

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

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: May 14, 2024 7:30 p.m.  
District Administration Building

PRESENT: Trustees: V. Windsor, Chairperson  
J. Muego, Vice-Chairperson  
E. Beard  
A. Dhillon  
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  
C. Tucker, Director of Communications  
R. Sonsalla, Executive Assistant

ABSENT: Trustees: N. Daula  
M. Gooch

K. Symonds, Director, International Student Programs

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Windsor called the meeting to order at 7:37 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, CUPE 1091
- Deb Kabesh – Secretary Treasurer, CUPE 1091
- Lorrenne Alkema – DPVPA Representative
- Sandra Cadez – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, DTA
- Ray Weremczuk – District Manager, Continuing Education

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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M/S Trustee Kanakos / Vice Chair Muego  
**THAT** the agenda be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

FEEDING FUTURES UPDATE

Patrick Klassen, Director of Learning Services, provided an update on Feeding Futures for the current year and going forward. He provided an outline of the program, which included information regarding Data, Funding, Process & Timeline, Approach, Work to Date and finally, the Plan for the 2024/25 school year. The funding received for the current school year was \$1,765,282. He explained how the funds were distributed, what work has been done to date to ensure food security for students, and what goals schools will be focused on going forward. He provided examples of a few Delta schools that are piloting the project, and what they are currently doing. He ended by reviewing the plan for the 2024/25 school year. The funds that will be allocated to the Delta School District (based on a per student amount) will be \$1,692,274. The goal is that no child will go hungry in the Delta School District.

Chair Windsor thanked Mr. Klassen for the presentation and commented on the wonderful work being done.

LINC PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Chair Windsor introduced Neil Stephenson, Director of Learning Services. Neil then introduced Mary Daniel, Program Coordinator, and Ray Weremczuk, District Manager, Continuing Education, who introduced the Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program, which is funded by Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). He explained the District is currently in the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the current contract, which will expire in March 2025. A proposal for the next 5 years is currently being worked on for submission. Mary Daniel, Coordinator, LINC Program, provided a presentation, which included information on how the program started, what the program offers, and how it provides assistance to newcomer families. The number of students and classes has been steadily increasing since the end of Covid, and the program is now at the highest numbers it has ever been at. Mary introduced Ragini Kapil, who has recently joined the program to teach a pre-literacy class for refugees, most of whom have arrived from Afghanistan. A majority of these students had never been to school and the progress being made with the students has been very encouraging.

Vice Chair Muego commented on how exciting this program is. He asked about enrollment, particularly how long a student is enrolled in the program for. Mary responded that the program provides classes from pre literacy to level 6. Students receive a certificate upon completion of LINC Level 4 that certifies language proficiency, which is the goal for many students. Some students are there for a brief time, others for longer.

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Trustee Kanakos commented on the demographics; as most students are in North Delta, is there a need for a class in the south end of the district? Mary advised that while there is a need in the south end, and plans are in place to expand that way in the future, other districts have a long waitlist for their programs, thus bringing out of district students to Delta to attend classes at the north end location.

Trustee Dhillon thanked Mary for the information and commended the program and staff for the good work they are doing. She asked how many students are from Delta vs. out of district. Mary advised that there are no stats available on that but advised that many LINC students have children attending Delta schools, therefore are likely also Delta residents.

Trustee Kanakos added that his mother immigrated from another country and had to learn English upon arrival in Canada. He recognized the value of this program and thanked the staff for all the work they are doing.

Chair Windsor thanked everyone for their hard work.

Chair Windsor also took a moment to recognize the work of Ray Weremczuk and thanked him for his 30 years of service to the District. She commended him on his strong teamwork, amazing organizational skills, persistence and enthusiasm, and thanked him for all he has done to ensure the success of the Continuing Education programs. She wished him well on his upcoming retirement.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Trustees Beard / Dhillon

**THAT** the Minutes of the Regular meeting of April 30, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED

2025-2026 CALENDAR REVISION

Judy Maranda, Assistant Superintendent, provided Trustees with the revised 2025-2026 District Calendar. A revision was made to the Family Day statutory holiday date in February. The calendar has been revised to reflect the correct date of February 16, 2026.

M/S Vice Chair Muego / Trustee Kanakos

**THAT** the Delta Board of Education approve the revised 2025-2026 District Calendar as presented.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Chairperson Windsor called upon Trustees to report on their activities.

Vice Chair Muego reported the following:

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- May 3 – Participated in the Director of Facilities interviews with senior staff. He is excited to see how Delta continues to attract quality candidates from within and outside of the District.
- May 4 – Attended Mayor’s Inaugural Ball and Delta Firefighters’ Ball. The Health Snack program raised over \$600,000, which was fantastic.
- May 13 – Attended the raising of the Pride Flag at the SBO. A very nice experience given the challenges many districts are facing. Nice to see the community come together without any pretense.

Trustee Dhillon reported the following:

- May 3 – Attended the North Delta Future Leaders’ presentations, which involved some North Delta students presenting on projects and programs they have developed. The event was organized by MLA Ravi Kahlon. Some of the programs covered were the timing of the Capstone project, advocating for mental health in schools, importance of social media literacy, and post-secondary education accessibility.
- May 10 – Participated in the Secondary Vice-Principal interviews. The Executive team did an amazing job filtering candidates as there were some wonderful candidates being interviewed.
- May 13 – Attended the Pride Flag raising at the SBO.

Trustee Kanakos raised a Notice of Motion as follows:

That the Delta Board of Education write to the Ministers of Education and Childcare, the Minister of Finance, the Shadow Ministers of the opposition, as well as, the Green Party Leader, the Conservative Party Leader, the BC United Leader, and our two local MLA’s, to share the feedback the district received on its budget priorities for the 2024 -25 school year, and that further advocacy actions be taken as the options become available prior to Provincial Election this fall.

Chair Windsor thanked Trustee Kanakos for the Notice of Motion and advised that this will come forward at the June 18, 2024 Regular Board meeting.

Chair Windsor reported the following:

- May 7 – Attended the Indigenous Recognition Ceremony at the School Board Office, for Grade 7 and 12 Indigenous students and their families. It was a very special evening for the students and their families. She thanked the Indigenous Education department for arranging such a special evening.
- Congratulated Daun Frederickson, re-elected President of CUPE 1091 and her executive. She also congratulated Alison Roche, President of the Delta Teachers’ Association, Kathy MacFarlane, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, and Sandra Cadez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President on their recent elections to their positions. Also, congratulations to other teachers who have joined the executive committee. The Board of Education looks forward to working with both Unions in the coming years.

FIELD TRIPS

Brad Bauman, Assistant Superintendent, and Judy Maranda, Assistant Superintendent, provided an

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overview of the various field trips that Delta students have participated in from January 2024 to present.

2024/2025 ADULT CROSSING GUARD PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Darren Duff, Director of Human Resources, formerly Director of Facilities & Planning, reviewed the proposed 2024/2025 Adult School Crossing Program. The School District proposed to increase the current number of twenty-nine (29) adult crossing guards to thirty (30) at nineteen locations for the 2024-2025 school year. The change is the result to the following updates:

- Gibson Elementary (11451 90<sup>th</sup> Ave) adding an additional crossing guard at 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave & 116 Street.
- The repositioning of a guard at Brooke Elementary to Brooke Rd at Dunlop Rd from Brooke Rd at Nordel Way.

The total cost of \$122,635 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

QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were presented.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

June 18, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Vice Chair Muego / Trustee Dhillon

**THAT** the Delta School Board meeting of May 14, 2024 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 8:37 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer