

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

DATE, TIME AND PLACE: September 26, 2023 7:30 p.m.  
District Administration Building

PRESENT: Trustees: V. Windsor, Chairperson  
E. Beard, Vice-Chairperson  
N. Daula  
A. Dhillon  
M. Gooch  
N. Kanakos (*via Zoom*)  
J. Muego  
  
D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools  
B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent  
N. Christ, Secretary-Treasurer  
J. Duffin, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
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: D. Duff, Director, Facilities & Planning  
P. Klassen, Director, Learning Services - Inclusive Learning  
A. Mascati, Director of Human Resources

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.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S Vice Chair Beard / Trustee Dhillon  
**THAT** the agenda be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

Chairperson Windsor introduced the following education partners attending the meeting:

- Daun Frederickson – President, CUPE Local 1091
- Theresa Osezua – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, CUPE Local 1091
- Joanne Gill – 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, CUPE Local 1091

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- Deborah Kabesh –Secretary Treasurer, CUPE Local 1091
- John Pavao – President, DPVPA
- Jennifer Rak – Chair, DPAC
- Mike Su – Delta Optimist Freelance Journalist

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S DAY PRESENTATION

Diane Jubinville, District Principal of Indigenous Education, presented on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which occurs on September 30<sup>th</sup>. She provided some background information on the relevance of the day, how past events have shaped our country, and the importance of recognizing this day. She also spoke about what the district is doing on September 29<sup>th</sup> to recognize the day, and reviewed the various resources teachers have to use in their classrooms. There will be two Zoom sessions hosted by Nathan Wilson, Indigenous Cultural Enhancement Facilitator, on September 29<sup>th</sup> to enable students to learn more about National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Chair Windsor thanked Ms. Jubinville for her presentation as well as the important work that is being done to educate Delta students and staff.

WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY

Chairperson Windsor advised World Teacher’s Day is held annually on October 5<sup>th</sup> to celebrate all teachers around the globe. It commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, which sets out the rights and responsibilities of teachers, and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions. The theme of this year’s World Teacher’s Day is “*The teachers we need for the education we want; the global imperative to reverse the teacher shortage*”. Putting an end to the decline in the number of teachers and reversing that trend urgently needs to be at the top of the global agenda. Being a teacher provides an incredible opportunity to make a transformative and lasting impact on learners young and old. It’s extremely worrying to see that school districts everywhere are facing teacher shortages currently. On behalf of the Board of Education, she thanked all staff within our district – educators, support staff, school and district administrators, CUPE 1091 and DTA members, as well as parents – for their outstanding hard work and unwavering commitment to supporting Delta students.

Doug Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools, added to Chair Windsor’s comments and shared some of his thoughts on why this is such an important day for all to recognize. In Delta, achieving our Vision for 2030 of being an innovative, inclusive community where all learners belong, and everyone soars is wholly dependent on being able to build positive connections with our students. When students feel supported and safe, they are far more likely to engage in learning, which ultimately can lead to better academic success. We need sufficient staff, period, to be able to do this important work, and that system will foster these powerful connections and provide the best learning environment for all of our students to flourish. Superintendent Sheppard invited everyone to join him on October 5<sup>th</sup>, and throughout the year, in thanking all staff and community members for doing such exceptional work in Delta, and to encourage young people to consider a career in education.

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APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Trustees Gooch / Muego

**THAT** the Minutes of the Regular meeting of June 6, 2023 be approved.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Trustee Muego reported on the following:

- June 19 – Participated in the interview process for the position of District Administrator of International Student Programs.
- June 22 – Attended the retirement celebration for Ted Johnson, Director of Learning Services, at Boundary Beach school. He was touched to see how someone so prominent touched so many lives around him.
- June 27 – Attended and spoke at the Delta Secondary School Valedictory Assembly. It was his first time addressing a graduating class, and it was both exciting and interesting.
- June 28 – Attended as a parent, the South Delta Secondary School Valedictory Assembly.
- September 18 – Chaired the Audit Committee meeting, reviewing the results of the external audit.

Trustee Gooch reported on the following:

- June 27 – Attended the Burnsvew Secondary School graduation ceremony. It was a lovely ceremony and there was a great connectedness between staff and students. She found it was inspiring and uplifting to witness the students' achievements.

Trustee Dhillon reported on the following:

- June 22 – Attended Ted Johnson's retirement celebration. She appreciated seeing how many lives he touched in his department.
- June 22 – Attended the Wellness Committee meeting, organized by Nicole Braid, District Principal of Employee Services. The meeting included great discussions on mental health.
- June 29 - Attended the North Delta Secondary School graduation ceremony.
- August 31 – Attended the North Delta Future Leaders Program, hosted by MLA Ravi Kahlon. It was attended by Grade 12 students who spoke on various topics. The students did a great job.
- September 1 - Attended the last outdoor movie night of the summer held at Gunderson Park hosted by MLA Ravi Kahlon.

