



## **MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 5:00pm**

**Online – MS Teams**

Present: C. Broady, Chair; N. Brown, Vice Chair; L. Block, S. Donahue, D. Stevenson, Trustees; C. Kennedy, Superintendent of Schools; J. Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer; K. Martin, Associate Superintendent; S. Nosek, Associate Superintendent; I. Kennedy, Director of Instruction; L. Hill, Director of Instruction; Director of Instruction D. Nelson, Director of Instruction S-L. Shortall

### **A. CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair called the meeting to order and recognized that we are gathered together on the traditional territory of the Squamish Nation and thanked our friends and colleagues in the Nation who are working with us to guide our understanding of the history of this land and its people. She said we respect and honour the Elders past, present, and future, as we bring this knowledge to the students in our community.

She then took a moment to condemn the recent actions taken against New Westminster's Board Chair Gurveen Dhaliwal.

### **B. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **"Our Whole School Inquiry: Heroes Walk Among Us" – Caulfeild Elementary**

*Principal Trevor Kolkea and Vice Principal Sara Bell, Teacher Jade Constanieau, Students*

Vice Principal Sara Bell and Teacher Jade Constanieau reviewed how Caulfeild students of all grades have been learning about the school's core values and what it means to "Be the Bear". Ms. Constanieau's grade one students Freya H, Sam T, Benjamin W and Nana F shared the Bear traits of their heroes, Custodian Mr. Randy, Administrative Assistant Ms. Araya, Principal Kolkea and Teacher Mr. Lund.

### **"Called to Drum" – Eagle Harbour Montessori**

*Principal Trevor Kolkea and Vice Principal Debbie Tobin, Teacher Erica Hardern, Students*

Teacher Erica Hardern lead students from several classes and grade levels as they performed two Indigenous songs: the Women's Warrior Song by Martine St. Pierre was written in honor of Ms. St. Pierre's daughters and the missing and murdered indigenous women and girls and the Equality Song written by Patrick Aleck that was gifted to Simon Fraser University. Grade five student Tom G shared how drumming is an important part of almost every culture and explained that the students have learned to use drums as the First Nations people do as well as other countries in Africa and Asia, specifically the Japanese drums. The students then played an untitled song on overturned garbage cans that Bonnie Soon and Jason Overy of Uzume Taiko taught the students during virtual Taiko classes.

## **C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

#1535	<b><u>MOTION</u> THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting April 20, 2021 be adopted.</b>
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**Carried.**

## **D. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)**

There were no questions or comments.

## **E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Regular Meeting February 16, 2021

#1536	<b><u>MOTION</u> THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting February 16, 2021 be approved.</b>
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**Carried.**

- General Record April 20, 2021

#1537	<b><u>MOTION</u> THAT the General Record April 20, 2021 be approved.</b>
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**Carried.**

## **F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

No business arising.

## **G. BOARD BUSINESS**

### **1. Superintendent's Report**

*Chris Kennedy, Superintendent*

Superintendent Kennedy gave a brief update on the following items:

#### Regular Enrolment Update – 2020-21

Enrolment as of March 2021 shows a slight decrease from September 2020. Enrolment for the 2021-22 school year is being tracked noting Sentinel has closed out of catchment applications, Cedardale is no longer accepting Kindergarten applications, Pauline Johnson will have 3 Kindergarten classes and Lions Bay is tracking to have their largest Kindergarten class in 8 years.

#### International Education Update – 2021-22

The 2021-22 International enrolment was reviewed. The challenges the program faces and what actions are being taken were explained. It was noted that once travel restrictions lift, International enrolment is expected to increase.

#### Summer Learning 2021 – Early Numbers

2021 Summer Learning Registration is open and registration is similar to this time last year. The enrolment numbers for Elementary and International are even with a large enrolment for math classes in Secondary.

#### COVID-19 Rapid Test Kit Program

Partnered with BC Children's Hospital, schools will now be able to provide families with a COVID-19 'swish and gargle' rapid test kit, should a student present COVID-19 symptoms while at school. Schools will be offering this optional service in the near future.

#### Vaccination Plan – School District Staff

Vancouver Coastal Health has committed to vaccinating all school district staff over approximately the next 5 weeks. School staff began receiving their vaccination during the previous weekend.

#### Diversity Work

The District's HR department met with the Squamish Nation to explore employment opportunities for Squamish Nation members. Additionally, "Sempulyan's Residential School Story & Healing Journey" will be presented at the upcoming anti-racism and diversity event co-sponsored by WVPAC, WV School District and the WV Memorial Library. Work with Alden Halbacon will continue in May with a session for teachers, and Mr. Habacon will also be the Opening Day speaker in September.

#### Year End Activities

There will be more opportunities for student celebrations this year, but in-person parent and community events will continue to be very limited to ensure current public health orders are followed. Grade 7 leaving ceremonies will allow celebrations within cohorts and

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/ or walk-by and drive-through events. The district has again partnered with Grads BC for virtual graduation ceremonies. School-based events have been planned and there will be a celebratory ad in the North Shore News. As in 2020, a video celebrating this year's district retirees will be shared in June with staff and past retirees.

#### Pandemic Shift – Consideration for BC Secondary Schools

The West Vancouver School district recently collaborated with other Metro Vancouver School Districts on a "Pandemic Shifts – Consideration for BC Secondary Schools" document prepared by Dean Shareski. With a focus on scheduling, blended learning, assessment and wellness, the document looks at what schools have done during this school year and what lessons were learned and can be applied moving forward.

#### Thank-you's

Special thanks were given to the elementary teachers and administrators for their efforts in administering and marking the Grade 4 and 7 FSA exams. Director of Instruction Sandra-Lynn Shortall and her Student Support Services staff were thanked for their efforts during their virtual audit which resulted in a clean report. Associate Superintendent Nosek and his IT department have begun a network upgrade throughout a number of school sites, starting with Hollyburn.

## **2. Feedback on Secondary Programs**

*Ian Kennedy & Liz Hill, Directors of Instruction*

Directors of Instruction Ian Kennedy and Liz Hill reported on the learnings from the 2020-21 school year and the current plans for the for 2021-22. Not knowing what the MOE/Public Health Guidelines will be for September, the district is planning a flexible and scalable schedule that lies between Stages 1 and 2 of the BC Restart Plan. Planning around the Quarter System has begun as it provides maximum flexibility, including better course placement for vulnerable learners, but the district is optimistic that the guidelines will permit a transition to a Semester Schedule. Some linear course options will also be available, and X Block will continue to provide linear programming support.

## **3. BCSTA AGM**

*Carolyn Broady, Board Chair*

Board Chair Broady gave a brief update on the BCSTA AGM that took place April 16-17. The Board Chair referred to a controversial motion at the AGM regarding seclusion rooms, and asked for clarification on whether any of the district's schools use these rooms. Director of Instruction Sandra-Lynn Shortall replied there are no seclusion rooms in the West Vancouver School District and further clarified that exclusion is not a practice used in the district.

#### **4. Childcare Policy**

*Julia Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer*

Secretary Treasurer Julia Leiterman reviewed the Board's new Policy 19.0: Childcare, that was posted online for review and feedback for the past 60 days.

<b>#1538</b>	<b><u>MOTION</u> TO adopt Board Policy 19.0 "Childcare", pursuant to Section 85.1 of the British Columbia School Act</b>	<b><u>Carried.</u></b>
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## **H. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **1. Human Resources Committee Meeting – March 2, 2021**

Committee Chair Brown reviewed the minutes of the March meeting. The updates to the COVID-19 Safety Guidelines are available online and in every school site and will continue to be amended as necessary. Also reviewed was the B.C. Government's new paid leave provision, BCPSEA surveys, support staff job evaluations and teacher evaluations. It was noted that the district's Principals, Vice Principals and Managers participated in Queen's University Certificate Workplace Mental Health Leadership Program. The HR recruiters hosted the first West Vancouver Schools Career fair, which focused on teacher candidates. The district is working with Paul Wick, Director of Education, Employment and Training at the Squamish Nation to seek guidance on how to better reach candidates of indigenous background for all positions within our organization and not just cultural or language teachings roles.

<b>#1539</b>	<b><u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting held March 2, 2021 be received.</b>	<b><u>Carried.</u></b>
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### **2. Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting – March 9, 2021**

Committee Chair Stevenson reviewed the minutes of the March meeting, which included naming the track at West Vancouver Secondary School the "Harry Jerome Oval". He noted that fundraising has resumed, and West Vancouver Place for Sports Committee is now actively seeking private donations. Revenues for the 2021/22 Preliminary Annual Budget were discussed and will be updated for any changes in estimated local and international enrolments numbers at the end of May. Online budget feedback from schools, staff members WVTA, WVMEA, DPACs and individual community members was reviewed, and their suggestions are being taken into consideration by the district.

<b>#1540</b>	<b><u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting held March 9, 2021 be received.</b>	<b><u>Carried.</u></b>
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### 3. Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting – April 13, 2021

Committee Chair Stevenson reviewed the minutes of the April meeting which included a recap of the work the Facilities department did over spring break. A proposal from the Village of Lions Bay with respect to implementing pay parking in the community, including the school parking lot was discussed. It was noted that the funding granted with respect to our application under the Childcare BC New Spaces Fund was insufficient to build an early childcare structure at West Vancouver Secondary. The project will be revisited if there is another funding opportunity in the future. The district is receiving a small holdback from the 2020/21 Operating Grant, which must be used to address some of the learning impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Secretary Treasurer Leiterman noted that although the forecasted revenue for the 2021-22 school year is estimated to be very similar to the current year, the district is not expecting to receive special COVID-19 funding in 2021/22, and with International enrolment still down and the COVID-19 expenses still expected, the Preliminary budget is expected to show a structural deficit that will be funded from reserves. Any updates to revenue will be reported at the May Finance + Facilities meeting, and the full budget will be tabled in June.

#1541	<b><u>MOTION</u> THAT the minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting held March 9, 2021 be received.</b>
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**Carried.**

#### I. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of the correspondence from the past month is posted online at <http://westvancouver.schools.ca/board-correspondence>

#### J. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

BCSTA AGM	ELL Consortium
BCSTA Metro Meeting	Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting
BCSTA Board Chairs' calls	HR Committee Meeting
BCPSEA Bargaining	Mayor's Cleanup April 19th
Board Self Review	North Shore Immigrant Inclusion Partnership (NSIIP)
Chief Const. Len Goerke's Retirement	Northshore Coho Society
DPAC event "Talking about Inclusion with Alden Halbacon"	NSBA Annual Conference
DPAC Meeting	School Traffic Advisory Round Table (START)
	WV Place for Sport Launch Announcement

#### K. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

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*Renee Willock – President, WVTA*

- wanted to emphasize that teachers have been working hard to ensure schools are as safe as possible, while continuing to provide a high level of instruction
- thanked Superintendent Kennedy and the Board of Trustees for the coordinated effort with the WVTA and VCH to ensure that everyone working in the schools are vaccinated
- asked that the district prioritize those in Student Support Services who are not eligible for vaccinations at this time as they work with the most vulnerable learners in every school

The Chair asked Superintendent Kennedy if he could advocate for the staff members that VCH has not prioritized

Superintendent Kennedy replied that he does have a list of staff members that he will be asking to be included in the next round of schools that are to be vaccinated

## **L. ADJOURNMENT**

**7:10 pm**

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BOARD CHAIR

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SECRETARY TREASURER