

**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, JUNE 23, 2021
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Present: Chairperson
Trustees

Superintendent of Schools
Deputy Superintendent
Secretary Treasurer
Assistant Superintendent
Assistant Superintendent
Executive Director, Facilities Services
Executive Director , Learning Services
Executive Director, Learning & Business Technologies
Director, Communications & Marketing
Executive Assistant, Recording Secretary

S. Nixon
D. Tablotney
N. Goldstein
K. Hamaguchi
H. Larson
D. Sargent
R. Lee*
S. Robinson
R. Ryan
R. Uyeno
L. Archer
C. Brautigam
F. Geyer
J. MacMillan
R. Laing
D. Sadler
C. Cleary

The Chairperson called the meeting to order 7:06 pm

**Present for a portion of the meeting*

***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 who 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 Hamaguchi** - The Richmond School District recognizes and supports Pride Month in June of each year. It is a time when we celebrate the diversity of our district and the LGBTQ2S+ community. It is also a time to acknowledge the history of the community, the hardships they have endured, and the progress that has been made.

This year, students in Richmond are working on putting together a photo collage submission for the virtual PRIDE parade. The theme of the photos will be "Loud and Proud" and will showcase PRIDE in our schools and through our Gay Straight Alliance clubs or GSA's.

The district will also be hosting its final Rainbow Cafe, which is a monthly event planned and hosted by students for LGBTQ2S+ students and allies. Many school's GSA's are also involved in creating displays or other events this month to raise awareness about PRIDE as well.

Pride month is an opportunity to highlight our commitment to ensuring that all students are treated with fairness, respect, and dignity. On behalf of the Board of Education, Happy Pride Month.

Trustee Goldstein - June 21st was National Indigenous Peoples Day. The purpose of this day is to celebrate the culture and contributions of Indigenous people. Schools celebrated in a variety of ways, including a resource and bannock share at Palmer, McNair students leading a land acknowledgement activity, and at Cambie, Indigenous students participated in a war canoe pulling and powwow. This day was a celebration of resiliency and culture, and schools participated in a variety of events to honour Indigenous Peoples.

June is also National Indigenous History Month, a time for all Canadians - Indigenous, non-Indigenous and newcomers - to reflect upon and learn the history, sacrifices, cultures, contributions, and strength of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. It's important to keep in mind that Indigenous people each have their own unique histories, and that within each group, there are distinct histories. Learning about Indigenous history is a crucial step in the process of Reconciliation.

Trustee Nixon - As this is the final Public Board meeting for the school year, it is also the final Board meeting for Secretary Treasurer, Roy Uyeno. Mr. Uyeno is retiring from this position, and we wish him well in his future endeavours, but also wanted to say an enormous thank you for all that he has brought to the District since starting in February 2018. We won't have time tonight to list all the ways we will miss Mr. Uyeno and all of the contributions made to the District. However, a few highlights are the Budget Process that Mr. Uyeno facilitated and brought to the District including the Budget Advisory Group that has enhanced our engagement to stakeholders throughout the entire process for the budget. As well, Mr. Uyeno has worked with Policy Committee and on numerous policies that are the core of our operations as a District. Mr. Uyeno has set up the capacity and empowered the Board and its decision making on financial matters, ensuring that financial decisions are aligned with the District's priorities for which we are so grateful. On behalf of the District, congratulations to Mr. Uyeno on his retirement and wherever the journey takes him.

(c) **Any materials not included in packages available to the public.**

The Secretary Treasurer noted that all materials have been made available to the public.

2. Adoption of Agenda

085/2021 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY N. GOLDSTEIN:

THAT the Wednesday, June 23, 2021 Regular agenda of the Board of Education (Richmond) be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

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

(a) **Presentations**

R.C. Palmer Concert Band - Assistant Superintendent Lynn Archer introduced Iris Chan, Music Director of the R.C. Palmer Concert Band, and provided background on the Gold Medal Performance win at MusicFest Canada.

The performance recording was presented and following, questions and thanks from trustees were expressed to Ms. Chan and students.

Kim Nowitsky, Community member, provided a presentation to discuss awareness and reflection on Richmond public school names. Ms. Nowitsky highlighted that 36 of 38 elementary schools are named after British males; and 9 out of 10 high schools have names of British male origin. Ms. Nowitsky noted it is important to acknowledge the lack of diversity and that at the District level, a gesture be made to address truth and reconciliation.

