



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
April 20, 2009, Regular Board Meeting - Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road**

MINUTES

Present:

Trustees Tom Ferris, Chair, Dave Pitre, Vice-Chair, Catherine Alpha, Bev Horsman, Elaine Leonard, Michael McEvoy, Peg Orcherton, John Young

Administration:

John Gaipman, Superintendent of Schools, George Ambeault, Secretary-Treasurer, Sherri Bell, Associate Superintendent, Chris Harvey, Associate Superintendent, Pat Duncan, Associate Superintendent, Debra Laser, Associate Secretary-Treasurer, Seamus Howley, Director of Facilities, Denise Archibald, Recording Secretary

Absent:

Jim Holland

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING

A1. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded

That the April 20, 2009 Regular Board Meeting Agenda be approved with the following additions to A5. Community Presentations:

- Linda Travers - Budget
- Nicole Ashlee - Budget

Motion Carried

A2. Approval of the March 30, 2009 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

It was moved and seconded

That the March 30, 2009 Regular Board Meeting Minutes be approved.

Motion Carried

A3. Business arising from the Minutes

None.

A4. Student Achievement/District Presentations

a) Esquimalt High School

Superintendent Gaipman introduced Duane Dunstan, Esquimalt High School's Grade 11 Philosophy teacher. Mr. Dunstan provided information on the Philosophy course he teaches which engages students in a variety of subject areas including logic, biomedical ethics, theories and contemporary society. Three students gave presentations about the course and the effect it has on their thinking when speaking, debating and making their point stand. Chair Ferris thanked Mr. Dunstan and the students for their presentation.

A5. Community Presentations**a) Linda Travers**

Ms. Travers stated that the 2009/2010 Budget Bylaw, if passed, will not adequately fund the district's educational needs. She encouraged the Board to not support the third reading of the bylaw.

b) Nicole Ashlee, Grade 10 Spectrum Community School student

Ms. Ashlee asked the Board to invest in the future of the district's students by returning funding to the levels of the early 1990's.

A6. Trustees' Reports

Trustee McEvoy provided an overview of a recent meeting with Oak Bay Council. The Principal of Oak Bay High School, Dave Thomson, will be receiving feedback about the consultation process for the new school which will be reported back to the Board.

B. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None.

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**C1. Education Policy Development Committee**

a) The April 6, 2009 meeting minutes were provided for information.

b) Board Authority Authorized Courses (BAA)

It was moved and seconded

That the District approve Fitness for Life 12 as an approved BAA course.

Motion Carried

It was moved and seconded

That the District approve Global Studies 11 as an approved BAA course.

Motion Carried

It was moved and seconded

That the District approve Psychology 12 as an approved BAA course.

Motion Carried

It was moved and seconded

That the District approve Environmental Stewardship 11 as an approved BAA course.

Motion Carried

c) Pathway Change for Lansdowne Late Immersion

It was moved and seconded.

That the District approve a change in pathway for Late French Immersion students at Lansdowne from Reynolds to Oak Bay effective September 2012.

Motion Carried

C2. Operations, Policy and Planning Committee

- a) The April 14, 2009 meeting minutes were provided for information.
- b) Naming of Gymnasium at S. J. Willis

It was moved and seconded

To name the S.J. Willis Gym "*Ken Ross Memorial Gym*".

Motion Carried

- c) Naming of Café at James Bay Community School

It was moved and seconded

To name the cafe at James Bay Community School "*Jesse's Place*".

Motion Carried

D. DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS**D1. Superintendent's Report**

None.

D2. Secretary-Treasurer's Report**2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw**

It was moved and seconded

That the School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2009/2010 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$168,861,785 be read a third time, passed and adopted the 20th day of April, 2009 and that the Secretary-Treasurer be directed to place the 2009/2010 annual budget in the format prescribed by the Ministry of Education and to submit all forms as required.

Motion Carried

For: Trustees Ferris, Horsman, Leonard, McEvoy and Pitre

Against: Trustees Alpha, Orcherton and Young

E. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS/NOTICE OF MOTIONS**F1. Rewards – Budget Savings (Trustee John Young)**

It was moved and seconded

That the Board of Education set up the sum of \$100,000 in the Budget for the purpose of paying Rewards to employees or other citizens for suggesting ideas for cost savings in the amounts allocated for the operation of the District's budget of \$169,000,000 for the fiscal year 2009-2010; and

That the Rewards be structured as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| One Reward of | \$ 25,000 |
| One Reward of | \$ 20,000 |
| One Reward of | \$ 15,000 |
| One Reward of | \$ 10,000 |
| Five Rewards of | \$ 5,000 |
| Five Rewards of | <u>\$ 1,000</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>\$100,000</u> |

That copies of the provisional budget be made available at no cost to any citizen; and

That a Rewards Committee be formed and chaired by the Superintendent of Schools; and

That the Rewards Committee be structured as follows:

Two (2) Board of Education Trustees
 Two (2) Senior Board Administrators
 Two (2) Members of the Teachers Union
 One (1) Member of the VCPAC
 One (1) Member from CUPE Unions 382 or 947
 One (1) Senior Student from Grade 12

That the Rewards Committee decision about the Rewards winners be submitted to the Board for its final approval; and

That, additionally, the Rewards Committee be encouraged to obtain cost savings ideas and programs from other Boards of Education, and from the Ministry of Education, for the information of the Victoria Board of Education; and

That, the Rewards Committee be encouraged to give wide publicity to its task in order to maximize the number of cost savings ideas that may be brought to its attention by the general public; and

That, the Media be invited to observe and comment upon, the deliberations of the Rewards Committee for the purpose of creating public interest; and

That, the Rewards Committee deliberations be open to the general public; and

That, the Final Report of the Rewards Committee be submitted to the Board on or before June 1, 2009.

Motion Tabled

F2. School Fees – Financial Hardship Policy (Trustee John Young)

It was moved and seconded

1. That the expression “Financial Hardship Policy” as used in Section 82.4 of the School Act be interpreted as meaning that a parent/guardian of a school age child may simply inform the school authorities that fees for any course, class or program, or the necessary learning resource materials shall not be paid; and
2. That neither the Board itself nor any of its employees have the legal right to ask students or their parents/guardians for the reasons why they invoking the “financial hardship policy” permitted under the School Act, and
3. That parents be informed by the Board that if their child is qualified to enroll in any class, course, program or related activity, the child cannot be denied participation on the basis that a fee, charge, rental or assessment has not been paid; and
4. That prior to school opening in September the Board inform parents/guardians that they may send their children to school without funds or school supplies of any kind; and
5. That parents/guardians be informed that the entire education program leading to graduation will be provided to all students free of charge of any kind, or for any purpose.

Motion Defeated

For: Trustees Alpha, Orcheron and Young

Against: Trustees Ferris, Horsman, Leonard, McEvoy and Pitre

G. COMMUNICATIONS

None.

H. PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF IN-CAMERA ITEMS

None.

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meet be adjourned.

Motion Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Secretary-Treasurer

Chairman