

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

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: April 30, 2024 7:30 p.m.  
District Administration Building

PRESENT: Trustees: V. Windsor, Chairperson  
J. Muego, Vice-Chairperson  
E. Beard  
N. Daula  
M. Gooch  
N. Kanakos

D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools  
B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent  
N. Christ, Secretary-Treasurer  
D. Duff, Director of Human Resources  
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: A. Dhillon

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 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 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 following education partners attending the meeting:

- Daun Frederickson – President, CUPE 1091
- John Pavao – President DPVPA
- James Smith – Editor, North Delta Reporter
- Susan Yao – President, DTA

AMENDMENT TO ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S Trustees Gooch / Kanakos

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

April 30, 2024

Page 2

**THAT** item 8a) – 2024/25 Trustee Budget Priorities be removed from the agenda and included in item 7b) – 2024/25 Multi-Year Budget Report.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S Trustee Daula / Vice Chair Muego

**THAT** the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Trustees Beard / Daula

**THAT** the Minutes of the Regular meeting of April 23, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Gooch

**THAT** the Minutes of the Special Budget Input Meeting of April 23, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chairperson Windsor called upon Trustees to report on their activities.

Chair Windsor reported the following:

- April 26 – Attended Gibson Elementary for their first ever Vaisakhi celebration. Student leaders created 357 seed packages with Vaisakhi messages inside, for students to take home. Presentations were made at the school about the meaning of Vaisakhi. She was impressed with the wonderful work done by all.

ADOPTION OF THE 2024/25 BUDGET WITH ACCUMULATED OPERATING SURPLUS

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer, provided information regarding the Budget Bylaw, which is being presented for adoption. Ms. Christ advised that input was received from the public on April 23. Based on the Budget Recommendations that were published on April 18<sup>th</sup> and the deliberations that ensued after the April 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, a final budget document has been prepared for Board approval.

M/S Vice Chair Muego / Trustee Gooch

**THAT** approval be given for three readings at one meeting of the Annual Budget Bylaw for the 2024/25 fiscal year.

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

April 30, 2024

Page 3

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Beard / Daula

**THAT** the Annual Budget Bylaw specifying a total budget bylaw amount of \$234,202,668 for the 2024/25 fiscal year be given a **FIRST** reading.

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Gooch

**THAT** the Annual Budget Bylaw specifying a total budget bylaw amount of \$234,202,668 for the 2024/25 fiscal year be given a **SECOND** reading.

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Daula / Beard

**THAT** the Annual Budget Bylaw specifying a total budget bylaw amount of \$234,202,668 for the 2024/25 fiscal year be given a **THIRD** reading and Adopted.

CARRIED

Chair Windsor invited Trustees to provide their comments on the adopted budget and process.

Vice Chair Muego recognized the hard work that went into the budget process. It was a daunting task, and he acknowledged the staff in Finance and the Secretary Treasurer's office for putting together a budget that was not easy and did not come without pain. Trustee Kanakos added that the budget is a yearlong process and requires countless hours of preparation and thought. He thanked Secretary Treasurer Christ and her team for preparing this year's budget. He also thanked the partners in education, Administration, and the public, for their invaluable input. This year's budget reflects the chronic underfunding in education and the need for more support and resources for students. The district has provided a balanced budget as required by law, but he is concerned about the long-term costs of these measures and how it will affect public education in Delta. Trustee Gooch added that every year the district is faced with a deficit is a difficult year. Increased funding is desperately needed from the Ministry, as the per-pupil funding does not fully cover the needs of all students. Districts are constantly asked to do more with less. There are no easy decisions, as all come with a cost and impact. She thanked the DTA, CUPE and members of the public who shared their input and advised that all comments were heard and resonated with the Board. Trustee Gooch thanked her fellow Board members and the Secretary Treasurer's office for all their hard work in coming up with solutions and recommendations that minimize the impact to Delta students. Chair Windsor added that Districts have to produce a balanced budget at all costs. She is amazed at the hard work that is done every year by Secretary Treasurer Nicola Christ, Assistant Secretary Treasurer Jonathan Duffin, and their staff in making the budget work. The Board have listened to the feedback received, and it hurts not to be able to provide a solution for all the requests. She added she is proud that as a Board they support the inclusive learning and Indigenous learners. Despite the funding shortfalls, all staff continue to work hard to meet the needs of all students. The Board are

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

April 30, 2024

Page 4

grateful to all staff for making the district what it is. She ended by recognizing the need to increase advocacy for greater funding.

2024/25 MULTI-YEAR BUDGET REPORT

Nicola Christ, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the 2024/25 Multi-Year Financial Report to the Board of Education for approval so that it may be provided to the Ministry of Education along with the 2024/25 Budget before June 30, 2024.

Following the April 30, 2024 Board meeting, this document can be found on the District website.

M/S Trustees Beard / Daula

**THAT** the 2024/25 Multi-Year Budget Report be approved as presented.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

Daun Frederickson, President, CUPE 1091, commented about the robust discussions that took place at last week's CUPE convention that she attended. She advised that after much discussion, the consensus was to ask the Ministry to provide the funding that is being asked for, the supplementary funding, as well as per pupil funding that is so desperately needed.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

May 14, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustees Masako / Kanakos

**THAT** the Delta School Board meeting of April 30, 2024 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 7:50 p.m.

---

Chairperson

---

Secretary-Treasurer