

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, November 16, 2021.

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

A. Call to Order

Board Chair George Tsiakos called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and acknowledged the traditional territorial lands of the Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation.

Motion to Approve Trustees Participation by Microsoft Teams

Moved by G. Tsiakos

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 November 16, 2021, Public Board Meeting by Microsoft Teams.

Seconded by C. Sacré

Carried

A.1. Chair Tsiakos' opening remarks

Chair Tsiakos began by thanking School District employees, families and community members, and students for their continued effort in keeping school environments safe. Special mention was provided to those struggling after recent severe weather episodes. Chair Tsiakos provided an update on vaccine mandates and acknowledged Indigenous Veterans Day, Remembrance Day, Louis Riel Day, Transgender Day of Remembrance and International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, all which are occurring in the month of November. Recognition and thanks was provided to District Principal Tsonomot Brad Baker, who has been seconded to the Ministry of Education and to Superintendent Mark Pearmain, who is leaving to take on the role of Superintendent of the Surrey School District.

A.2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by C. Sacré

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

Seconded by K. Mann

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.

A.3. Public Comment Period (continued)

Written comments were received from the following individuals: David Beare, commenting on new theatre seating for Handsworth Secondary School; Aidan Mckibben, Ethyn Ko, and Trevor Steunenberg, commenting on student achievement and how students are being recognized in the School District; and, Marla Evans and Karen Kobel, both commenting on COVID-19 vaccines.

One additional comment was received without required contact information and will be circulated to the Board of Education.

Due to technical issues, the meeting was paused for five minutes to allow School District technicians to restart the live streaming.

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.

Katrina Russell, Acting President of the North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTAs), shared her thanks and appreciation to District Principal Tsonomot and Superintendent Mark Pearmain for their leadership. Ms. Russell urged the Board of Education to consider diversity as they work toward filling the superintendent position and future leadership roles in the North Vancouver School District.

A.5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by M. Tasi Baker

that the minutes of the public meeting of October 19, 2021, be approved as circulated.

Seconded by C. Sacré

Carried

B.1. Election of Board Chair

Secretary Treasurer Jacqui Stewart reported that the Board was required by its [Policy 101: Board of Education – Role and Function](#) and [Policy 104: Board of Education - Meetings](#) to elect one of its members to be the Board Chair. Secretary Treasurer Stewart called for nominations for the position of Chair, at which time, Trustee Tsiakos nominated Trustee Mann. There being no other nominations, Trustee Mann was declared Board Chair for the term of December 1, 2021 and ending November 7, 2022 following the School Trustee Election or until a successor has been elected.

B.2. Election of Board Vice Chair

Chair Tsiakos called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Board for one year, at which time, Trustee Sacré nominated Trustee Munro. There being no other nominations, Trustee Munro was declared Board Vice Chair for the term of December 1, 2021 and ending November 7, 2022 following the School Trustee Election or until a successor has been elected.

B.3. Election to BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council and to BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

Chair Tsiakos reported that the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) requires the Board of Education elect annually, two Trustees to the British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA). One Trustee is to serve as the Board's representative and one Trustee is required to serve as an alternate.

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Trustee representative to BCSTA for 2022. Trustee Mann nominated Trustee Tasi Baker. There being no other nominations, Trustee Tasi Baker was declared the Board's representative to BCSTA.

B.3. Election to BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council and to BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) (continued)

The Chair called for nominations for the alternate representative to BCSTA for 2022. Trustee Tasi Baker nominated Trustee Tsiakos. There being no other nominations, Trustee Tsiakos was declared the Board's alternate representative to BCSTA.

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Trustee representative to BCPSEA for 2022. Trustee Tasi Baker nominated Trustee Sacré. There being no other nominations, Trustee Sacré was declared the Board's representative to BCPSEA.

The Chair called for nominations for the alternate representative to BCPSEA for 2022. Trustee Mann nominated Trustee Higgins. There being no other nominations, Trustee Higgins was declared the Board's alternate representative to BCPSEA.

B.4. 2022/23 Operating Budget Development Consultation Process

Secretary Treasurer Stewart introduced this item noting that annually, a budget consultation framework is developed in preparation of the Annual Budget. The proposed process involves the Board of Education inviting its five partner groups and the public to attend budget information and discussion sessions that will provide opportunities for their input.

The following process and timelines were proposed for the 2022/23 Budget Development Process:

1. February 8, 2022 – Public Standing Committee Meeting – Finance and Facilities
 - Staff presentation and discussion of issues and opportunities related to the development of the 2022/23 Preliminary Budget including:
 - a) Amended operating grant for 2021/22 (for the current fiscal year);
 - b) Three-year forecast, financial risks and assumptions, and future considerations;
 - c) Technology planning; and,
 - d) Review of the 2021/22 budget priorities and themes (from the current fiscal year) and how that will support budget planning for the 2022/23 budget (for the next fiscal year).
2. February 8 – March 15, 2022 – Input on Budget Development
 - Email comments may be submitted at budgetcomments@sd44.ca or written submissions to the Secretary Treasurer.
3. April 5, 2022 – Public Standing Committee Meeting – Finance and Facilities
 - Partner group presentation or written submission of top three priorities in alignment with the Strategic Plan 2021-2023.
 - Staff presentation and discussion of issues and opportunities related to:
 - a) Enrolment analysis;
 - b) Revenue analysis
 - c) Expenses analysis;
 - d) Financial risks and assumptions, and,
 - e) Budget priorities in alignment with the Strategic Plan 2021-2031.
4. April 12, 2022 – Public Board Meeting
 - Presentation of recommended priorities, adjustments and improvements, as proposed by the partner groups, the public and staff, for consideration and inclusion by the Board of Education in the 2022/23 Annual Budget.
5. May 24, 2022 – Public Board Meeting
 - 2022/23 Annual Budget Bylaw presented for approval and adoption by the Board of Education;
 - Motion to approve the Use of Operating Surplus; and,
 - Motion to approve the Trustee Stipend.

B.4. 2022/23 Operating Budget Development Consultation Process (continued)

Trustees discussed the process and additional opportunities to explore participation.

Moved by M. Higgins

that the Board of Education approve the proposed process and timelines identified within Board Schedule B.4. for the development of the 2022/23 Preliminary Budget.

Seconded by K. Mann

Carried

B.5. Proposed Revised Policy 213: School Completion Certificate

Janis Mann, District Vice Principal, Inclusive Education, presented the process of engagement and review for the proposed revised Policy 213: School Completion Certificate.

In October 2020, a sub-committee for Policy 213 was formed to look at the language of the previous policy to ensure that updates were reflective of current knowledge, understanding and practices, and inclusive education and transition planning. Ms. Mann provided a summary of changes to the policy and administrative procedures.

Clarification was provided on the use of language in the administrative procedures. At the end of the discussion, there was consensus to add reference to the process of receiving an Evergreen Certificate. The updated administrative procedures will be brought back to the Board of Education at a later date.

Moved by C. Sacré

that the Board of Education approve Proposed Revised Policy 213: School Completion Certificate, as attached to this Administrative Memorandum of November 16, 2021.

Seconded by K. Mann

Carried

A short break was observed.

C.1. North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council Annual Report 2020/21

To provide highlights of the North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council's (NVPAC) activities in the 2020/21 year, Chair Tsiakos welcomed Jennifer Branston, NVPAC Co-Chair, to present.

Ms. Branston thanked the Board for its continued support and provided highlights from 2020/21 including the numerous well attended virtual presentations hosted for the community.

On behalf of the Board, Chair Tsiakos thanked Ms. Branston for her support of parent advisory councils in the North Vancouver School District.

C.2. Gaming Academy Proposal

Vice Principal of Carson Graham, Justin Wong, provided the Board of Education with an overview of the Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab Academy Proposal and the discussions that have occurred to date with respect to the proposal.

In the fall 2020, the North Vancouver School District began exploring the possibility of a Gaming Academy, and in May 2021 initiated discussions with Volcanic Media and The Gaming Stadium to develop a preliminary proposal.

The intent is to offer the Business and Gaming Entrepreneurship Lab at Handsworth Secondary School beginning in the 2022/23 school year. Within a semester timetable, the Lab will be offered for two periods every other day.

C.2. Gaming Academy Proposal (continued)

Responding to Trustees' questions, clarification was provided regarding how registration will work; bursaries available to reduce the cost; and the number of students that would be accepted into the Academy.

Mr. Wong will come back to the Board of Education in the spring for formal approval from the Board of Education.

Motion to Extend

Moved unanimously
to extend the meeting past 9:30 p.m.

