

**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, JANUARY 26, 2022
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Present:	Chairperson	S. Nixon
	Vice-Chairperson	H. Larson
	Trustees	N. Goldstein
		K. Hamaguchi
		R. Lee
		D. Sargent
		D. Tablotney
		S. Robinson
	Superintendent of Schools	R. Ryan
	Deputy Superintendent	C. Wang
	Secretary Treasurer	L. Archer
	Assistant Superintendent	C. Brautigam
	Assistant Superintendent	F. Geyer
	Executive Director, Facilities Services	J. MacMillan
	Executive Director , Learning Services	R. Laing
	Executive Director, Learning & Business Technologies	D. Sadler
	Director, Communications & Marketing	N. Savory
	District Administrator – Equity and Inclusion	C. Cleary
	Executive Assistant, Recording Secretary	

There were technical difficulties for trustees accessing the Public meeting.

Vice Chairperson Larson called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

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

Secretary-Treasurer Wang - 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 as pertain to the agenda, and 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 Vice Chairperson welcomed the gallery to the meeting.

- (b) **Trustee Sargent** – Briefs regarding the 2022/2023 Annual Budget will be accepted without prior notice at the February 23, 2022 regular meeting of the Board, March 30, 2022, and April 27, 2022 regular meetings of the Board. Please note that budget updates will be made available on the District’s Budget 2022/2023 website. All budget feedback will be considered by the Board as part of the budget process which is anticipated to be completed by May 2022.

The Chairperson joined the meeting at 7:40 pm, Trustee Hamaguchi joined the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Trustee Tablotney – Masks are an integral part of the safety protocol for COVID-19 and the District has been following the Ministry’s direction to provide sufficient supplies of three layer masks in our schools. As transmission of COVID-19 increases and public health approaches shift, the Board acknowledges that employees may be experiencing additional worry and concern. As an additional measure to support staff wellbeing, the Board of Education has made the decision to purchase N95 masks and provide these masks to employees who request them. The masks are expected to arrive in early February. Specific information regarding the distribution of masks will be communicated to all employees shortly.

Trustee Larson – Every February, people in Canada are invited to participate in Black History Month festivities and events that honour the legacy of Black Canadians and their communities.

Our school district will celebrate the many achievements of Black Canadians who, throughout history, have contributed greatly to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous nation it is today.

Our schools will actively engage in learning opportunities directly related to Black History Month and will share their learning on their school websites, and social media, so the wider community can learn and celebrate together.

Black History Month opens the door not only to conversations about the significant contributions of Black Canadians, but also to the impacts of racism, and our commitment to make the Richmond School District a safe and respectful place for all members of our community.

Trustee Nixon – the Board would like to acknowledge the tragic news of the 93 potential unmarked graves at the former St. Josephs Mission Residential school in Williams Lake, and our hearts go out to the survivors, their families, the community, and everyone who is impacted by this news.

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

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

2. Adoption of Agenda

010/2022 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY K. HAMAGUCHI:

THAT the Wednesday, January 26, 2022 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

Nil.

(b) Special Recognitions

Nil.

(c) Briefs

Ian Hillman, President, CUPE Local 716 presented a Brief on *Day Custodians and iPads for Education Assistants*. The Brief was made available on the District website as an addendum to the agenda package.

Following Mr. Hillman's presentation of the Brief, Trustees had questions and comments around the topics presented. Chairperson Nixon thanked Mr. Hillman and noted that the Board will acknowledge and respond to the Brief.

(d) Questions from the Public

Liz Baverstock, President of Richmond Teachers' Association thanked the Board and the District on the decision to support all employees by supplying the N95 masks.

Ms. Baverstock asked for information on the timeline for the Mitchell Education Centre Project. The Executive Director, Facilities Services responded that operations for the facility would be at the start of the new school year in September.

4. Executive

Jane MacMillan, Executive Director, Learning Services introduced Navshina Savory, District Administrator for Equity and Inclusion. Ms. Savory provided trustees with an update on the work being done within the District for Black History Month.

Ms. Savory provided background regarding efforts by the Learning Services Team to curate and centralize resources including videos, readings, local events, book bundles and websites all highlighting Black history stories.

Resources are accessible to all students and staff to support thoughtful opportunities reflecting on local and national Black history. Ms. Savory provided additional information on activities planned throughout the month of February that recognize the ongoing work and commitment the District has towards equity and inclusion.

The Chairperson thanked Ms. Savory for the update, important work and opportunities for staff and students during Black History Month.

The Superintendent provided information on student attendance since the beginning of January following the return to school after Winter Break. Attendance is monitored daily where data is compared against normal attendance rates at this time of year. The District's daily monitoring would look for sudden increases in either student or staff absences due to illness and if so, then contact Vancouver Coastal Health.

The Superintendent said that fortunately the District has not experienced any areas of concern.

The Superintendent then highlighted events from around the District during the month of January, 2022 in a presentation that will be featured on the District website for the next month.

