

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 Wednesday, June 27, 2018.

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

ABSENT: S. Skinner

A. Call to Order

Chair Sacré called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed those in attendance. The traditional territorial lands of the Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation were acknowledged.

A.2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by F. Stratton

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

Seconded by B. Forward

Carried

A.3. Public Comment Period

The twenty minute comment period is intended to be relevant to the Board's mandate. The Chair requested that those wishing to speak should sign on the Public Comment Sign-Up Sheet.

Maureen Stanger and Carla Orr, Co-Presidents of North Vancouver Administrators (NoVA), spoke regarding the Budget, sharing NoVA's priorities that were presented at the April 3, 2018 Standing Committee Meeting.

Karen Brun, Scott Holburn Suzette Elgan, Katja Ode, Nicole Nielsen, Elana Gill, and Karen Nordquist, all residents of North Vancouver, spoke regarding counsellor and support staff time proposed for the 2018/19 school year. The community members urged the Board not to make any cuts to support staff.

Chair Sacré acknowledged all those who came forward to share thoughts on the Budget issues.

B.1. School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Annual Budget Bylaw for Fiscal Year 2018/19

Superintendent Mark Pearmain introduced the agenda item, noting that at the June 19, 2018 Public Board Meeting, issues and concerns were raised regarding the 2018/19 Annual Budget. After listening to the discussion, staff revisited the budget that was presented on June 19, 2018. Superintendent Mark Pearmain directed the Board of Education and members of the public to a second budget, Budget 2, which was developed after the initial budget, Budget 1, which was presented on June 19, 2018.

Superintendent Mark Pearmain and Secretary Treasurer Georgia Allison shared the process of building the 2018/19 Annual Budget and noted the differences between the Budget 1 and Budget 2.

B.1. School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Annual Budget Bylaw for Fiscal Year 2018/19 (continued)

Budget 1 was adjusted to include Education Assistants for the Summer Learning session that had not previously been identified. It also included the increased funding for 30 FTE Education Assistants from the Classroom Enhancement Fund (CEF) that was confirmed by the Ministry after the original budget had been posted.

Budget 2 was developed to include adjustments to the following: counsellor staffing levels at the Elementary Schools; Learning Support Teacher (LST) staffing levels; Trustee expense budget; Computer Sustainability; School District Administration; Non-essential programs or services; defibrillators; and, teacher mentors. Staff advised the Board that there are two significant risks in adopting Budget 2: the increase of LST staffing and the reduction to the Computer Sustainability Program.

In response to Trustees' questions, clarification was provided regarding: staffing of support teachers; a timeline for bargaining with the local Union; capturing efficiencies in Library Services; and, the utilization of the Accumulated Operating Surplus.

There was further discussion regarding the Board of Education's desire to advocate to the Ministry of Education identifying the risks that the School District is having to take to proceed with Budget 2. The Board advised that it would be worth writing a letter expressing concerns regarding the 2018/19 Annual Budget.

Moved by B. Forward

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Annual Budget Bylaw 2 for fiscal year 2018/19 be read a first time;

Seconded by J. Stanley

Carried

Moved by F. Stratton

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Annual Budget Bylaw 2 for fiscal year 2018/19 be read a second time;

Seconded by J. Stanley

Carried

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

Moved by M. Higgins

that School District No. 44 (North Vancouver) Annual Budget Bylaw 2 for fiscal year 2018/19 be read a third time, passed and adopted.

Seconded by J. Stanley

Carried

After consensus from the Board, it was decided that an advocacy letter should be written to the Ministry of Education regarding the funding for the 2018/19 school year.

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.

Karen Nordquist, resident of North Vancouver, shared her appreciation to the Board for passing Budget 2.

F. Adjournment

The established agenda being completed, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:07 pm and thanked those who attended.

Certified Correct:

Original signed by G. Allison

Georgia Allison
Secretary Treasurer

September 25, 2018

Date

Original signed by C. Sacré

Christie Sacré
Chair, Board of Education

September 25, 2018

Date