

## **School District No. 44 (North Vancouver)**

Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 44 (North Vancouver), held in the Mountain View Room of the Education Services Centre at 2121 Lonsdale Avenue in North Vancouver, British Columbia, on Tuesday, November 18, 2014.

**PRESENT:** F. Stratton, Chair  
B. Forward  
C. Gerlach, Vice Chair  
L. Bayne  
M. McGraw  
C. Sacré

**ABSENT:** S. Skinner

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### **A.1. Call to Order**

Chair Stratton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed those in attendance, including Trustees-Elect Megan Higgins and Jessica Stanley. The traditional territorial lands of the Squamish Nation were acknowledged by the Chair. It was also noted that the week of November 15-21 is Anti-Bullying Week and the theme for 2015 is "Stand Up! (to bullying)".

### **A.2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by C Sacré.

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

Seconded by M. McGraw

Carried

### **A.3. Public Comment Period**

The ten-minute comment period is intended to be restricted to items on the evening's Board Agenda. The Chair requested that those wishing to speak should sign on the Public Comment Sign-Up Sheet.

Trustee-Elect Jessica Stanley extended thanks to outgoing Trustees Bayne and McGraw. Ms Stanley spoke to Item B.2. and questioned the timing of this agenda item, suggesting it should be tabled for the incoming Board to address.

The Chair clarified that the current Board's mandate does not end until the swearing in of the new Board on December 9, 2014. It was further clarified that inclusion of this agenda item was to promote discussion regarding communication with the City, similar to the structure that is in place with the District of North Vancouver.

### **A.4. Approval of Minutes – Public Meeting of October 21, 2014**

Moved by M. McGraw

that the minutes of the public meeting of October 21, 2014 be approved as circulated

Seconded by C Sacré.

Carried

#### Procedural Note:

During the Public Question and Comment Period, Item E, Carolyn Pena, NVTA President, informed the Board that there was an error in the October 21, 2014 minutes in Section E, Public Question and Comment Period, where comments by Ms. Pena were recorded in error.

The Board agreed to address this by rescinding the above-recorded approval of the October 21, 2014 minutes and subsequently approve the minutes as corrected:

**A.4. Approval of Minutes – Public Meeting of October 21, 2014 (continued)**

“Carolyn Pena, NVTa President, clarified that the NVTa is supportive of mentorship but that the intent of the *Education Fund* is to address class size and composition and not intended for mentorship.”

Moved by B. Forward

that the previous motion of approval of the minutes of the public meeting of October 21, 2014 be rescinded.

Seconded by C. Sacré

Carried

Moved by C. Gerlach

that the minutes of the public meeting of October 21, 2014 be approved as amended.

Seconded by L. Bayne

Carried

**A.5. Prime Minister’s Award for Teaching Excellence – Recognition to Jennifer Tieche, Carson Graham Secondary**

John Lewis, Superintendent of Schools, introduced Ms. Jennifer Tieche, Teacher Librarian at Carson Graham Secondary School. The Superintendent informed the Trustees that Jennifer had recently received a Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence. One of only 10 national-level winners, Jennifer received a national Certificate of Excellence from Prime Minister Stephen Harper at a recent ceremony in Ottawa.

The Prime Minister’s Award for Teaching Excellence, one of ten in Canada, is a prestigious award that is only given to this country’s most outstanding educators. A financial award of \$5000 from the Government of Canada will be shared equally between Carson Graham Secondary and Ms. Tieche.

The Superintendent noted that the North Vancouver School District is proud to congratulate Jennifer on receiving the Prime Minister’s Award—a well-deserved recognition and honour.

Trustees extended their congratulations to Jennifer Tieche for her award.

**B.1. Capital Project Bylaw No. 126814 School Bus Replacement**

Secretary Treasurer Georgia Allison advised that, through the Ministry’s capital management bus replacement program, a request was submitted in September 2014 for the replacement of a bus purchased in 2002. The Ministry has approved this request and funding has been granted. As these funds fall within the parameters of Capital Funding, a Capital Project Bylaw is required to generate a Certificate of Approval and release of funding in the amount of \$124,056.