Ms. Nowitsky asked for the following proposals: Every effort should be made moving forward to adopt more diverse names of new schools in Richmond; and consider renaming existing schools so that the names represent the true diversity of our past and present.

Trustees thanked Ms. Nowitsky for her thoughtful presentation.

086/2021 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) refer Ms. Kim Nowitsky's presentation and reflections included, to Policy Committee.

CARRIED

BC Youth Council - The Student Reps BC Delegate Presentation included an overview and introduction to BC Youth Council. With the focus on student representation on school boards, the panel of student representatives presented information on the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), the reformed RSDCO (Richmond Student District Council Organization).

087/2021 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY N. GOLDSTEIN:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) refer the BC Youth Council presentation to staff.

CARRIED

(b) **Special Recognitions**

Nil.

(c) **Briefs**

Nil.

(d) **Questions from the Public**

There were no questions from the public.

4. Executive

The Superintendent of Schools introduced Secretary Treasurer Uyeno who provided thanks and acknowledgement for his last meeting with the District and Board of Education, prior to retiring. Mr. Uyeno noted that it was an honour and privilege to serve the Board of Education of Richmond over the past three and half years as Secretary Treasurer. Some highlights over the years included the Budget Process, Strategic Plan and Long Range Facilities Plan. As well, he noted that the District has seen an acceleration of the seismic mitigation of the District's schools on the capital side and, to lead some of these initiatives was an impactful part of the Secretary Treasurer's time in Richmond. Mr. Uyeno thanked the Finance, Facilities and Business Operations teams who support the District's schools and students.

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Board, extended gratitude and thanks to Secretary Treasurer Uyeno for all he has contributed to the District as an integral part of Senior team. The Superintendent reiterated thanks on behalf of everyone at the District and how much it was appreciated that Mr. Uyeno's focus was always on what was best for the students in the District.

The Superintendent of Schools then provided an update on Covid noting a significant decrease in school exposures this month down to approximately 20 at the end of May.

The Superintendent thanked families who have been careful keeping their kids at home and adhering to safety measures, as well as staff and employees who work hard to ensure all guidelines on safety are followed. Thanks were expressed to teachers who kept students safe and worked so hard throughout the year.

The Superintendent then reported that the Ministry of Education recently released the K-12 Recovery Plan that provides some preliminary direction for school districts in the 2021-2022 school year. The District will be welcoming students back to full time in person instruction starting in the Fall.

The Deputy Superintendent talked about the transition process and the supports that the District is planning to offer. The Deputy Superintendent shared that the District is encouraged and excited to be able to offer a more normal school year while mindful that

some learners have not attended in person for up to 18 months. District staff have put together strategies including learning ideas and fun activities for parents to consider from late June to September. The District sent a letter home to the community to assure parents and schools that the District will be well prepared to receive all students back to in person learning in September.

The Superintendent next presented highlights from schools around the community including Palmer Concert Band, who earned the Gold medal at MusicFest; Richmond Secondary students who won the Game of Apps provincial championship, and where local professional designers mentor students and teach them how to use tools, techniques, and processes in the coding industry to build mobile apps; Ferris Elementary, with the support of a Trees Canada grant, planted ten new trees at the school. The planting of these trees is part of an ongoing and long term goal to green the school's grounds and bring students closer to nature; Bridge Elementary students have been creating art pieces inspired by famous artists each week, McRoberts students participated in a five day wellness challenge; a group of students at Burnett Secondary created an advocacy ad project to showcase different topics important to them for maintaining positive mental health; and this month schools throughout the District held a variety of ceremonies to acknowledge and honour the children who lost their lives at a former Residential school in Kamloops. Students and staff have participated in multiple ways by wearing orange, organizing walks of respect, making orange hearts, putting up posters and creating tributes in memory of these children.

5. Approval of Minutes

- (a) Regular meeting of the Board held May 26, 2021

Trustee Goldstein asked that the Minutes reflect "unanimous" consensus for the Budget Bylaw. The Chairperson noted that the May minutes would be amended with the update.

