

School District No. 44 (North Vancouver)

Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) held virtually through Microsoft Teams in North Vancouver, British Columbia, on Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

PRESENT: K. Mann, Chair
L. Munro, Vice Chair
C. Gerlach
C. Sacré
M. Tasi Baker
G. Tsiakos

REGRETS: M. Higgins

A. Call to Order

Board Chair Kulvir Mann called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territorial lands of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) Nation and səliłwətaʔt (Tseil-Waututh) Nation.

Motion to Approve Trustees Participation by Microsoft Teams

Moved by K. Mann

WHEREAS Section 67 of the *School Act* permits Trustees to participate in or attend a meeting of the Board by telephone or other means of communication if all Trustees and other persons participating in or attending the meeting are able to communicate with each other;

the Board hereby approves the participation by the Trustees in the January 18, 2022, Public Board Meeting by Microsoft Teams.

Seconded by C. Sacré

Carried

A.1. Chair Mann's opening remarks

Chair Mann began by wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year. Exciting new initiatives, like the strategic plan, are being implemented, including new opportunities for students in outdoor learning, physical literacy, the arts, social emotional learning, mental health, inclusive education, innovative academies and Indigenous education. Chair Mann shared her appreciation to School District staff for the work completed over the break allowing students to have a safe return in January.

Chair Mann acknowledged Inaugural Black Excellence Day, which also is Black Shirt Day, International Day of Education, Bell Let's Talk Day and Family Literacy Day, all which are occurring in the month of January.

A.2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by C. Sacré

that the agenda, as recommended in the Administrative Memorandum, be adopted.

Seconded by M. Tasi Baker

Carried

A.3. Public Comment Period

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and moving the meeting to Microsoft Teams, the Board of Education requested that interested parties email in their submission to be read out by the Board Chair.

There were no written comments submitted.

A.4. Stakeholder Comment Period

As per the motion passed on May 26, 2020, the Board of Education provided a twenty minute stakeholder comment period to allow stakeholders to speak to items on the Board of Education Agenda.

Anita Beauchamp and Moe Zhang, Co-Presidents of the District Student Leadership Council (DSLCL), thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to speak during the Public Board Meeting. Moe shared the importance of student representation and allowing their voices and perspectives in the School District. Anita shared appreciation for the opportunities to provide input on committees as stakeholders, including the Anti-Racism focus group and key aspects for the role of the new superintendent. Anita and Moe thanked the Board of Education for their time.

Katrina Russell, President of the North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTAA), started by recognizing the staff on working to create safe and welcoming environments for students. Ms. Russell advocated for N-95 masks be provided for those teachers and other staff members who request them. She referenced the additional funding for ventilation from the provincial government and asked how those funds were going to be spent. Ms. Russell shared her appreciation for the School District on the work that has been done with ventilation systems.

A.5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by K. Mann

that the minutes of the public meeting of December 7, 2021, be approved as circulated.

Seconded by M. Tasi Baker

Carried

B.1. Board Committee and Trustee Representational Assignments (2022)

Chair Mann introduced this item and advised that, in accordance with [Policy 102: Board of Education – Committees and Representation](#), Trustees had met to discuss their preferences for committee appointments in the 2022 calendar year.

Moved by K. Mann

that the Board approve the Chair's appointments of Trustees as attached to this Administrative Memorandum and make the appointments effective January 19, 2022.

Seconded by M. Tasi Baker

Carried

B.2. Notice of Motion: BCSTA Motion

Trustee Mary Tasi Baker introduced this agenda item noting that the Notice of Motion: BCSTA Motion was first discussed at the December 7, 2021 Public Board Meeting. This item is now being brought forward as an action item for a formal vote by the Board of Education. Trustee Tasi Baker reminded the Board of Education on the motion, Attributes of a BC Graduate Review Process, and provided clarity on questions surrounding the language.

Moved by M. Tasi Baker

that the North Vancouver Board of Education approve the substantive motion as attached to this memorandum of January 18, 2022.

Seconded by G. Tsiakos

Carried

B.3. Approval of Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab 2022/23

Assistant Superintendent Chris Atkinson provided the Board of Education with an update on the proposed Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab that was initially brought forward at the November 16, 2021 Board Meeting.

B.3. Approval of Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab 2022/23 (continued)

Moved by C. Gerlach

that the Board of Education approve, in principle, the implementation of a Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab Academy as outlined in the proposal presented at the November 16, 2021 Public Board Meeting, and that the academy be offered beginning September 2022 subject to sufficient student enrollment.

Seconded by C. Sacré

Carried

B.4. Notice of Motion: Mental Health/Illness Working Group

Trustee Cyndi Gerlach introduced this agenda item noting that the Notice of Motion: Mental Health/Illness Working Group was first discussed at the December 7, 2021 Public Board Meeting. This item is now being brought forward as an action item for a formal vote by the Board of Education.

Trustee Gerlach noted that based on meetings that occurred in the last month with School District staff and agencies outside the School District the motion has been revised. The revised motion proposes a Standing Committee Meeting, not a working group.

Moved by C. Gerlach

that the Board of Education direct the Superintendent and Board Leadership to create an annual Standing Committee on Mental Health/Illness during the month of October, Mental Health Awareness Month; and,

that this annual standing committee bring together the District Principal of Social Emotional Learning, Assistant Superintendent, Executive Director of Human Resources (or their designates), and individuals with lived experience to speak to the initiatives that the North Vancouver School District is undertaking; and how NVSD supports students, staff and the community in breaking down the stigmas surrounding mental health and/or illnesses.

Seconded by C. Sacré

After discussing the motion with Trustees, a series of friendly amendments were included with the final wording being as follows:

Moved by C. Gerlach

that the Board of Education direct the Superintendent and Board Leadership to create a Standing Committee Meeting on Mental Health/Illness during the month of October, Mental Health Awareness Month; and,

that this Standing Committee bring together the District Principal of Social Emotional Learning, Assistant Superintendents, Executive Director of Human Resources (or their designates), North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council, District Student Leadership Council and individuals with lived experience to speak to the initiatives that the North Vancouver School District is undertaking; and how NVSD supports students, staff and the community in breaking down the stigmas surrounding mental health and/or illnesses.

Seconded by G. Tsiakos

Carried

C.1. North Vancouver Teachers' Association Professional Development Report

Each year through the North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa) Collective Agreement; the Board of Education provides a grant to the NVTa to fund professional development. Tammy Daley, Chair of the Association's Professional Development Committee, presented the NVTa Professional Development Report.

C.1. North Vancouver Teachers' Association Professional Development Report (continued)

Ms. Daley provided highlights from the report including professional development for individual activities, school based activities, special grants and local specialist associations. Opportunities were provided for teachers to participate in larger, more expensive professional development activities with nine teachers successfully engaging in special grants. The NVTA put on five professional development days for teachers across the School District including a virtual online conference. Concluding the presentation, Ms. Daley thanked the Board of Education for the continued support and for the increase to the professional development fund.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Mann thanked the NVTA team for their presentation.

C.2. North Vancouver Online Learning Update

Jennifer Tieche, Vice Principal, and Loveleen Ahluwalia, English teacher and teacher leader at North Vancouver Online Learning (NVOL) provided an overview of online learning in the School District. NVOL is both a virtual and a physical secondary school that operates out of Mountainside Secondary. Students choose NVOL for flexible, personalized pathways to earning the BC Dogwood or Adult Dogwood Graduation Diploma or to upgrade in preparation for post-secondary school.

A variety of courses are offered to youth and adult learners within the School District and around the province of BC. The school offers 56 courses from grades 8 through 12 in English and French including French Immersion in a blended model of online and in-person learning. Currently NVOL enrolls 1,250 students who are actively participating in learning under the guidance of 17 teachers. A counsellor/academic advisor supports students' academic and social emotional needs.

NVOL prides itself on the tradition of being flexible and creative in approaches to supporting learners and meeting learners where they are. To showcase this, Ms. Ahluwalia highlighted the same English course with two different examples of session plans to accommodate and meet individual needs.

Concluding the presentation, the Ms. Tieche and Ms. Loveleen shared that staff are committed to making students' online learning experiences personalized, engaging, and successful.

A short break was observed.

C.3. Notice of Motion: Policy Alignment with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

Trustee George Tsiakos introduced the recommendation that an action plan be developed to bring all existing and future School District policies, that are under the Board of Education's jurisdiction and authority, in alignment with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

The provincial government enacted the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* in 2019, which essentially provides the framework for reconciliation by ensuring the laws of British Columbia are consistent and in harmony with UNDRIP. In light of this, the North Vancouver Board of Education has an opportunity to engage in its own process of harmonization with UNDRIP while the provincial government works on its action plan and harmonization of legislation. This opportunity is also in alignment with the Board's current Strategic Plan goal of Truth, Healing and Reconciliation.

Clarification was provided on the timelines and procedures for undertaking this work including the need to additional supported required to assist with this process.

The motion regarding Policy Alignment with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) will be on a future agenda in the action items for a formal vote from all Trustees.

C.4. School Calendar 2022/23 – Update

Assistant Superintendent Chris Atkinson provided the Board of Education with an update on the work that has been completed on the proposed school calendar for the 2022/23 school year. The 2022/23 calendar proposal developed by the School District's School Calendar Committee will be published, for comment, to the School District website from February 1, 2022, until February 28, 2022.

A summary of the comments and feedback received will be shared with the Board of Education in March and the Board of Education will consider final approval of the 2022/23 School Calendar at the March 8, 2022 Public Board Meeting.

C.5. Land Management Update

Superintendent Pearmain updated the Board of Education on the Argyle Secondary and Handsworth Secondary School Replacement Projects and the Mountainside Secondary Seismic Upgrade. Updates on the Cheakamus Centre's Environmental Learning Centre, Lynn Valley Elementary addition and the status of the new Cloverley Elementary School were also provided.

C.6. Tuesday, January 11, 2022, Standing Committee Meeting

Chair Mann reported on the meeting that highlighted key areas of work that grow the North Vancouver School District's Learning Communities and enhance educational practice. An overview of the School Planning Process, Collaborative Inquiry Projects, and School Rounds, with presentations from school based administrators was provided.

C.7. Superintendent's Report (including COVID-19)

Superintendent Pearmain started by providing an update on COVID-19 noting that the surge of Omicron cases across BC has prompted public health to change testing, case management and contact tracing, as well as notifications of exposures in schools.

Assistant Superintendents Chris Atkinson and Pius Ryan and Executive Director of Human Resources Scott Stanley provided an overview on how the School District is monitoring staff absences, backfilling the vacancies and monitoring student absences. The goal is to maintain safe, healthy environments for staff and students in all schools, and to continue to provide in-person learning for students.

An update on the winter weather was provided with thanks being shared to the school communities for their understanding during these events. Superintendent Pearmain updated the Board of Education on the status of motions that have been passed at Public Board Meetings.

C.8. Report Out - BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) and BC Public Schools Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

Trustee Tasi Baker shared that the motion regarding the Attributes of a BC Graduate would be shared with the BCSTA to be included in the Annual General Meeting package. It was also noted that Provincial Council was occurring on February 12, 2022, and an update would be provided to the Board of Education at the next meeting.

Trustee Sacré shared that the BCPSEA AGM is January 27-28, 2022 and has moved to a virtual setting. Clarification was provided on one of the proposed resolutions.

C.9. Trustees' Reports

Trustees submitted their reports on their activities on behalf of the Board as follows:

- Meetings attended by Trustees included:

C.9. Trustees’ Reports (continued)

- Public Board Meeting
 - In Camera Meetings
 - Trustee Seminar Meetings
 - Policy Review Committee
 - Physical Literacy for Communities North Vancouver Committee Meeting
 - Board Chairs Meeting with BCSTA, PHO and Ministry of Education
 - North Shore Food Network Meeting
 - Artists for Kids Committee Meeting
 - District Student Leadership Council Committee Meeting
 - Various PAC Meetings
 - Various School Meetings
- Events attended by Trustees included:
 - Various Christmas Concerts and Events
 - Seymour Heights Camp Read
 - Local Bargaining Session

D. Future Meetings

Date and Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Virtual
Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.	Public Board Meeting	Virtual
Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.	Public Board Meeting	Virtual
Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Virtual

E. Public Question & Comment Period

Due to COVID-19 and moving the meeting to a virtual platform, the Board of Education did not take questions or comments in real time. Members of the public were asked to email their submission in to publiccomments@sd44.ca.

F. Adjournment

The established agenda being completed, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:21 p.m. and thanked those who attended.

Certified Correct:

Original signed by J. Stewart

Jacqui Stewart
Secretary Treasurer

February 15, 2022

Date

Original signed by K. Mann

Kulvir Mann
Chair, Board of Education

February 15, 2022

Date