5. Approval of Minutes

- (a) Regular meeting of the Board held June 23, 2021

011/2022 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY D. SARGENT:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve the Minutes of Wednesday, December 15, 2021 Regular meeting as circulated.

CARRIED

- (b) A Record of an In-camera meeting of the Board held December 15, 2021 was included for information.

6. Business Arising

- (a) **Mitchell Education Centre Project**

The Executive Director, Facilities Services, presented background information for the recommendation to expand the scope of work at Mitchell Education Centre to include seismic upgrading for a net additional cost of \$2.2 million. The expansion ensures that the building follows the latest codes and seismic requirements. The recommendation was made after extensive geotechnical and engineering studies and consideration of a number of options by the Richmond Project Team.

Trustees thanked the Executive Director and the Ministry for their support of this project.

012/2022 MOVED BY D. SARGENT AND SECONDED BY D. TABLOTNEY:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approves proceeding with the amended scope of the proposed Mitchell Education Centre and Rideau Park Resource Centre project as presented for an additional maximum cost of \$2.2 million funded from Local Capital Reserves.

CARRIED

7. New Business

- (a) **Daytime Custodial**

The Executive Director, Facilities Services presented a report that included background related to the changes to the Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings (Guidelines), as well as the measures that the District has taken in enhanced environmental cleaning.

With the current status as of August 24, 2021, updates were made to previous Guidelines and in particular, frequency of daily disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces was reduced from at least twice in a 24 hour period to once daily. As part of the 2021/2022 District operating budget, the Board made the decision to allocate 20 FTE custodians for enhanced environmental cleaning during the day at elementary schools.

The services were supported on a temporary basis ending February 28, 2022. The Executive Director then presented four options for the Board's consideration as outlined in the Report. Trustees had questions and comments. The Secretary Treasurer provided costs for the various options as presented.

013/2022 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY D. TABLOTNEY:

THAT the Richmond Board of Education approve the one-time expenditure of \$170,000 out of the 2021/2022 amended operating budget in order to implement Option 2 of the report - A Gradual Return to Pre-COVID Service Levels.

CARRIED
NEGATIVE: R. LEE

8. Questions from the Public: Tonight's Agenda

Ian Hillman, President, CUPE 716 asked that the District continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely, so that should the health situation escalate, there are additional funds for enhanced cleaning.

The Chairperson clarified the Board's approval around the number of daytime elementary custodians and the Executive Director noted that the total is 13.

9. Standing Committee Reports

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

A meeting was held on January 10, 2022.

- (b) **Education Committee**
Chair: Heather Larson
Vice Chair: Debbie Tablotney

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held November 17, 2021 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on January 19, 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 6 pm.

(c) **Facilities and Building Committee**

Chair: Ken Hamaguchi

Vice Chair: Debbie Tablotney

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held December 1, 2021 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on January 5, 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 4:30 pm.

(d) **Finance and Legal Committee**

Chair: Donna Sargent

Vice Chair: Ken Hamaguchi

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held November 17, 2021 were attached for information.

(ii) **Trustee Expenses for 3 months ending December 31, 2021**

014/2022 MOVED BY D. SARGENT AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

WHEREAS the Board of Education of School District No. 38 (Richmond) is paying for expenses incurred by the Trustees in the discharge of their duties;

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with the School Act, the Board of Education of School District No. 38 (Richmond) approves the Trustees' expenses paid during the three month period ended December 31, 2021 in the amount of \$1,728.29.

CARRIED

(iii) **2022/2023 Facility Rental Rates**

015/2022 MOVED BY D. SARGENT AND SECONDED BY N. GOLDSTEIN:

THAT the Board approves a 5% increase to both non-commercial (not for profit) and commercial (for profit) facility rental rates for the 2022/2023 fiscal year and;

THAT the Board approves the three-year childcare rental rate schedule as presented herein.

CARRIED

A meeting was held on January 19, 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2022 at 10 am.

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

- (i) **Policy 401: Recruitment of Personnel**

016/2022 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve **Policy 401-R/401-G: Recruitment and Selection of Management and Administrative Personnel.**

CARRIED

- (ii) A Notice of Motion for **Policy 804.1/804.1-R: Community Use of District Facilities/Policy 804.4: Fees for Use of District Facilities** was included with the agenda for information.

A meeting was held January 17, 2022. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2022 at 11 am.

10. Correspondence

- (a) Nil.

11. Board Committee and Representative Reports

- (a) **Council/Board Liaison Committee**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 9:30 am via Zoom. Meetings in 2022 will be hosted by the City of Richmond.

12. Adjournment

017/2022 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the Regular meeting of Wednesday, January 26, 2022 of the Board of Education (Richmond) be adjourned at 9:18pm.

CARRIED

S. NIXON,
CHAIRPERSON

C. WANG,
SECRETARY TREASURER