Moved by M. McGraw

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126814 be read a first time;

Seconded by B. Forward

Carried

Moved by L. Bayne

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126814 be read a second time;

Seconded by C. Gerlach

Carried

The Board unanimously agreed to proceed to a third reading of the bylaw.

Moved by C. Gerlach

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126814 be read a third time, passed and adopted.

Seconded by L. Bayne

Carried

## **B.2. School District Meeting with City of North Vancouver**

Secretary Treasurer Georgia Allison introduced this item and reported out on a recent meeting of the Board with the City of North Vancouver Mayor and Council members along with School District and City senior staff. The meeting was held in response to City Council motions requesting a meeting with the Board to discuss the School District's land planning process and options for the Lucas Centre and Cloverley sites.

At the October 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, Superintendent Lewis presented on the following: Ministry Mandate, Board Vision, Goals and Guiding Principles; Community Consultation/Community Engagement; Demographics and Capacity; School District Properties/Funding Capital Projects; surplus sites update; and supporting unfunded capital projects. Meeting participants were provided with the [Land, Learning and Livability Update](#) of October 2014 which is posted on the *Land, Learning and Livability Blog*. Following the meeting, at the request of Council members, additional information was provided to the City and posted on the website at the following link: <http://www.blog44.ca/landmanagement/files/2014/01/NVSDLetterCNV-30Oct14-pk17bi.pdf>.

The Secretary Treasurer further reported that a key issue from the meeting was the need for ongoing communication between City Council and the Board of Education. To address this issue, Senior Staff suggested that the Superintendent consult with the City of North Vancouver senior staff to explore options for collaborative discussions and information. The Board may wish to utilize a similar process in place with the District of North Vancouver through the joint Collaboration Committee.

Though there was agreement that further consultation was necessary, there was discussion regarding the timing of any formal Board direction prior to the new Board and Council being in place and before new Trustees have had the opportunity to be fully briefed. In response to a question regarding the nature of discussions between the Superintendent and City staff, Superintendent Lewis clarified that discussions could relate to such items as: the types of meetings, schedule of meetings that would work with City council, address questions of formal, public meetings versus an informal dialogue, and mechanisms that are amenable to both parties. A question was raised as to why a Board direction was required when discussions between City and School District staff are routine and deal with more than land issues. It was clarified that the suggestion for a resolution was in respect to the Council's more formal approach in providing direction to staff. Trustees indicated that there was support for informal discussions to continue between School District and City senior staff, without any formal direction.

A point of order was raised regarding the video recording of the Board meeting by two members of the public in the gallery. Both individuals were requested to cease filming. The Chair respectfully requested that until the incoming Board had the opportunity to develop specific policy to address the issue, that Board meetings take place without the disruption of video-recording.

## **C.1. North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa) Pro D Report 2013/14**

Superintendent John Lewis introduced this agenda item and noted that each year through the Collective Agreement; the Board provides a grant of \$94,500 to the NVTa to fund professional development. The Superintendent invited to the table Carolyn Pena, President of the North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa), and Mary Aiello, Chairperson of the Association's Professional Development Committee, to present the NVTa Professional Development Report.

Thanking the Board for their continued support of the professional development of teachers in the North Vancouver School District, Ms. Aiello noted that the NVTa supports her role as Pro D Chair, which is a part-time position. Ms. Aiello introduced the following teachers: Karen Koroluk, District Speech Language Pathologist with the Handsworth Family of Schools; Dennis Braam, Socials Studies teacher at Seycove Secondary; and Bryan Hughes and Petra Willems, teachers with the Seycove FLIGHT program.

**C.1. North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa) Pro D Report 2013/14 (continued)**

As examples of how the professional development funds are used, these teachers described their experiences, which included attending: a workshop with Dr. Patricia Prelock regarding a new assessment tool in the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), the *Teachers Institute on Canadian Parliamentary Democracy* held in Ottawa, and the *Looking at Student Work Winter Residency Program* at High Tech High Charter School that is located in San Diego and has an emphasis on project based learning. Ms. Willems and Mr. Hughes provided a short PowerPoint presentation regarding their experience at High Tech High and the collaboration that has now been established between that organization and Seycove's FLIGHT program and distributed a document entitled "FLIGHT – Pedagogy and Methodology" to each Trustee.

In response to Trustees' questions, clarification was provided: regarding some revisions to the ASD assessment tool are still required and the School District's Learning Resources team will be kept apprised; regarding the concept of "student trustee", it was pointed out that student engagement already takes place with students sitting on many committees and that this engagement should not be mandated but encouraged; and that teachers who have attended professional development programs share their experiences with their peers either informally or through the bi-annual Professional Development Conference organized by the NVTa and CUPE.

Trustees thanked the presenters for sharing their stories and for their contributions to the School District.

**C.2. Organization of Classes Report – 2014/15**

John Lewis, Superintendent of Schools, introduced this item and stated that, although no longer required by legislation, the monitoring and tracking of changes in class size organization experienced from year to year is helpful to the Board. Superintendent Lewis walked through the detailed [presentation](#), which identified class sizes at each level. It was noted that the District has been able to maintain staffing levels at the 'add back' budget levels, that there is variability in class sizes from school to school due to the late start which also impacted scheduling, that the *Education Fund* particularly supported the organization of elementary class sizes and that the intent is to maintain current staffing levels during the development of the 2015/16 budget.

Superintendent Lewis advised that the information provided has been based on data collected on October 17, 2014 and a compilation of this information will be posted on the Ministry's website. As well, the Superintendent's presentation will be posted on the School District's website.

Trustees thanked Superintendent Lewis for his presentation. Responding to Trustees' questions, Superintendent Lewis noted that the larger number of classes greater than 30 at Carson Graham Secondary is offset by a larger number of classes with 22 and fewer; that allowing these smaller classes enables a broader course selection; and that Key Performance Indicators (KPI) are used as a class organization tool but also at the front end to build the budget.

**C.3. Ministry of Education Learning Improvement Fund – 2014/15 Spending Plan**

Superintendent of Schools John Lewis introduced this agenda item and presented, in accordance with the *Learning Improvement Fund Regulation* ([BC Reg. 53/12](#)), a report on the allocation of the *Learning Improvement Fund* submitted to the Ministry of Education on October 31, 2014. Superintendent Lewis noted this was the third year of the Learning Improvement Fund (*Bill 22-2012: Education Improvement Act*), which was implemented for a three-year term to help school districts address complex classroom composition issues. Details of the *Education Fund* and the *Support Fund*, which make up the *Learning Improvement Fund*, were previously reported at the October 21st Public Board meeting and the November 4<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting and the submission was included in the evening's [agenda package](#).

**C.3. Ministry of Education Learning Improvement Fund – 2014/15 Spending Plan (continued)**

Superintendent Lewis also reported on the consultative process that took place in the spring and fall, initially at school level with school administrators, staff and Chief Staff Representatives; and then at District level with the respective executive members of North Vancouver Teacher Association (NVTa) and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE Local 389) having met with the Senior Executive Committee. Support was provided for priorities identified at both the school and District levels. A small reserve of funds remains in the *Learning Improvement Fund* for allocation to schools during the balance of the school year.

As noted in the schedule, the President of the North Vancouver Teachers' Association provided agreement to the Final Spending Plan regarding the *Education Fund* portion of the *Learning Improvement Fund*.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked the Superintendent for his presentation.

**C.4. Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE Local 389) Bargaining Update**

Secretary Treasurer Georgia Allison introduced this item and reported that on November 3, 2014, North Vancouver School District and CUPE Local 389 signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the term of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2019. On November 14, 2014, CUPE Local 389 members voted 96.8% in favour of the agreement which provides a 5.5% over the term. On November 18, 2014, prior to the public Board meeting, the North Vancouver School District Board of Education voted to ratify the agreement.

The Secretary Treasurer extended thanks to the CUPE bargaining team and acknowledged CUPE member Les Murata in the audience.

**C.5. Land, Learning and Livability Community Engagement – Update**

John Lewis, Superintendent of Schools, introduced this agenda item and provided a brief update on the status of the Board's work to date towards long-term management of School District surplus sites.

- As previously mentioned, a meeting was held with Mayor and Council members on October 28, 2014 to provide an opportunity for clarification of specific information related to the Board of Education's Land Management Strategy. Background information related to the Board's community engagement process and status update for each surplus site was also provided at the meeting, with particular attention to sites located in the City.
- Morningstar Development Ltd is continuing in its work with the District of North Vancouver to address municipal requirements towards a public hearing for development of the Monteray site. When announced, the public hearing date will be communicated to the School District community.
- Argyle Replacement Project request – the Board continues to await a response from the Minister regarding its request for a follow up meeting to discuss the full replacement of Argyle Secondary rather than the approved seismic upgrade project. It is hoped that now with the election of the new Board and District Council; the province will recommence discussion in the near future.

**C.6. Tuesday, November 4, 2014 Standing Committee Meeting**

Trustees Sacré and Bayne reported on the November 4<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee meeting where presentations focused on: My Education BC, the student information system that is replacing BCeSIS and will be implemented in North Vancouver elementary schools in January 2015 and secondary schools in September 2015; submission of the *Learning Improvement Fund Spending Plan*; and Changing Results for Young Readers (CR4YR), a provincial initiative to increase the number of engaged, successful readers in the province.

### **C.7. Out of Country Field Trips - Secondary**

Provided for their information, Trustees received in their agenda packages an overview of out of country field trips that are being planned for secondary students as follows:

- Seycove Secondary School – field trip to San Diego, CA, USA (Feb 13-22, 2015)
- Windsor Secondary School – field trip to Cuba (Mar 14-21, 2015)
- Handsworth Secondary School – field trip to New York, NY, USA (Mar 6-8, 2015)
- Carson Graham Secondary School – field trip to Sosua and Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic (Mar 6-15, 2015)

### **C.8. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Lewis noted that the following items are included in the *Superintendent's Blog* (<http://blog44.ca/superintendent>):

- Hallowe'en RCMP Advisory – a reminder of regulations surrounding the purchase, possession and use of fireworks and firecrackers
- *Growing Absolutely Fantastic Teens* – The School District, in partnership with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Vancouver Coastal Health, the City and District of North Vancouver, and the RCMP, hosted a presentation featuring Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc on October 28<sup>th</sup> at Centennial Theatre. Many thanks to Brad Baker, District Administrator, Safe & Caring Schools, for his role in planning this multi-agency supported event.
- NS Restorative Justice presents *Speak Out* event – this event for youth and youth supporters was held at Mountainside Secondary and addressed "What is Power?"
- Remembrance Day School Ceremonies - On Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day assemblies were held across our School District to honour those who served and sacrificed for our country during times of war.
- World Kindness Day, November 13<sup>th</sup> - Introduced by the World Kindness Movement in 1998. The goal of the campaign is to encourage greater kindness amongst all and promote resiliency and connectedness. The School District appreciates Vancouver Coastal Health's support in ensuring the physical and emotional health and well-being of children and youth in our schools.
- Emergency Preparedness Activities - North Shore Schools Emergency Planning coordinator Bernadette Woit has been working with the School District Occupational Health & Safety Committee and school staff to plan and review fire drills and student release procedures. The Great BC Shakeout was a great success and we thank everyone for their participation. In addition, Ms. Woit is working with the Settlement Workers in schools to ensure that families new to Canada are cognizant of the Emergency Preparedness drills.

Superintendent Lewis also reported on the flood events of November 3-4, 2014, that occurred when Kilmer Creek overflowed its banks. Appreciation was extended to the District of North Vancouver, the restoration company and the outstanding efforts of the School District's custodial and maintenance staff to help mitigate the damage at Argyle Secondary School. Also, tremendous thanks are extended to Principal Elizabeth Bell for her tireless efforts managing through this emergency as well as the support provided by staff and students. This combined effort enabled the school to re-open after just one closure day.

It was further reported that two other schools also received damage. Two sink holes developed at Braemar Elementary and necessitated the closing of the playground and partial closure of the parking lot. Work is proceeding to rectify the damage but some of that work will need to be deferred until the summer school closure. Three classrooms received water damage at Upper Lynn Elementary.

### **C.9. BC School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council and Committee Meetings – Report Out**

Updates were provided on the following BCSTA Provincial Council and Committee meetings recently attended by Trustee Representatives.

**C.9. BC School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council and Committee Meetings – Report Out (continued)**

- Provincial Council – topics included the Accountability Framework, a progress report on the implementation of the BC Ed Plan. Motions relating to the immediate removal of the compensation freeze for all exempt (excluded) employees and the Ministry's use of social media during the labour dispute both received approval.
- Aboriginal Education Committee – joint session with the Education Committee working towards presentations for the BCSTA December Academy.
- Finance Committee – presented the Draft BCSTA 2015/16 budget to Provincial Council which provided feedback to the presentation of the. The question of withdrawal of services to Kootenay Lake School District (SD 8) was debated and approved, given it non-payment of membership fees.

**C.10. Trustees' Reports**

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

1. Meetings attended by Trustees included:

- Public Board meeting
- In Camera meeting
- Board Planning Committee meeting
- Board Standing Committee meeting
- BCSTA Provincial Council, Aboriginal Education and Finance Committee meetings
- City of North Vancouver Anti-Violence Grants Selection Committee – the Trustee representative remarked that “new and exciting” grant applications stood out
- Presidents' Council meeting
- Meeting with City of North Vancouver Mayor, Council members and senior staff
- CUPE Local 389 Collective Bargaining
- Policy Review Committee
- Principal interviews

2. Events attended by Trustees included:

- Remembrance Day Ceremonies, school based
- *Growing Absolutely Fantastic Teens* presentation at Centennial Theatre
- Secondary football games – testament to the staff involved
- City of North Vancouver – Declaration of the Year of Women in Sport 2015
- Montroyal Elementary - *IWalk Week*
- Lunch and Learn – Cleveland Elementary
- Kindergarten Orientation at Centennial Theatre
- Global Initiative fundraiser

Trustees thanked outgoing Trustees Lisa Bayne and Mike McGraw for their service on the Board. Trustee Bayne was acknowledged for her quiet wisdom and balanced approach, and Trustee McGraw for putting students first and foremost.

Superintendent Lewis advised that a formal recognition of both Trustees will take place at the January 2015 public Board meeting.

There was a suggestion during Trustees' Reports for consideration of a placeholder item on future Board agendas to address outstanding items arising from the minutes.

**D. Future Meetings**

Future public meetings of the Board are confirmed as follows:

Tuesday, Dec 9, 2014 at <b>7:00 pm</b>	Inaugural Public Board Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave, N Vancouver
Tuesday, Jan 15, 2015 at <b>7:00 pm</b>	Programs Night – Transitions 7/8	Carson Graham Secondary, 2145 Jones Avenue, N Vancouver
Tuesday, Jan 20, 2015 at <b>7:00 pm</b>	Public Board Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave, N Vancouver
Tuesday, Feb 3, 2015 at <b>7:00 pm</b>	Standing Committee Public Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave, N Vancouver

**E. Public Question and Comment Period**

The Chair called for questions and/or comments from the public noting that in accordance with Board policy, questions relating to personnel, negotiations or litigation must not be dealt with in a public session.

Carolyn Pena, NVTa president, took the opportunity to report that the NVTa was happy with the consultation and consideration with concerns that were brought forward given the shortened time frame, and the association looks forward to work proactively in the spring to target funds to identified needs. On behalf of the Association, Ms. Pena emphasized that more funding is required from the Province.

Again on behalf of the NVTa, Ms. Pena thanked outgoing Trustees Bayne and McGraw for their thoughtful consideration of the issues they have addressed in the last three years during their term.

**F. Adjournment**

The established agenda being completed, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:01 pm and thanked those who attended.

Certified Correct:

*Original signed by G. Allison*

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Georgia Allison  
Secretary Treasurer

*December 9, 2014*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Original signed by B. Forward*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry Forward  
Chair, Board of Education

*December 9, 2014*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date