C.3. Notice of Motion: Motions and Notice of Motions

Chair Tsiakos introduced the agenda item regarding motions and notice of motions. In the proposal, motions will be introduced for discussion purposes at least one meeting prior to the meeting at which they are voted upon. This would mean that initially, a motion would be brought forward as an information item for discussion only. The Board of Education would vote on the motion at the following Public Board Meeting.

The proposed procedural changes describes a process that thoughtfully prepares motions or notices of motion for consideration and ensures an effective and efficient use of Public Board Meetings. This process will ensure that the content, basic form of the motion, justification and rationale supports the Trustee who wishes to bring forward a Notice of Motion, followed by a formal Motion.

Chair Tsiakos responded to Trustees' questions, clarifying accepted changes to the recommended motion, including modifying the language; the importance of gaining a better understanding of the motion prior to voting and how the change will promote transparency.

The motion regarding motions and notice of motions will be on the December agenda in the action items for a formal vote from all Trustees.

C.4. Audit Committee Meeting Update

Audit Committee Chair Trustee Sacré highlighted the discussions that were held at the Audit Committee Meeting on November 4, 2021. Trustee Sacré noted a new financial policy was discussed as well as revisions to an existing financial policy; both can be expected at the December Board Meeting for Board of Education approval.

C.5. Land Management Update

Superintendent Pearmain noted there were no changes since the last Public Board Meeting. Questions regarding the Handsworth Secondary theatre seating and the Argyle Secondary field were answered.

C.6. Tuesday, November 9, 2021, Standing Committee Meeting

Trustee Tsiakos reported on the meeting that highlighted the work that has been completed by the Anti-Racism Steering Committee. Thanks was given to the attendees for sharing their experiences and stories.

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

Superintendent Pearmain started by acknowledging the numerous school districts across the province that are struggling due to the severe weather episodes. An update was provided on the power outages in early November that occurred in the North Vancouver School District and the process for delayed school start. An update on COVID-19 was provided including the possibility of approved vaccines for children age 5 through 11.

Superintendent Pearmain thanked Tsonomot for his leadership and shared his thanks with Chair Tsiakos for the work that was accomplished in the past year.

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

Trustee Tasi Baker shared that the BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting took place on October 23, 2021 and shared a summary of the meeting. Trustee Tasi Baker reminded the Board of Education about the BCSTA Academy happening from December 2-4, 2021.

Trustee Sacré provided highlights from the BCPSEA Symposium that she attended on November 4-5, 2021.

C.9. Trustees’ Reports

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

- Meetings attended by Trustees included:
 - Public Board Meeting
 - Standing Committee Meeting
 - In Camera Meetings
 - Trustee Seminar Meetings
 - Audit Committee Meeting
 - Policy Review Committee
 - President’s Council Meeting
 - Calendar Committee Meeting
 - BCSTA Metro Meeting
 - Integrated Transportation Committee Meeting
 - Various school PAC Meetings
 - CNV4ME Action Team Meeting
 - Physical Literacy for Communities North Vancouver Committee Meeting
 - BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting
 - District Student Leadership Council Meeting
 - North Shore Restorative Justice Society Committee Meeting
 - NVPAC Meeting – BCCPAC Presentation for PACs by Andrea Sinclair
 - Meeting with MLA Bowinn Ma
 - Meeting with new RCMP Superintendent William Yee
 - Meeting with NV Museum & Archives
- Events attended by Trustees included:
 - Remembrance Day Ceremonies
 - Walk for Wenjack at Lynnmour Elementary
 - Tour of Handsworth Secondary
 - Windsor Secondary – Green Team Clean-up
 - Vice Principal Interviews
 - BCPSEA Symposium
 - Board Chairs call with Minister of Education
 - Carson Graham FOS School Planning Session
 - City of North Vancouver Youth Awards

C.9. Trustees’ Reports (continued)

During the Trustees’ Reports, Trustee Gerlach and Trustee Tasi Baker provided notice of motions. Both motions will be included in the December meeting as C items in accordance with the proposed process for Notice of Motion.

D. Future Meetings

Date and Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.	Public Board Meeting	Virtual
Tuesday, January 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.	Standing Committee Meeting	Virtual
Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.	Public Board Meeting	Potentially Hybrid/In-Person
Tuesday, February 8, 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 10:20 p.m. and thanked those who attended.

Certified Correct:

Original signed by J. Stewart

Jacqui Stewart
Secretary Treasurer

December 7, 2021

Date

Original signed by G. Tsiakos

George Tsiakos
Chair, Board of Education

December 7, 2021

Date