088/2021 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY N. GOLDSTEIN:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve the Minutes of Wednesday, May 26, 2021 Regular meeting as amended.

CARRIED

- (b) A Record of an In-camera meeting of the Board held May 26, 2021 was included for information.

6. Business Arising

- (a) **SOGI Annual Update**

The Superintendent of Schools presented highlights from the report attached with the agenda package. An update regarding the implementation of Policy 106 relates directly to the District's work in the Strategic Plan. The SOGI Advisory Committee is made up of, internal stakeholders, external community partners and students. There were four meetings this year with the Advisory Committee developing a number of goals and objectives in sub committees. The Superintendent then highlighted Goal One of SOGI - that students and staff who identify as LGBTQ+ should feel safe, supported, valued, and included in their schools, classrooms.

The Superintendent highlighted some areas the committee focused on this year including the availability of gender-neutral washrooms. The District is creating student awareness regarding gender neutral washrooms and that there is appropriate signage. Other opportunities for students to connect include Rainbow Cafes at secondary schools, where students come together to discuss issues of relevance to them. These are supported by school and District-based adult SOGI leads to provide guidance and support.

The Superintendent then provided an overview of Goal two as outlined in the report and objectives that were achieved including: Employee support and training, resources and funds to cover resources made available to schools, the Rainbow Cafes and the work of the Advisory Committee and sub-committees. Goal Three objectives includes the Parent Education Series that will begin in the Fall of 2021; and Goal Four includes a Communication Plan and quarterly SOGI newsletter distributed to all employees across the District called *Ask the Kids* that will focus on a variety of topics to support staff in their work through a SOGI lens.

The Superintendent then introduced Destiny Lang, a student representative on the SOGI Advisory Committee, who talked about professional learning opportunities with staff to increase capacity and confidence in supporting LGBTQ+ students to use their voices and be heard. Destiny presented an overview of activities and initiatives held throughout the year, where schools have collaborated on projects to enhance efforts as an inclusive community. Destiny thanked the Advisory Committee for advocating on behalf of the LGBTQ+ staff and students and looks forward to the continued work and growth to fulfill all goals.

Trustees thanked Destiny for the update and participation as part of the SOGI Committee and to the important continued work in providing support to students and staff.

(b) **Diversity & Anti-racism Working Group Update**

Assistant Superintendent Brautigam introduced Grade 12 McNair Secondary student Nathan Young who shared his narrative poem.

The Assistant Superintendent thanked Nathan Young for reading his work and following trustee comments and a request that his poem be provided to trustees by email, proceeded with the update.

The Assistant Superintendent identified the work and progress of the Advisory Group to date including work underway on the audit process by hiring Bakau Consulting. The following actions are currently underway with 17 focus groups scheduled through the month of June and into July with students, parents, and employees. Surveys regarding stakeholder experiences in the District related to diversity, equity and inclusion have now been distributed from the Diversity and Anti-racism Working Group in consultation with the Consultant.

Assistant Superintendent Brautigam then provided highlights of other new initiatives with new Indigenous teaching resources and supports, learning opportunities for leaders around Truth and Reconciliation, Racism/Antiracism and how to lead learning conversations with staff scheduled for July, August and into the Fall. Ongoing work includes the launch of Anti-racism resources online Hub for all staff, highlighting anti-racism resources on the public website, and widely sharing resources for schools to deepen understanding of diversity.

Book bundles for elementary and secondary schools are in all schools with books for adults and students. In conclusion, the Assistant Superintendent noted that the development of a plan to highlight anti-racism work as part of what is shared each month will be provided by the Superintendent updates at Board meetings, the District website and on social media platforms.

(c) **Annual Charitable Donations Report**

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer provided background information to the Report attached with the agenda, noting that 2020 charitable donations were the highest the District has ever received for cash and in kind donations. The total donated in 2020 was \$382,190.80 of which \$328,816.84 comprises cash with the remainder at \$53,373.96 in in kind contributions. Donation In Kind included PPE.

(d) **District Sustainability and Climate Action Plan Update**

The Manager, Energy and Sustainability presented an update and overview of the District Sustainability and Climate Action Plan for 2021-2026. The Goals and objectives for the plan were highlighted including tracking, reporting, and offsetting greenhouse gas emissions each year to achieve carbon neutrality. The Manager outlined the planning timeline with the public launch and implementation to secure funding and resources; provide leadership and action at all levels; integrate sustainability across the curriculum, provide training and professional development; reduce overall energy consumption; develop a low carbon electrification plan; implement a Zero Waste Strategy; increase education and engagement awareness and Climate Action reviewing risk and mitigation for facilities and reducing the carbon and environmental footprint. The Manager, Energy and Sustainability then shared how the District would work to achieve these goals and objectives.

Trustees thanked the Manager for the excellent presentation and obligation as a District to provide environmental stewardship. A trustee asked that a copy of the presentation be sent to the Board following the meeting.

**Trustee Lee left the Public meeting immediately following Business Arising Item (d) prior to Item (e) and therefore did not vote on the following motions.*

(e) **2021-2022 Capital Bylaw**

The Executive Director, Facilities Services provided background and information as attached with the agenda package. On May 11, 2021 the Ministry of Education responded to the Board's 2021/2022 Five Year Capital Plan submission made in June, 2020. The Executive Director then briefly outlined the projects as supported by the Ministry contained within the Report.

The Chairperson read Capital Bylaw:

**CAPITAL BYLAW NO. 2021/22-CPSD38-01
CAPITAL PLAN 2021/2022**

A BYLAW by the Board of Education of School District No. 38 (Richmond) (hereinafter called the "Board") to adopt a Capital Plan of the Board pursuant to sections 143 (2) and 144 (1) of the *School Act*.

WHEREAS in accordance with provisions of the School Act the Minister of Education (hereinafter called the "Minister") has approved the Capital Plan of the Board.

NOW THEREFORE the Board agrees to the following:

- (a) authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to execute Project Agreement(s) related to the expenditures contemplated by the Capital Plan;
- (b) upon approval to proceed, commence the Project(s) and proceed diligently and use its best efforts to complete each Project substantially as directed by the Minister;
- (c) observe and comply with any order, regulation, or policy of the Minister as may be applicable to the Board or the Project(s); and,
- (d) maintain proper books of account, and other information and documents with respect to the affairs of the Project(s), as may be prescribed by the Minister.

NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

1. The Capital Bylaw of the Board for the 2021/22 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported project(s) specified in the letter addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer and Superintendent dated 11 May 2021 is hereby adopted.
2. This Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 38 (Richmond) Capital Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD38-01.

There was unanimous consensus that 3 readings take place.

089/2021 1st READING MOVED BY N. GOLDSTEIN AND SECONDED BY D. SARGENT:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve Capital Project Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD38-01

CARRIED

090/2021 2nd READING MOVED BY K. HAMAGUCHI AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve Capital Project Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD38-01

CARRIED

091/2021 3rd AND FINAL READING MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY D. SARGENT:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve Capital Project Bylaw No. 2021/22-CPSD38-01

CARRIED

CAPITAL PROJECT BYLAW No. 2021/22-CPSD38-01 PLAN WAS CARRIED

(f) 2022-2023 Five Year Capital Plan

The Executive Director, Facilities Services presented background on the Five-Year Capital Plan that is an annual submission from Boards of Education. These submissions are then used by the Ministry of Education to determine which priority capital projects may be approved in the Ministry's Capital Plan for the following fiscal year. The capital plan submissions also provide important insight into future capital priorities that can be used for longer term government planning and determination of potential future capital funding requirements.

The Major Capital Projects include: Seismic Mitigation Program; School Expansion Program; School Replacement Program; and Rural Districts Program. The Minor Capital Projects included: School Enhancement Program; Carbon Neutral Capital Program; Bus Acquisition Program; and Playground Equipment Program. The Building Envelope Program is the other program within the Capital Plan.

Following the update, the three resolutions were presented for approval:

092/2021 MOVED BY D. SARGENT AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the Board of Education of (Richmond) approves the 2022-2023 Five-Year Capital Plan (*Major Capital*) for 2022-2023 as provided on the Five-Year Capital Plan Summary (*Major Capital*) for 2022-2023 submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

093/2021 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY K. HAMAGUCHI:

THAT the Board of Education of (Richmond) approves the 2022-2023 Five-Year Capital Plan (*Minor Capital*) for 2022-2023 as provided on the Five-Year Capital Plan Summary (*Minor Capital*) for 2022-2023 submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

094/2021 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY SECONDED BY N. GOLDSTEIN:

THAT the Board of Education of (Richmond) approves the 2022-2023 Five-Year Capital Plan (*Building Envelope Program*) for 2022-2023 as provided on the Five-Year Capital Plan Summary (*Building Envelope Program*) for 2022-2023 submitted to the Ministry of Education.

CARRIED

The Chairperson called a five-minute Recess at 10:05 pm.

The Public Meeting resumed at 10:10 pm.

(g) **2021-2022 Eligible School Site Proposal**

The Executive Director, Facilities Services then presented the Eligible School Site Proposal (ESSP) Report for approval of the 2021-2022 Resolution. The ESSP Resolution must be passed annually if the School District plans to acquire future school sites. The Executive Director outlined that the purpose of the ESSP is to identify school site requirements for the District that will be incorporated into its Five Year Capital Plan.

095/2021 MOVED BY D. SARGENT AND SECONDED BY N. GOLDSTEIN:

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 38 (Richmond) approves the 2021-22 Eligible School Site Proposal (ESSP) through adoption of the 2021-22 ESSP Resolution.

CARRIED

7. New Business

- (a) Nil.

8. Questions from the Public: Tonight's Agenda

David Yang - Richmond resident and former student of SD38, expressed full support to the BC Youth Council Delegates. Mr. Yang asked what steps has the District taken in recent years to ensure that the voice of students is incorporated in the overall formal structures and decision-making processes of the District. The Superintendent answered that staff would respond directly to Mr. Yang.

Liz Baverstock, President, Richmond Teachers' Association expressed sincere gratitude and thanks to Secretary Treasurer Uyeno on behalf of all the members for his hard work, and transparency. Ms. Baverstock noted that Mr. Uyeno always made himself available, provided accessible information and his hard work and approachability was most appreciated.

9. Standing Committee Reports

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

A meeting was held on May 3, 2021.

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

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held May 19, 2021 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on June 16, 2021.

(c) **Facilities and Building Committee**

Chair: Ken Hamaguchi

Vice Chair: Norman Goldstein

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held May 5, 2021 were attached for information.
- (ii) Feed-U-Cate donation from the Facilities Services Centre Social Committee.

A meeting was held on June 2, 2021.

(d) **Finance and Legal Committee**

Chair: Debbie Tablotney

Vice Chair: Ken Hamaguchi

A meeting was held on May 19, 2021.

(e) **Policy Committee**

Chair: Sandra Nixon

Vice Chair: Debbie Tablotney

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held May 17, 2021 were attached for information.
- (ii) **Policy Section 700: Facilities – Phase 1**

096/2021 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

In accordance with Board Policy 204: *Creation and Revision of Policy and Regulations*, this Recommendation to the 23 June 2021 Public Meeting of the Board of Education (Richmond) is to approve attached revised **Policy Section 700: Facilities - Phase 1**.

CARRIED

- (iii) **Policy 310/310-R: Emergency Management**

097/2021 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY D. SARGENT:

In accordance with Board Policy 204: *Creation and Revision of Policy and Regulations*, this Recommendation to the June 23, 2021 Public meeting of the Board of Education (Richmond) is to place new Draft Policy 310/310-R: *Emergency Management* into the Stakeholder Review Process for questions and feedback by August 31, 2021.

CARRIED

A meeting was held on June 14, 2021 at 11 am.

10. Correspondence

- (a) A letter from The Honourable Jennifer Whiteside, Minister of Education dated June 9, 2021, regarding *Phase two Allocation – Safe Return to Class Funds* was attached for information.

11. Board Committee and Representative Reports

(a) Council Board Liaison Committee

- (i) A meeting was held on June 9, 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 9:30 am.

12. Adjournment

098/2021 MOVED BY K. HAMAGUCHI AND SECONDED BY D. TABLOTNEY:

THAT the Regular meeting of Wednesday, June 23, 2021 of the Board of Education (Richmond) be adjourned at 10:28 pm.

CARRIED

S. NIXON,
CHAIRPERSON

R. UYENO,
SECRETARY TREASURER