Trustee Daula reported on the following:

- July 16 – Attended the Movie Under the Stars event at Chalmers Park hosted by MLA Ravi Kahlon, and found it to be a memorable night and a great way to bring the community together.
- August 26 – Attended the School Supply Drive organized by the Guru Nanak Food Bank in Delta. The event was very successful and was supported by the Delta Police and Delta Firefighters, as well as student volunteers.

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- September 6 – Attended the event where the donations from the School Supply Drive were presented to the board. Over 2000 school supply items were presented, as well as over \$2,400 in cash, which will be used to purchase much needed items for students in need.
- September 18 – Attended the Audit Committee meeting alongside Trustee Muego.

Vice Chair Beard reported on the following:

- June 14 – Attended the Delta Community College Recognition and Graduation ceremony. It was a wonderful evening and she enjoyed being able to celebrate our adult learners. She was inspired by one of the learners who spoke on the importance of showing her children how to be a passionate learner.
- June 23 – Attended the Seaquam Secondary School graduation ceremony. She particularly enjoyed watching the family and friends in the audience, who displayed such pride in seeing their children graduate.

Trustee Kanakos reported on the following:

- June 14 – Attended the North Delta Coaching awards which recognized the volunteer coaches who put in their own time to coach the various teams in Delta.
- June 28 – Attended the South Delta Secondary School graduation ceremony. It was a great experience to see the children cross the stage.

Chair Windsor reported on the following:

- June 13 – Represented the district at the 1867 RCACC Seaforth Highlanders Annual Ceremonial Review. She was honored by being tasked with presenting an award to an outstanding cadet.
- June 15 – Attended the District Retirement / 25 Year Celebration, which celebrates those who were retiring and those who have worked in the district for 25 years.
- June 26 – Attended the Delview Secondary School commencement celebration and enjoyed being part of this special day for the “little school with the big heart”.
- June 27 – Attended the Sands Secondary School commencement and enjoyed being a part of this joyous evening.
- August 23 – Joined the City in celebrating the opening of the Wheelchair accessible swing at Annieville Park. It was a very moving event and she enjoyed this very much.
- September 21 – Attended the Metro Trustees meeting. She enjoyed the highlight, which was a presentation of CLASS (Coordinated Legal and Arbitration Support System) by BCPSEA CEO, Bruce Anderson.

2022/2023 AUDITOR’S REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Nicola Christ, Secretary-Treasurer, submitted the 2022/2023 Audited Financial Statements.

The Financial Statements have been audited by the firm of BDO LLP, Chartered Accountants, and have been prepared consistent with the format prescribed in section 95.63(1) of the BC School Act. The Auditors issued an unqualified audit opinion which means that the financial statements present the financial affairs of the district fairly in all material respects, in accordance with s.23.1 of the

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Budget Transparency and Accountability Act of BC. All the reports will be available to view on the Delta School District website. Joe Muego, Chair of the District Audit Committee, thanked Nicola Christ and her team for their great work and provided the Board with the committee's recommendation for approval of the 2022/23 Audited Financial Statements. The Financial Statements must be forwarded to the Minister of Education by September 29, 2023.

The 2022-23 Audited Financial Statements, Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis and the Accumulated Operating Reserve Report are available under Financial Information in the Board's section on the district's website.

M/S Trustees Muego / Gooch

**THAT** the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the District Audit Committee with respect the approval of the 2022/23 Audited Financial Statements and related documents.

Further,

**THAT** the 2022/2023 Auditor's Report of the Delta School District be accepted.

AND

**THAT** the Financial Statements as at June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the Financial Statements, as audited by BDO Canada LLP, the Financial Statement Discussion & Analysis (FSD&A) and Accumulated Operating Surplus Report be approved.

CARRIED

FRAMEWORK FOR ENHANCING STUDENT LEARNING REPORT

Chair Windsor introduced Brad Bauman, Assistant Superintendent, who gave a brief overview of what this report is, how it relates to our Strategic Plan, and submitted the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Report to the Board for their approval. The report must be submitted by all school districts in BC to the Ministry of Education by September 30, 2023. The report will be posted on the website once approved and submitted to the Ministry of Education.

M/S Vice Chair Beard / Trustee Dhillon

**THAT** the Board of Education approve the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Report as presented.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were presented.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

October 10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

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ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustees Daula / Muego

**THAT** the Delta School Board meeting of September 26, 2023 be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 8:26 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer