

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

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: June 18, 2024 7:30 p.m.
District Administration Building

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

D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools
B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent
C. Bromley, Manager, Information Technology Services
N. Christ, Secretary-Treasurer
F. De Dios, Director of Facilities & Planning
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
C. Tucker, Director of Communications
R. Sonsalla, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: K. Symonds, Director, International Student Programs

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Windsor called the meeting to order at 7:38 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
- Joanne Gill – 1st Vice President, CUPE 1091
- John Pavao – President, DPVPA
- Patricia McCullough – Secretary, DTA

Chair Windsor also introduced Florencio de Dios, the new Director of Facilities & Planning, and Curtis Bromley, the new Director of Information Technology Services.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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M/S Trustees Dhillon / Daula

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

DELTA FIREFIGHTERS – FEEDING FUTURES PRESENTATION

Chairperson Windsor introduced Mr. Warren Balzar, Trustee – Delta Fire Fighters IAFF – Program Coordinator, who provided a brief overview of how the Feeding Futures funds are being used in projects around the District. Kirsten Hermanson, Manager, Prevention & School Wellness also provided a brief update on how the community is coming together to help feed students in Delta. Chair Windsor presented a cheque to the Delta Firefighters, from the Ministry’s Feeding Futures Fund and thanked the Delta Firefighters for their good work in helping keep our students fed.

DELTA YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Brad Bauman, Assistant Superintendent, introduced the Delta Youth Advisory Committee (DYAC) students, from all seven secondary schools in Delta, who provided an overview of the various projects and focuses they have been involved in throughout the school year. Some of the initiatives they have been working on include:

- Sex education curriculum is very general; students recommend the program be enhanced to include additional topics relating to SOGI, specifically better information for people who identify as something other than straight
- More Universal washrooms needed in schools
- Crowding and vaping in washrooms – many students are afraid to use the washrooms
- Recruitment of more DYAC students for schools with a smaller number of committee members
- Conducting student surveys to learn about issues within the school
- Creating student safe space / retreat room. Areas for students to decompress.
- Grade 8’s surveyed to see how to make the grade 7 to 8 transition easier
- Installation of vape detectors in washrooms; hoping to have the District assist with this
- Student enrichment program funding
- Improvements to community and individual relationships. Create traditions that can be passed on to future generations
- Waffle-fest – to create an avenue for others to meet and create relationships and friendships
- Culture Day – focus on making it a tradition in years to come.
- Creating DYAC website for schools. Trustees / students / community can ask questions and share ideas
- Mental Health Literacy – created a committee to help create lesson plans for younger students
- Connection – Integration of new students (grade 8’s, International students etc.)
- Student Voice Forum
- Homophobia – ongoing issue that needs to be dealt with

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- Building stronger relationships with counselors.
- Identity as a whole – how it connects with mental health, SOGI etc. Normalize and destigmatize the word “Identity” so all are comfortable with it
- Fostering connections between staff and students of various grades
- Positive sticky note campaign – positive messages handed out to students and teachers to motivate the community
- International year end party

Chair Windsor thanked the students and asked if they had any questions for Trustees. Students responded that school garbage is a concern and mentioned that the bins are not conducive to putting all the recyclables in the bin (openings are too small). Signs need to be more personalized to alleviate confusion as to what goes where.

Trustee Kanakos addressed the grade 12 North Delta Secondary students and asked them to express the value of what DYAC has meant to them over the past years. The students responded that it helped them make connections and they feel like they have a voice within the school. They feel the committee does make a difference and helps utilize and develop their leadership skills. They feel they are being heard.

Trustee Gooch commented that they are an amazing group of young adults and thanked them for their work and opinions. She asked about the lack of connection with school counselors; what was the barrier? Students advised that councilors are understaffed and too busy to talk to them and that more time needs to be allotted for spending time with them. Also, peers make them feel judged.

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S DAY PRESENTATION

Diane Jubinville, District Principal, Indigenous Education, provided a presentation on the significance of National Indigenous People’s Day, and on the events that will take place this month.

Events included:

- Grade 7 & 12 Recognition Ceremony
- Monday morning acknowledgment
- Post Secondary Visits – growing more popular for senior students
- Community Outreach groups
- Pro D Day learning opportunities at schools
- Cedar Weaving and other Coast Salish arts
- Wave Warrior
- NDSS leading the events for the day and hosting the event this year

Ms. Jubinville then read stories from two students who shared their experiences while attending the Delta School District. Chair Windsor thanked her for her presentation.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Trustee Kanakos / Vice Chair Muego

THAT the Minutes of the Regular meeting of May 14, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED

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ADVOCACY LETTER

Chairperson Windsor provided an update further to the Notice of Motion raised by Trustee Kanakos at the May 14, 2024 Regular Board meeting. A letter has been drafted, with the intention of advocating for additional funding to school districts, and upon approval, will be sent to the various bodies of the Ministry of Education.

The letter in its entirety can be viewed online at:

<https://district.public.deltasd.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2024/06/Consideration-for-Increased-Funding-in-Public-Education.pdf>

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Gooch

THAT the Delta Board of Education write to the Ministers of Education and Childcare, Minister of Finance, the Premier, the Green Party Leader, the Conservative Party Leader, the BC United Leader and our two local MLAs, as prepared.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chair Windsor, Vice Chair Muego, and Trustees Beard, Daula, Dhillon, Gooch and Kanakos provided an end of school year statement that reflected on the events that took place over the 2023-24 school year. The statement in its entirety can be viewed online at:

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/news-events/news/board-of-education-end-of-year-message/>

Chairperson Windsor called upon Trustees to provide a year-end report.

Vice Chair Muego reported the following:

- May 27 – Chaired the Audit Committee meeting, which discussed the annual school financial review process.
- May 28 – Attended the Delta Liaison Committee meeting. Updates on City projects in collaboration with the District were discussed and updates from the District were communicated to the City.

Trustee Kanakos reported the following:

- May 2 – Attended the Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting at the Delta Firehall.
- June 11 – Participated in the interviews for the recruitment of Elementary Vice Principal. All the candidates were excellent.
- June 13 – Attended South Delta Secondary Awards Ceremony.

Trustee Gooch reported the following:

- June 17 – Attended the Healthy Schools Committee meeting. There were many great discussions.

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- June 17 – Attended the DPAC Meeting online. Discussions around cell phone usage, food programs and next year succession planning were among the topics.

Trustee Dhillon reported the following:

- June 1 – Attended the Reach Gala, which was a great fundraiser for the organization. It was great to hear how Reach is involved in so many families' lives and how they support so many in various ways.

Trustee Daula reported the following:

- May 27 – Attended the Audit Committee Meeting.
- May 31 – Attended Wingspan along with Chair Windsor. Wingspan is Canada's first Disability and Deaf Artist Residency Program in Schools, and they had their first showcase at Seaquam Secondary School. The event was well attended, and the performances very much appreciated by the audience.

Trustee Beard reported the following:

- May 27 – Attended the Audit Committee.
- Also attended the Grad walk at South Delta Secondary School and enjoyed it with her children.

Chair Windsor reported the following:

- May 31 – Attended the Metro Equity Regional Session, where she had the opportunity to take a close look at how and what Delta is doing to work toward the success of Indigenous students.
- June 17 – Attended a Retiring Administrator lunch for retiring Administrators.
- June 17 – Attended the DTA Retirement Celebration for retiring teachers.
- June 17 – Attended the DPAC Meeting.

2025/2026 CAPITAL PLAN

Darren Duff, Director of Human Resources, formerly Director of Facilities & Planning, presented the projects contained in the 2025/2026 Capital Plan. The Capital Plan is due to the Ministry of Education by June 30, 2024 for Major Capital Projects, September 30, 2024 for Minor Capital Projects, and October 1, 2024 for Minor Capital – Food Infrastructure Programs.

M/S Trustee Kanakos / Vice Chair Muego

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 37 (Delta) approves the 2025/2026 Capital Plan as outlined in the attached summary.

CARRIED

ADULT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD PROGRAM

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Darren Duff, Director of Human Resources, formerly Director of Facilities & Planning, reviewed the revised proposal to the 2024/2025 Adult School Crossing Program. The School District proposed to increase the current number of twenty-nine (29) adult crossing guards to thirty-one (31) at nineteen locations for the 2024/2025 school year. The change is the result to the following updates:

- Gibson Elementary (11451 90th Ave) adding an additional crossing guard at 92nd Ave & 116th Street.
- The addition of a guard at Brooke Elementary at Brooke Rd @ Dunlop Rd.

The total cost of \$126,470 for these services will be funded by the City out of the funds set aside each year for the program.

M/S Trustees Beard / Dhillon

THAT the Delta Board of Education approves the 2024/2025 Adult School Crossing Guard Program as presented.

CARRIED

2024-2025 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer, presented Trustees with the 2024/2025 Board Meeting schedule. Board meetings will be scheduled as follows:

- September 24, 2024
- October 8, 2024
- November 5, 2024 – Inaugural Meeting
- December 10, 2024
- January 7, 2025
- February 18, 2025
- March 11, 2025
- April 8, 2025
- April 22, 2025
- April 29, 2025
- May 13, 2025
- June 17, 2025

BOARD ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer, provided Trustees with the revised Board Annual Work Plan (Policy 2 – Appendix X), for approval.

M/S Trustee Gooch / Vice Chair Muego

THAT the revised Board Annual Work Plan (Policy 2 – Appendix A) be approved as presented.

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CARRIED

POLICY 12 – ROLE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT REVISIONS

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer, provided Trustees with the revised Role of the Superintendent (Policy 12) for the Board’s approval.

M/S Trustees Daula / Beard

THAT the Delta Board of Education approve the updated Role of the Superintendent (Policy 12), as presented.

CARRIED

CELL PHONES IN CLASSROOMS

Judy Maranda, Assistant Superintendent, provided the Board with a draft version of a new procedural document Administrative Procedure 145 – Use of Personal Communication Devices, and a revised Procedure 350 Appendix – District Code of Conduct, both pertaining to the topic of cell phones in classrooms. The Ministry has asked each district in the province to implement policy to promote provincial consistency around personal digital device use, and to allow students to be engaged in learning instead of being distracted by their phones.

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Beard

THAT the Regular meeting be extended for an additional twenty minutes.

CARRIED

CAPITAL BYLAW – MACKIE PARK LAND EXCHANGE

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer, provided an overview of the MOU between the Delta Board of Education and the City of Delta, which began on January 12, 2016, regarding the exchange of land, subject to the approval of the Minister of Education and Child Care. Since receiving approval on March 12, 2024, the Delta School District and City of Delta entered into a Conditional Park and School Land Exchange Agreement for the purpose of exchanging land.

Particulars of the exchange include the following:

- The area of land to be exchanged is 2,029 m², with each party offering land of equal area and value to the other.
- The Delta School District is providing the following lands to the City of Delta:
Gray Elementary – 10840 82nd Ave, Delta (1,292 m²) and

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Sands Secondary – 10840 82nd Ave, Delta (737 m2)

- The City of Delta is offering the following lands of equal area and equal value in return:
Hellings Park – 11655 86th Ave, Delta (1,956 m2) and
Mackie Park – 10840 82nd Ave, Delta (73 m2)

M/S Vice Chair Muego / Trustee Kanakos

THAT approval be given for three readings at one meeting of the Capital Bylaw – Mackie Park Land Exchange.

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Dhillon / Beard

THAT the Capital Bylaw – Mackie Park Land Exchange be given three readings and adopted.

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Gooch

THAT the Capital Bylaw – Mackie Park Land Exchange be given a FIRST Reading.

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Beard / Dhillon

THAT the Capital Bylaw – Mackie Park Land Exchange be given a SECOND Reading.

CARRIED

M/S Trustee Gooch / Vice Chair Muego

THAT the Capital Bylaw – Mackie Park Land Exchange be given a THIRD Reading and Adopted.

CARRIED

CONDITIONS PRECEDENT – MACKIE PARK LAND EXCHANGE

Nicola Christ, Secretary Treasurer, reviewed the final tasks required in the transfer of properties between the Delta Board of Education and City of Delta. The transfer of properties contemplated in the Conditional Park and School Land Exchange Agreement requires that the City satisfy certain conditions precedent, and that other conditions precedent be waived by the Board of Education.

M/S Trustees Daula / Dhillon

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THAT the Board of Education confirm that it has sufficient comfort that the conditions precedent in sections 4.1(a), (b) and (c) of the Conditional Park and School Land Agreement dated March 12, 2024, have been satisfied and that it waives the conditions precedent in sections 4.3(a), (b), (c) and (d) of the same agreement.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

Daun Frederickson, President CUPE 1091 commented on how we are in good hands for the future based on the presentation from the DYAC students. She thanked the Board for advocating for funding and appreciates the letter being sent to the various Ministry members. She wished them a good summer and congratulated Joanne Gill, 1st Vice President, CUPE 1091 on her retirement. The DTA and DPVPA members reiterated the comments from CUPE 1091. Delta Secondary DYAC Student asked about the phone policy, mentioning that some students are using it for music and supporting their mental health. Judy Maranda, Assistant Superintendent, responded that the District would work with students that may need this for support. The guidelines are to limit the use but recognize some may need it for valid reasons.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

September 24, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustees Kanakos / Gooch

THAT the Delta School Board meeting of June 18, 2024 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 9:47 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer