

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, March 24, 2015.

PRESENT: C. Gerlach, Chair
M. Higgins, Vice-Chair
B. Forward
C. Sacré
S. Skinner
J. Stanley
F. Stratton

A. Call to Order

Chair Forward called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Election of a Board Chair

At the beginning of the meeting, Trustee Barry Forward advised that he was stepping down from his position as Board Chair for personal reasons. As per the *School Act*, Vice-Chair Higgins temporarily assumed the Chair's position and called for nominations for the position of Board Chair. Trustee Sacré nominated Trustee Gerlach; there being no other nominations, by unanimous consent, Trustee Cyndi Gerlach was declared Board Chair effective March 24, 2015 to November 30, 2015.

A.2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by F. Stratton

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

Seconded by C. Sacré

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.

No one wished to speak.

A.4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by B. Forward

that the minutes of the public meeting of February 17, 2015 be approved as circulated.

Seconded by J. Stanley

Carried

A.5. Student Presentation – Windsor Secondary Green Team

Adam Baumann, Principal at Windsor Secondary School, and Teacher sponsor Megan McEwen introduced the Windsor Secondary School Green Team. President Kayle Hollyer along with students, Bee Hollyer, Owen Pankratz, Colby Tom, and Francesco Pasquino, thanked the Board for an opportunity to share their proposed plan for the District's Waste Diversion roll out.

A.5. Student Presentation – Windsor Secondary Green Team (continued)

Introducing their [Compost Integration Action Plan](#) to the Board, the Green Team shared key steps to a successful project including: Education, Integration, and Evaluation. The team's goal is to promote core values in environmental leadership, help peers become green in all aspects of their lives and create a positive environmental change.

Responding to Trustees' questions, the Green Team shared that they would welcome the opportunity to share this plan with elementary school students and send a clear message that it is the students who are the front line for this project.

Trustees thanked the students for their involvement and leadership and invited the Green Team back at a later date to share feedback they collect from students and staff.

A.6. Presentation – Waste Diversion in Schools

Chair Gerlach invited Dr. Joanne Robertson, Director of Instruction, and her team to the table to present on the topic of Waste Diversion in Schools. Dr. Robertson introduced Corrine Kinnon, Carson Family of Schools Teacher Leader, Susan Johnston, Science Teacher, Carson Graham, and Tricia Gardner, Outdoor School Teacher at Cheakamus Centre, all who assisted in writing the [Waste Diversion in Schools Handbook](#). The team provided information on the educational and societal reasons for Waste Diversion in Schools.

The presentation focused on providing leadership skills in environmental education and sustainability practices by linking the Waste Diversion curriculum to society and utilizing resources to optimize and benefit the long-term interests of the community.

Concluding the presentation, Dr. Robertson thanked the team for their passion and dedication to creating such a broad menu of suggestions in the *Waste Diversion in Schools Handbook* and added that this program reinforces School District core values in environmental leadership and stewardship, following the [North Vancouver School District 10-Year Strategic Plan](#).

Superintendent John Lewis thanked the team for taking a challenging topic and turning it into an educational piece that heightens community involvement within schools.

B.1. Proposed 2015/16 and 2016/17 School District Calendars - Approval

Superintendent John Lewis introduced this agenda item and invited Assistant Superintendent Mark Pearmain to the table to provide an update on the 2015/16 and 2016/17 School Calendar Review Process including the recommendation of the School Calendar Steering Group (SCSG).

Assistant Superintendent Mark Pearmain acknowledged the tremendous amount of time, effort and energy expended on the review and development of a school calendar and thanked the SCSG, which is comprised of representatives from the North Vancouver Teachers' Association (NVTa), Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE Local 389), North Vancouver Parents' Advisory Council (NVPAC), District Student Leadership Council (DSLc), and District staff, including principals and vice-principals.

In his report, Assistant Superintendent Pearmain addressed the summary of results from the public comment period, conducted from January 30 through to February 28, 2015. The Assistant Superintendent reported that after reviewing and discussing the feedback provided throughout the process, as well as other relevant information, the SCSG reached a consensus on its recommendation to the Board, which shows a two-week Winter Break, two-week Spring Break, the start of the school year on the first day following Labour Day, and the last day of classes on June 29th.

B.1. Proposed 2015/16 and 2016/17 School District Calendars - Approval

Responding to Trustees' questions, Assistant Superintendent Pearmain confirmed that a *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)* information guide would be created to post on the North Vancouver School District website for the public to access, specifically addressing Staff Collaboration days and Professional Development days. Assistant Superintendent Pearmain offered his contact information to partner groups for any future information that is required.

Trustees expressed their appreciation to Assistant Superintendent Pearmain and the School Calendar Steering Group for the work they have done.

Moved by F. Stratton

that the Board of Education approve the Draft 2015/16 and 2016/17 School Calendars attached to the Administrative Memorandum of March 24, 2015, as the school calendars for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 school years, as recommended by the School Calendar Steering Group.

Seconded by S. Skinner

Carried

B.2. Capital Project Bylaw No. 126840 Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCP)

Secretary Treasurer Georgia Allison introduced this agenda item and invited Janson Ho, Director of Facilities and Planning, to the table to provide information to the Board regarding the Ministry's November 2014 Call for Proposals under the Carbon Neutral Capital Program.

Mr. Ho advised that North Vancouver School District submitted a proposal for a boiler plant upgrade at Boundary Elementary and subsequently has been allocated \$408,000 to spend on capital-related projects that meet the criteria for capitalization with supplemental funding being provided through incentives from Fortis BC and BC Hydro.

In order for the Ministry to release the funding by the use of a Certificate of Approval (COA), the Board of Education is first required to adopt Capital Project Bylaw No.126840.

Moved by J. Stanley

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126840 be read a first time;

Seconded by F. Stratton

Carried

Moved by B. Forward

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126840 be read a second time;

Seconded by S. Skinner

Carried

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

Moved by C. Sacré

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Capital Project Bylaw No. 126840 be read a third time, passed, and adopted.

Seconded by F. Stratton

Carried

B.3. Access to Information

Vice-Chair Higgins introduced this agenda item, noting that it was similar to the motion put forward at the January 20, 2015 Public Board Meeting which would allow Trustees access to information and access to records regarding Board matters.

Moved by M. Higgins

that the Secretary Treasurer provide to the Board of Education recommendations on best practices on keeping Trustees fully informed and responding to Trustee requests for information no later than the June public board meeting; and,

that from and after the date of this resolution, the Secretary Treasurer is directed to cause separate files to be maintained for all Board matters, and that those files be available for inspection by any Trustee upon notice.

Seconded by B. Forward

Carried

B.4. Advocacy on Provincial Budget and Operating Grant

Introducing this agenda item, Trustee Stanley expressed concern with the recent direction from the Ministry of Education requiring North Vancouver School District to save approximately \$760,017 in 'administrative savings' in the 2015/16 school year.

Moved by J. Stanley

Whereas the North Vancouver Board of Education is disappointed and deeply concerned by the Province's announced budget direction for the coming two years and the obligated 'administrative savings' which reduce the 2015/2016 budget by an expected \$760,017, and whereas the North Vancouver School District is facing rising operating costs and pressures such as Medical Services Plan (MSP) and Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) premiums, BC Hydro rate increases, and inflation, the following motion is recommended.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education write a letter to the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Education delineating North Vancouver School District's prudent fiscal approach, including actual administrative costs. Further, that the letter request the 2015/2016 provincial budget be amended to rescind the required administrative cuts and be amended to increase the funding for K-12 education by fully covering the costs of provincial collective agreements, employee benefits costs due to premium increases, BC Hydro increases, and inflation in order to ensure the high quality public education system for which our province is known; and,

that the Board of Education share this letter with partner groups in preparation for a discussion at the next President's Council Meeting on April 13, 2015 with the intent of engaging in joint advocacy.

Seconded by S. Skinner

Carried

B.5. Advocacy on Emergency Preparedness

Trustee Stratton introduced this agenda item, sharing information with the Board regarding the need for a minimum standard in emergency preparedness for all schools. The Province actively promotes that all school districts should enhance emergency preparedness; however, there is no direct funding from the Province or local municipalities for these improvements.

Trustee Stratton added that Parent Advisory Councils have previously discussed the struggle and ability to fundraise; this inequality is putting schools at risk. The motion put forward is to advocate for the development of guidelines and standards for any emergency, incident or disaster at a school.

B.5. Advocacy on Emergency Preparedness (continued)

Moved by F. Stratton

that North Vancouver Board of Education write a letter to the Minister of Education, urging the Ministry to take the lead on the development of standards and guidelines for BC schools in the event of an emergency. These standards and guidelines should establish a minimum standard for schools that will ensure the safety of students and staff and be inclusive of children with complex needs; physical needs, mental health issues and medical needs; and further,

that given the inequity across school districts in terms of parent fundraising for emergency preparedness the Board asks the Government to provide a one-time equity grant to all Parent Advisory Councils to meet these guidelines.

Seconded by C. Sacré

Carried

B.6. Board Committees and Trustee Representational Assignments (2015)

Due to the change in Board Chair, Chair Gerlach requested that this motion be postponed until the Trustees are able to meet and discuss the roles and assignments.

Moved by B. Forward

that consideration of the main motion was postponed until the April 21, 2015 meeting.

Seconded by J. Stanley

Carried

C.1. BC Adolescent Health Survey – McCreary Centre Society

Superintendent John Lewis invited Brad Baker, District Principal and Jeremy Church, Principal at Mountainside to provide highlights from McCreary Centre Society's Regional Report on BC Adolescent Health. Superintendent Lewis noted the full report can be found online: [Results of the 2013 BC Adolescent Health Survey – North Shore/Coast Garibaldi](#).

Mr. Baker and Mr. Church thanked the Board for their time, sharing that they both have significant stakeholder roles in the District's programming for at-risk youth students, working with many agencies including: Vancouver Coastal Health, Ministry of Children and Family Development and local First Nations Groups. [School District 44 Highlights](#) were extracted from the McCreary Study, including: School information (Locations where students feel safe at school and Internet Safety); Mental Health information (Overall Mental Health, Getting Mental Health Services and Help Seeking); and Substance Use information (Frequency of use).

Through questions to Mr. Baker and Mr. Church, it was agreed that a larger investment has to be placed on younger students to share with them the consequences of substance use. Additionally, a focus on new partnerships with the community and municipal agencies must continue to grow to support the District.

Chair Gerlach thanked Brad Baker, District Principal and Jeremy Church, Principal at Mountainside on behalf of the Board for the continued support they provide to youth in the School District.

C.2. Land, Learning & Livability Community Engagement – Update

John Lewis, Superintendent of Schools, introduced this agenda item and provided a brief update on Monteray, Ridgeway Annex and the Argyle replacement project. He noted that at the District of North Vancouver's Regular Meeting on March 23, 2015, the rezoning for Monteray had its first reading; a Public Hearing is set for April 21, 2015. Superintendent Lewis also noted that progress continues to move forward with the Ministry to fund the gap for the Argyle replacement project and anticipated that an agreement would come through in the coming months.

C.3. Tuesday, March 3, 2015 Standing Committee Meeting

Board Chair Cyndi Gerlach, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Standing Committee, reported on the meeting that focused on Budget development components for 2015/16, thanking all of the partner groups who presented on their budget priorities. The next Standing Committee Meeting will be held on April 7, 2015.

C.4. Superintendent's Report

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

- VCC Culinary Arts Program at Carson Graham Information Evening
- Beyond the Hurt Youth Training
- Swanamia
- Bullying Awareness Day – February 25, 2015
- Getting Greener: Organic Waste Disposal and Schools
- Re-Designs: Transforming the Curriculum
- "Turn it off, before you take off": Getting Ready for a Sustainable Spring Break
- The Problem with Discipline
- District Lockdown Day – February 18th
- Class Acts: A Celebration of Education in North Vancouver School District
- BlueShore Financial Environmental Learning Centre recognized at the 11th annual Wood Design Awards

C.5. Report Out – BC School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) and BC Public Schools Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

Trustee Stratton noted that on Sunday, April 19, 2015, she would be joining the BC School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) Board of Directors Meeting following the BCSTA Annual General Meeting and offered to relay any comments or questions that Trustees may have.

C.6. 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
 - Standing Committee Meeting
 - Argyle Capital Project Update
 - District of North Vancouver Regular Meeting
 - Calendar Steering Committee Group
 - Provincial Council Meeting
 - Family of Schools Meetings
 - BCSTA Metro
 - NVPAC General Meeting
2. Events attended by Trustees included:
 - Class Acts 2015: A Celebration of Education in the NVSD
 - Trustee Retreat
 - Longhouse Event
 - Ross Penhall Print Release

D. Future Meetings

Date and Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7:00 pm	Standing Committee Public Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave, N Vancouver
Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 7:00 pm	Public Board Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave, N Vancouver
Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 7:00 pm	Standing Committee Public Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave, N Vancouver
Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 7:00 pm	Public Board Meeting	Education Services Centre 2121 Lonsdale Ave, N Vancouver

E. Public Question & 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.

There was no one wishing to speak.

F. Adjournment

The established agenda being completed, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm and thanked those who attended.

Certified Correct:

Original signed by G. Allison

Georgia Allison
Secretary Treasurer

April 21, 2015

Date

Original signed by C. Gerlach

Cyndi Gerlach
Chair, Board of Education

April 21, 2015

Date