial Bargaining Council.

Chairperson Windsor introduced and welcomed the following education partners attending the meeting:

- Danica Palmer - DPVPA Member
- Louise O'Brien – Member-at-Large, DTA
- Mahima Lamba – Treasurer, DTA
- Daun Frederickson – President, CUPE Local 1091
- Joanne Gill – 3rd Vice President, CUPE Local 1091

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Trustees Gooch / Beard

THAT the Minutes of the Regular meeting of September 26, 2023 be approved.

CARRIED

WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY APPROVAL

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer, provided Trustees with information on the requirement for school districts to implement policy relating to the *Public Interest Disclosure Act* (PIDA). In addition to developing policy, school districts are required to provide training to all staff on the policy and its related procedures and forms, as well as report annually within 6 months of the end of the reporting period, which in this case will be December 31, 2024. Trustees were provided

with Policy 24, Administrative Procedure 183, and Forms 183-1 and 183-2, for approval.

MINUTES OF AN INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 7, 2023

Page 4

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Gooch

THAT Policy 24 – Public Interest Disclosure and its related procedures (AP 183) and forms (Form 183-1 and Form 183-2) be approved as presented.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chair Windsor opened with an acknowledgement of the Indigenous Veterans Day of Remembrance on November 8th and the National Remembrance Day on November 11th. A moment of silence was observed to provide an opportunity to reflect on what peace means to each person. Chair Windsor thanked her fellow Trustees for re-electing her as Chairperson and commented on what a proficient group they are and how well they work together. She also acknowledged the excellent reputation the Delta School District has province wide, and that this is also credited to the leadership of senior management, teaching and support staff, and the parents and students who form a partnership with the District.

Vice Chair Muego reported on the following:

- October 16 – Attended the DPAC Trustee Round Table.
- October 20 – 21 – Attended the BCSTA Provincial Council Conference. Emergent motions were passed including those relating to mental health and pay equity supplements.
- October 26 – Attended the Ministry of Education and Child Care Zoom meeting with Minister Rachna Singh. The meeting was essentially related to First Nations empowerment.

Trustee Kanakos reported on the following:

- October 12 – Attended the Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting on behalf of the Board. The meeting focused on items such as the standardization of school Emergency Preparedness bins, streamlined terminology of emergency procedures, and the development of an appropriate student reunification procedure.
- October 13 – Attended an Earthquake Insights Seminar sponsored by the UBC Engineering Department. He learned of recent earthquake activity in Turkey, and the short- and long-term effects on the earth, the psychological impact on the population and continuing process of rebuilding the country.
- October 16 – Attended the DPAC Meeting.
- October 12 – Attended the Delview Thanks for Giving food drive. He was impressed that the Delview student community raised 26,449 cans and beat their previous record. He thanked former teachers for starting the program as well as a current teacher sponsor for continuing with the event.

Trustee Gooch reported on the following:

- October 16 – Attended the DPAC meeting. She met with parents from some of her liaison schools, and had some great discussions surrounding mental health, increasing communication from students, post Covid behaviour, and fundraising in elementary schools. It was a great evening of connecting with parents and hearing their perspectives.

MINUTES OF AN INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 7, 2023

Page 5

- November 6 – Attended the Healthy Schools Committee meeting. There were great presentations and discussions on topics such as food inequity, prevention, sexual and physical health, and mental health programs. She thanked Neil Stephenson, Director, Learning Services, for putting together such a thoughtful agenda; the meeting was inspirational and a reflection of the wealth of talent and the care for students that this group, and the Delta School District, have.

Trustee Dhillon reported on the following:

- October 12 – Attended the Thanks for Giving at Delview Secondary. It was her first time attending this community event, and she was impressed to see so many students eager to be involved in the event.
- October 12 – Attended the 5th Annual A Taste of Reach Fundraiser. Funds raised this year will be designated to REACH's Access2Play Capital Campaign, with the hopes it can double the size of the public playground at the North Delta Recreation Centre and Reach Preschool North.
- October 13 – Attended the Inclusive Learning Advisory Committee (ILAC) meeting. It was very informative and covered a wide range of items including resources, toolkits and forms to support staff wanting to access a School-Based Team for a student.
- October 16 – Attended the DPAC roundtable meeting with other Trustees. It was an honour for her to come together with such a dedicated and passionate group of parents.
- November 6 – Attended a Delta Community Foundation meeting as their grant team Chair. It is a great opportunity to connect with a wide range of community partners in the hopes of raising the quality of life of our children / youth, and their families.

Trustee Daula reported on the following:

- November 1 – Attended the first Delta Youth Advisory Committee (DYAC) of the school year at Seaquam Secondary. The theme for this year is Heart to Heart, which is aimed at promoting kindness. The meeting included a presentation by a Child and Youth Care Worker at the school, who shared some inspirational stories that emphasized the importance of kindness, and what it takes to be kind. She enjoyed the presentations and conversations from students and the presenter.

Trustee Beard reported on the following:

- October 16 – Attended the DPAC roundtable meeting. She enjoyed having a chance to chat with a variety of parents. She engaged in a wide range of conversations with parents, including topics pertaining to hot lunches, as well as world views on education and what other parts of the world are doing. It was a wonderful time to connect.

Chair Windsor reported on the following:

- October 2 – Attended a Blanket Exercise with NDRC Musqueam Elders, sponsored by the City of Delta. It was a moving presentation which will help her on her own journey of Reconciliation.
- October 4 – Attended the ELL Consortium, which advocates for supports and funding for newcomers as well as additional funding for school districts to address the academic needs of newcomers.
- October 12 – Attended the Thanks for Giving event at Delview Secondary.
- October 14 – Attended the 50th anniversary celebration at Chalmers Elementary.

MINUTES OF AN INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

November 7, 2023

Page 6

- October 19 – Attended the Advocacy Day for Board Chairs in Victoria. She met with MLAs to share common messages of what B.C. schools need to provide a quality education for each student.
- October 21 – Attended the Baitur Rahman Mosque on River Road to celebrate the 10th year of the mosque being in Delta.
- October 25 – Attended the Metro Trustees meeting via Zoom where items of mutual concern were discussed, including the need for safe and inclusive schools.
- October 29 – Attended the 40th anniversary concert of the Delta Music Makers.
- November 5 – Attended the Music in the Neighbourhood concert at the North Delta Fine Arts Centre. Students from Seaquam and Burnsvew put on their fourth concert to benefit the “Balding for Dollars” programme, a charity that helps provide funds to the oncology department of the BC Children’s Hospital.

QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were presented.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

December 12, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustees Daula / Beard

THAT the Delta School Board Inaugural meeting of November 7, 2023 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 7:40 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer