

Board of Education Public Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 25, 2023 – 7:00 pm
1st Floor Boardroom and via Zoom

Present:

Chairperson	D. Tablotney
Vice Chairperson	H. Larson
Trustee	R. Belleza
Trustee	K. Hamaguchi
Trustee	D. Sargent
Trustee	A. Wong
Trustee	D. Yang
Superintendent of Schools	C. Usih
Deputy Superintendent	R. Ryan
Secretary Treasurer	C. Wang
Assistant Superintendent	C. Brautigam
Assistant Superintendent	J. MacMillan
Assistant Superintendent	C. Stanger
Executive Director, Learning and Business Technologies	R. Laing
Director, Communications and Marketing	D. Sadler
Director, Richmond International Education	S. Sephton*
Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)	T. Lee

*Present for portion of meeting

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledged and thanked the First Peoples of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

1. Recognition of Visitors, Announcements, Trustees' Updates

(a) Recognition of Visitors

The Chairperson welcomed the gallery to the meeting.

(b) Announcements

Trustee Wong: October is Foster Family Month in BC, a time to recognize foster caregivers throughout the province who provide nurturing, safe, inclusive and understanding homes for children and youth in need. In difficult circumstances where it's not possible for a child or

youth to be with family, the care of foster parents is crucial. Foster caregiving takes time, effort and patience. But most of all, it takes a desire to make a difference in the life of a child or youth. Thank you to all Richmond Foster Families for their commitment in supporting children and youth in their care.

Trustee Belleza: On November 5, 2023, the Richmond School District recognizes the efforts and contributions made by its support staff throughout the year. More than one thousand support staff roles operate within our district, and all of these individuals play a part in the success of our school system.

On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to express my gratitude to all of our support staff who help to make the Richmond School District the best place to learn and lead.

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

The Secretary Treasurer noted all materials had been made available to the public on the district website.

2. Adoption of Agenda

112/2023 MOVED BY D. YANG AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the Wednesday, October 25, 2023 regular agenda of the Board of Education be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Presentations, Briefs, Special Recognition

(a) **Presentations**

Nil.

(b) **Special Recognitions**

Nil.

(c) **Briefs**

Nil.

4. Questions from the Public

Liz Baverstock, President, Richmond Teachers' Association asked the following questions:

1. With increased enrolment, how much of this has already been staffed versus how much staffing is to come – especially teachers supporting ELL learners and learners with diverse abilities and disabilities?

2. If increased enrolment is the trend, is there anything that could be done within the district so we can prepare for this?

The Chairperson thanked the President, Richmond Teachers' Association for her questions.

5. Executive

The Superintendent highlighted Strategic Priority 2: Equity and Inclusion and shared a video of the creation of the mural at Mitchell Elementary School. The video showed how through art, we can connect, celebrate diversity, and create a more inclusive educational community. He then thanked staff and students who participated in the creation of the video.

6. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings

- (a) A record of an in-camera meeting of the board held Wednesday, September 27, 2023 was included for information.
- (b) Regular meeting of the board held Wednesday, September 27, 2023

113/2023 MOVED BY A. WONG AND SECONDED BY K. HAMAGUCHI:

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of Wednesday, September 27, 2023, regular meeting as circulated.

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from Prior Minutes

(a) Enrolment Update

The Deputy Superintendent referred to his report as included in the agenda package. The Secretary Treasurer then responded to a trustee's question regarding projection trends. Discussion ensued regarding increased level of staffing and student support required as a result of the enrolment increase.

(b) Richmond International Education Update

The Director of Richmond International Education spoke to his report as included in the agenda package. Trustees thanked the Director of Richmond International Education for the report and expressed their appreciation of the work being done by the department to serve the students in the program. The Director of Richmond International Education then responded to trustees' questions regarding:

- Space capacity and projections for international student enrolment;
- International student recruitment strategies;
- Benefits the program brings to the district; and
- Geopolitical challenges the program is facing.

8. New Business

(a) Capital Bylaw

The Secretary Treasurer referred to her report as included in the agenda package.

There was unanimous consensus that three readings of the 2023/2024 Capital Bylaw take place.

