

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 38 (RICHMOND)
7811 GRANVILLE AVENUE, RICHMOND, BC (via ZOOM)
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Present: Chairperson	S. Nixon
Trustees	D. Tablotney
	N. Goldstein
	K. Hamaguchi
	H. Larson
	D. Sargent
	R. Lee
Superintendent of Schools	S. Robinson
Deputy Superintendent	R. Ryan
Secretary Treasurer	R. Uyeno
Assistant Superintendent	L. Archer
Assistant Superintendent	C. Brautigam
Executive Director, Facilities Services	F. Geyer
Executive Director , Learning Services	J. MacMillan
Executive Director, Learning & Business Technologies	R. Laing
Executive Assistant, Recording Secretary	C. Cleary

The Chairperson called the meeting to order 7:05 pm

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledged and thanked the First Peoples of the hənq̓əminəm' (hun-ki-meen-um) language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

Secretary-Treasurer Uyeno - A reminder was made for those that joined the meeting to please ensure that video was turned off and microphones muted to eliminate background noise; there will be two question periods at which time, questions sent to the Board meeting email account will be read out. For those who have not already submitted questions, there is an opportunity to via: boardmeetings@sd38.bc.ca; or through the Q and A feature in Zoom.

For the public joining the meeting, they are able to listen to the meeting but not speak or use chatbox during the meeting; and an audio/video recording of the meeting will be made available for viewing after this meeting.

1. Recognition of Visitors, Announcements and Updates from Trustees

(a) Recognition of Visitors

The Chairperson welcomed the gallery to the meeting.

- (b) Trustee Larson** – Since 2014, the Richmond School District and the City of Richmond have collaborated on the Respectful City Committee to promote February as **erase** bullying month and February 24th as PINK Day. Our committee's vision is *"through collaboration, education and celebration we create opportunities for all citizens to feel safe, connected and empowered to work, learn and play in Richmond."* Information has been shared with schools which provides a history of Pink Shirt Day and links to some informative online resources. Schools, worksites and community common spaces will be using this information and resources to promote **erase** Bullying Month and Pink Day.

Trustee Nixon – Briefs regarding the 2021/2022 Annual Budget will be accepted without prior notice at the March 31, 2021 regular meeting of the Board, as well as at the April 28, 2021 regular meetings of the Board. Please note that budget updates will be made available on the District’s Budget 2021/2022 website. At the April 28 2021 Board meeting, Stakeholders will be invited to present during the Budget Committee of the Whole. All budget feedback will be considered by the Board as part of the budget process which is anticipated to be completed by June, 2021.

- (c) **Any materials not included in packages available to the public.**
The Secretary Treasurer noted that all materials had been made available.

2. Adoption of Agenda

019/2021 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY D. SARGENT:

THAT the Wednesday, February 24, 2021 Regular agenda of the Board of Education (Richmond) be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Presentations, Special Recognitions, Briefs and Questions from the Public

(a) Presentations

Nil.

(b) Special Recognitions

Nil.

(c) Briefs

Nil.

(d) Questions from the Public

Liz Baverstock, President, Richmond Teachers’ Association (RTA), asked a question related to the budget with regards to advocacy for funding and addressing the structural shortfall. Ms. Baverstock noted that more funding is required to make sure that 2021-2022 is welcoming to everybody who returns in September. Ms. Baverstock asked if the District is advocating for funding to ensure that there is a continued focus on health and safety.

The Chairperson thanked Ms. Baverstock noting that the Board received the RTA Brief in January with suggestions around advocacy and the Board is considering those suggestions. Trustee Sargent noted that BCSTA is producing a document that will be looking at September, recovery and moving forward. Trustee Tablotney talked about the Annual General Meeting in April where many motions by Boards will be presented around advocacy through BCSTA.

4. Executive

The Superintendent of Schools provided an update on COVID-19 exposures since the last report in January. For February the number of cases has stayed low per week. This past week there was one exposure which was good news. It was noted that to date, there is still no documented case of transmission in the District’s schools.

The Superintendent thanked the students and staff for the work they are doing to adhere to health and safety guidelines that most definitely is making a difference in the lack of transmission in Richmond's schools. The District continues to encourage the wearing of masks and has distributed posters to all schools.

The Superintendent then provided a presentation of the past month's activities and events throughout the District and featured as part of Education Week. These student activities are featured on the District's web site and members of the public can enjoy various examples of work provided by students and staff around the District.

For Education Week, February 22nd featured Learning through Inquiry; February 23rd highlighted Global Citizenship and Sustainability focusing on interacting with others in the natural world in respectful and caring ways; February 24th featured Equitable and Inclusive Learning communities where all students are valued members of the school community; on February 25th Indigenous Perspectives will be highlighted; and February 26th the District will be highlighting learning through the arts and arts education is a critical part of our learner's development, as a way to express identity and belonging.

Trustees thanked the Superintendent for the presentation acknowledging the different kinds of learning happening throughout the District. Trustees also noted the Junior Board event on Monday that was outstanding, where staff did an amazing job and students who provided deep discussions centered around four core questions. A Trustee also talked about how honest the conversations were about this past year and how we can increase student voices as one of our goals with the Strategic Plan.

5. Approval of Minutes

- (a) Regular meeting of the Board held January 27, 2021

020/2021 MOVED BY D. SARGENT AND SECONDED BY D. TABLOTNEY:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve the Minutes of Wednesday, January 27, 2021 Regular meeting as circulated.

CARRIED

- (b) Record of an In-camera meeting of the Board held January 27, 2021 was included for information.

6. Business Arising

- (a) Diversity and Anti-Racism Working Group

A report from Assistant Superintendent Brautigam was attached with the agenda. The group has met regularly since November 2020 and discussions have related directly to diversity and elevating the profile of anti-racism education, and how to effectively look at consulting and reviewing as relates to the mandate.

The Assistant Superintendent noted that the group has also discussed the need for teaching and learning about anti-racism for all stakeholders and to effectively identify any gaps that exist.

To fulfill the mandate of the Diversity and Antiracism Working Group, the District is seeking the services of a consultant to support and provide an audit of, and consultation with, students, staff and stakeholders regarding their experiences with racism with the school district; a review of that the District is currently doing with respect to education on various forms of racism; and a review of current district policy and practices regarding incidents of racism. Proposals for audits have been received from six local consulting firms and will be reviewed by the Group.

Assistant Superintendent Brautigam thanked members of the Diversity and Antiracism Working Group for their time and dedication to the work that has been done and is ongoing.

Trustees thanked Assistant Superintendent Brautigam for the detailed report and noted they look forward to the audit and recommendation that will be forthcoming.

(b) Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) Update

A report from the Executive Director, Facilities Services was included with the agenda. The Executive Director provided an update on the continued work of Planning staff including the Rapid Child Care Renovation Fund – conversion of a classroom into a pre-school facility and outside play area at Tait Elementary; 2022/2023 Five Year Capital Plan – updates of the list and costing of capital projects to be brought forward to the Board for review and approval with submission to the Ministry of Education for funding consideration in June, 2021; City Centre Area Elementary Planning – the new elementary school in the City Centre area by 2033 with the Lansdowne Village area named as a preferred location; and the 2021 Long Range Facilities Plan – updated every two years with the Board’s review and approval of proposed changes. Amendments were noted for consideration on the attached report.

Trustees appreciated the advocacy for a City Centre school site to address future projected growth in the City Centre area.

7. New Business

Nil.

8. Questions from the Public: Tonight’s Agenda

Liz Baverstock, President, Richmond Teachers’ Association (RTA) asked questions as related to two areas. The first was LRFP and how the District would move forward with timelines given the enrolment challenges in secondary schools and the ability to offer a variety of courses.

The Executive Director, Facilities Services responded that two schools have the greatest challenge for capacity utilization. There will be new proposed timelines for the Board’s consideration with the updated plan in June 2021.

Ms. Baverstock asked her second question regarding the Diversity and Antiracism Working Group. The RTA supports an audit and engaging in external consulting companies to complete an audit. The timeline for this was questioned as, with the Budget consultation process, the need for one time funding for SOGI Advisory, Diversity and Antiracism Working Group and the Indigenous Equity and Action Plan group will need additional support. The RTA feels that further feedback in terms of budget will be required to support the initiatives for audit.

