



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

West Vancouver School Board Office

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Present: C. Broady, Chair; N. Brown, Vice Chair; L. Block, D. Stevenson, F. Zhu, Trustees;
C. Kennedy, Superintendent; L. Hill, Assistant Superintendent; J. Leiterman,
Secretary-Treasurer; I. Kennedy, SL Shortall, Directors of Instruction

A. The Chair called the meeting to order and recognized that we are gathered 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.

B. BOARD HIGHLIGHT

Sentinel Secondary – Highlights from the French Immersion Program

Principal Mike Finch; Vice Principal Shawn Anderson; Teacher Julie Pla and Students

Principal Mike Finch introduced teacher Julie Pla and her grade 11 & 12 students in the French Immersion Program. Students discussed recent experiences exploring French-speaking opportunities beyond the classroom, including website creation, a school festival, oral competitions, and a student exchange program.

Future goals include fostering connections with the local francophone community through partnerships; strengthening the French immersion program's sense of belonging; building on the relationships with elementary French immersion schools; and continuing to develop students' French language competencies and confidence.

Westcot Elementary – A Sneak Peek at Westcot's FESL K-3 Pilot Project

Principal Cathie Ratz; Vice Principal Stina Morissette, and Westcot Teachers

The Westcot team shared their **UFLI** pilot project, which has a goal to improve literacy outcomes for struggling students by addressing two key areas: (1) -reader development and (2) -teacher development. The project team supports students by tailoring instruction to meet the specific individual needs of students while fostering both competencies and confidence.

District Premier Academies – Fencing Academy

Diane Nelson; Coach Igor Gantsevich and students

A group of ten Fencing students shared their personal journeys, emphasizing their tight bond with both their coach and the academy, and describing the countless hours of rigorous training and sacrifices they've made to become skilled fencers.

Coach Igor expressed his gratitude to the Board for their ongoing support as the academy embarks on its 10th year with a program consisting of nearly 50 students.

C. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1682 **MOTION** THAT the Agenda of the Regular Meeting September 19, 2023, be adopted.

Carried

D. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 minutes)

— The President of the WVTA, Spencer Capier, expressed excitement about collaborating closely with the Board in the upcoming school year. He also introduced their new Vice President, Chantalle Wigley, who has prior experience in the district's Gifted Program.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting June 6, 2023
- General Record September 19, 2023

1683 **MOTION** THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting June 6, 2023, be approved.

Carried

1684 **MOTION** THAT the minutes of the General Record of September 19, 2023, be approved.

Carried

F. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

G. BOARD BUSINESS

Superintendent's Report

Chris Kennedy, Superintendent

Enrollment – An official enrollment update will be presented during the October Board meeting, following the submission of funding numbers to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

Enrollment continues to remain stable.

Framework for Enhance Learning - FESL has identified three primary areas of focus: ensuring smooth and meaningful transitions at key stages (early learning, the transition from grade 7 to 8, and Gr 12 into post-secondary education), strengthening numeracy competencies, and fostering a greater sense of belonging within our schools. These focus areas have been integrated into the Board's new Strategic Plan. Questions pertaining to student achievement will be welcome at the October board meeting.

Strategic Plan - The Strategic Plan will be brought forward for ratification at the October board meeting.

Indigenous Education – Joining the Indigenous Education Success team is Jackie Gladstone, hailing from Bella Bella and of Indigenous ancestry. The district is currently in the process of finalizing its Protocol agreement with the Squamish Nation.

Physical Literacy - Former Director of Instruction Diane Nelson remains actively engaged with the district in the area of Physical Literacy, now marking its eighth year. The district is currently in partnership with UBC to investigate and document the tangible outcomes of this program. Furthermore, Vancouver Coastal Health is working at aligning some of their public health nurses with these commendable efforts.

Feeding Futures Food Program - This province-wide initiative will kick off in West Vancouver Schools in mid-October. The allocation of funds will start with the introduction of a universal snack program for students in grades K-3, followed by enhancements to the CONNECT Programs in our secondary schools, and a redesign of the food program at Inglewood Secondary. Additionally, the district plans to network with other districts to gain insights from those already implementing successful food programs.