The Chairperson then read the first reading of the 2023-2024 Capital Bylaw in full:

Capital Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD38-03

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 2023/2024 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported project(s) specified in the letters addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer and Superintendent dated March 9, 2023, September 15, 2023 and September 27, 2023 is hereby adopted.
2. This Bylaw may be cited as **School District No. 38 (Richmond) Capital Bylaw No. 2023/24-CPSD38-03**.

114/2023 FIRST READING MOVED BY R. BELLEZA AND SECONDED BY K. HAMAGUCHI:

CARRIED

The Chairperson then read the second reading of the bylaw in summary:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve CAPITAL BYLAW No. 2023/2024-CPSD38-03. Through the Bylaw, the Board agrees to authorize the Secretary Treasurer to execute the project agreement, and commence and proceed the approved projects and comply with all applicable laws, regulations and Ministry policies.

Discussion then ensued regarding City Centre growth and the long-term focus of securing a site for a new school.

115/2023 SECOND READING MOVED BY D. YANG AND SECONDED BY D. SARGENT:

CARRIED

The Chairperson then read the third and final reading of the bylaw in summary:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve CAPITAL BYLAW No. 2023/2024-CPSD38-03. Through the Bylaw, the Board agrees to authorize the Secretary Treasurer to execute the project agreement, and commence and proceed the approved projects and comply with all applicable laws, regulations and Ministry policies.

116/2023 THIRD AND FINAL READING MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY A. WONG:

CARRIED

The Capital Bylaw No. 2023/2024-CPSD38-03 is therefore approved.

(b) Public Consultation Regarding Land Disposal to the City of Richmond

The Secretary Treasurer provided highlights from her report. Trustees thanked the Secretary Treasurer for her report and for providing transparency to the public. Discussion then ensued regarding the proposed road expansion project.

9. Questions from the Public

There were no questions from the public.

10. Standing Committee Reports

(a) Audit Committee

Chairperson: David Yang

Vice Chairperson: Ken Hamaguchi

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

(b) Education Committee

Chairperson: Heather Larson

Vice Chairperson: David Yang

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held on September 20, 2023, are attached for information.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

(c) **Facilities and Building Committee**

Chairperson: Ken Hamaguchi

Vice Chairperson: Debbie Tablotney

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held on September 6, 2023, are attached for information.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 4:30 pm.

(d) **Finance and Legal Committee**

Chairperson: Donna Sargent

Vice Chairperson: Rod Belleza

- (i) **RECOMMENDATION:** Trustees Expenses for the Three Months ended September 30, 2023.

117/2023 MOVED BY D. SARGENT AND SECONDED BY D. YANG:

WHEREAS the Board of Education 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 approve Trustees' expenses paid during the three-month period ended September 30, 2023, in the amount of \$ \$3,919.70.

CARRIED

- (ii) Minutes of the meeting held on September 20, 2023, are attached for information.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 10:00 am.

(e) **Policy Committee**

Chairperson: Debbie Tablotney

Vice Chairperson: Heather Larson

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held on September 18, 2023, are attached for information.

A meeting was held on Monday, October 16, 2023. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 11:00 am.

11. Board Committee and Representative Reports

(a) Council/Board Liaison Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2023.

(b) BCSTA

(i) Provincial Council

Trustee Larson highlighted the presentations given at the meeting and noted three motions were passed – support for youth mental health, Pay Equity Supplement advocacy, and request for the Minister of Education and Child Care’s support for equity, diversity, and inclusion.

(ii) Advocacy Day

Trustee Sargent attended Advocacy Day held in Victoria on behalf of the Chairperson and provided an overview of the events of the day. She noted the three common goals districts are advocating for include improving student outcomes, recruitment and retention, and capital and deferred maintenance.

(c) BCPSEA

Nil.

12. Correspondence

Nil.

13. Adjournment

118/2023 MOVED BY A. WONG AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the regular meeting of Wednesday, October 25, 2023 of the Board of Education be adjourned at 8:42 pm.

CARRIED

D. TABLOTNEY
Chairperson

C. WANG
Secretary Treasurer