The Assistant Superintendent responded to Ms. Baverstock that the timeline will be after Spring break. As the audit needs to be a thorough and thoughtful process, it will take a few months to complete and analyze but the District is hoping to engage a consultant as quickly as possible.

The Superintendent responded about costs for the consultant budget have not been finalized. The funds available will come from existing budgets within the overall operating budget intended to support diversity initiatives.

9. Standing Committee Reports

- (a) Audit Committee
Chair: Donna Sargent
Vice Chair: Norman Goldstein

A meeting was held on March 8, 2021.

- (b) Education Committee
Chair: Heather Larson
Vice Chair: Donna Sargent

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held November 18, 2020 and January 20, 2021 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on February 17, 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 6pm.

- (c) Facilities and Building Committee
Chair: Ken Hamaguchi
Vice Chair: Norman Goldstein

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held November 4, 2020 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on February 3, 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 5 pm.

- (d) Finance and Legal Committee
Chair: Debbie Tablotney
Vice Chair: Ken Hamaguchi

- (i) **RECOMMENDATION:** 2020/2021 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw

021/2021 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY N. GOLDSTEIN:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve the reduction in the appropriation to the Local Capital Fund of \$200,000, resulting in the 2020/2021 Local Capital Transfer amount from \$4,897,000 to \$4,697,500.

AND FURTHER THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve the 2020/2021 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw by way of three readings and that the Board authorizes the Chair of the Board, Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer to sign the 2020/2021 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw and submit the 2019/2020 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw together with the 2020/2021 Amended Annual Budget to the Ministry of Education by February 28, 2021.

CARRIED

There was consensus that 3 readings of the Bylaw take place at this meeting.

AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW

022/2021 1st READING MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY D. SARGENT:

A Bylaw of The Board of Education of School District No.38 (RICHMOND) (called the "Board") to adopt the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

1. Board has complied with the provisions of the Act respecting the Amended Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.
2. This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 38 (Richmond) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2020/2021.
3. The attached Statement 2 showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2020/2021 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$289,636,607 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the Act.
4. Statement 2, 4 and Schedules 1 to 4 are adopted as the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021.

CARRIED

023/2021 2nd READING MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY K. HAMAGUCHI:

A Bylaw of The Board of Education of School District No.38 (RICHMOND) (called the "Board") to adopt the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

1. Board has complied with the provisions of the Act respecting the Amended Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.
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3. The attached Statement 2 showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2020/2021 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$289,636,607 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the Act.
4. Statement 2, 4 and Schedules 1 to 4 are adopted as the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021.

CARRIED

024/2021 3rd AND FINAL READING MOVED BY N. GOLDSTEIN AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

A Bylaw of The Board of Education of School District No.38 (RICHMOND) (called the "Board") to adopt the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

1. Board has complied with the provisions of the Act respecting the Amended Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.
2. This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 38 (Richmond) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2020/2021.
3. The attached Statement 2 showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2020/2021 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$289,636,607 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the Act.
4. Statement 2, 4 and Schedules 1 to 4 are adopted as the Amended Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2020/2021.

CARRIED

THE AMENDED ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET BYLAW FOR 2020/2021 IS THEREFORE CARRIED.

(ii) Minutes of the meeting held January 20, 2021 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on February 17, 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 11 am.

- (e) Policy Committee
Chair: Sandra Nixon
Vice Chair: Debbie Tablotney

- (i) **NOTICE OF MOTION: Policy Section 700 - Facilities** attached.
- (ii) Minutes of the meeting held January 18, 2021 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on February 8, 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 8, 2021 at 11:00 am.

10. Correspondence

- (a) A letter was received from Ms. Anneke Wijtkamp, dated February 17, 2021 regarding Transitional Learning & School Safety.

The Chairperson noted that the Board has responded to Ms. Wijtkamp.

11. Board Committee and Representative Reports

- (a) Council/Board Liaison Committee

A meeting was held on, February 10, 2021. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14 at 9:30 am via Zoom.

12. Adjournment

025/2021 **MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY D. TABLOTNEY:**

THAT the Regular meeting of Wednesday, February 24, 2021 of the Board of Education (Richmond) be adjourned at 8:26 pm.

CARRIED

S. NIXON,
CHAIRPERSON

R. UYENO,
SECRETARY TREASURER