Academies - Premier Academies, Ignite your Passion Programs, and District Programs have all seen an increase in enrollment compared to last year.

Early Learning and Childcare Update

Sandra Lynn Shortall, Director of Instruction; Laine Anderson, Mary Parackal, VPs of Early Learning

Sandra Lynn Shortall, Director of Instruction, reported on her team's work in expanding and developing a thriving Early Learning and Child Care program in West Vancouver Schools. Currently, there are 13 before and after-school programs running in our schools including two MoECC Seamless Day pilot initiatives, as well as the Just B4 program that provides pre-kindergarten support.

Vice Principals Anderson and Parackal provided insights into their ongoing collaboration with the MoECC focusing on the implementation of the Early Learning Equity in Action plan. They also discussed the programs aimed at ensuring that families with children who have learning differences experience seamless transitions within our schools.

Summer Learning Report

Liz Hill, Assistant Superintendent; Debbie Tobin, Lindsay Morton, Vice Principals

The 2023/24 Summer Learning Program maintained consistently strong enrollment numbers and provided enriching learning experiences, engagement in different learning environments, and additional opportunities to build community and foster a sense of belonging. Both the elementary and secondary programs emphasized literacy and numeracy courses.

The referral-based program *On the Move* which focuses on the development of essential functional living skills for students with unique learning differences was also offered.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Audit Committee Meeting – September 11, 2023

- KPMG Review of 2022-23 Audit

Trustee Block commended Secretary-Treasurer Leiterman and her team, recognizing their dedicated efforts in managing the 2022-2023 audit. The District received a clean audit report from KPMG.

1685 **MOTION THAT** the minutes for the Audit Committee meeting held September 11, 2023, be received.

Carried

2. Finance + Facilities Committee Meeting – September 12, 2023

- 2022-23 Financial Statements
- 2023-24 Multi-Year Financial Plan
- 2024-2025 Five Year Capital Plan – Minor Projects

Trustee Stevenson provided an overview of meeting highlights, which included a modest operating surplus from the 2022-2023 fiscal year, a multi-year financial plan that aligns with the board’s strategic plan, and the minor projects slated for submission to the MoECC as part of the 2024/25 Five-Year Capital Plan.

1686 **MOTION THAT** the minutes for the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting held on September 12, 2023, be received.

Carried

1687 **MOTION THAT** the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year 2022/23 be approved and filed with the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

Carried

1688 **MOTION THAT** the internal restriction of reserves as presented in the June 30, 2023, Financial Statements, to balance the 2023/24 Preliminary Annual Budget and to finance the cost of ongoing IT upgrades, be approved.

Carried

1689 **MOTION THAT** in accordance with provisions under section 142 (4) of the School Act, the Board of Education of School District No. 45 (West Vancouver) hereby approves the proposed Five-Year Capital Plan, Minor Projects for 2024/25 to be submitted to the Ministry of Education.

Carried

I. FOR INFORMATION

Administrative Procedure 149 – Privacy Impact Assessments

J. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of board correspondence is posted online.

<http://westvancouver.schools.ca/board-correspondence>

K. TRUSTEE MEETINGS & EVENTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 20 Year Long-Service Award Recipients' Breakfast➤ Board / DLT Planning Day➤ BCSTA Metro Branch Year-End Meeting➤ Cypress Park Primary Year-End BBQ➤ DPAC Year-End Luncheon➤ Gleneagles "Shrek Jr!" Performance➤ Indigenous Grad and Gathering➤ Secondary School Commencements & Graduations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ West Vancouver Schools Opening Day and Long-Service Awards➤ Westcot Musical Morning Concert➤ West Bay Beach Clean Up➤ West Bay Band Performance➤ West Vancouver Memorial Library Reading Club Awards➤ West Vancouver Secondary Performing Arts Concert➤ West Vancouver Secondary Animation Night➤ West Vancouver Secondary Fashion Show➤ West Vancouver Secondary Rock Band Concert➤ West Vancouver Schools Communication Meeting |
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L. QUESTION & COMMENT PERIOD (10 Minutes)

M. ADJOURN

Julia Leiterman, Secretary Treasurer