

Finance and Legal Committee Public Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 – 10:00 am Via Zoom

Present:

Chairperson D. Sargent K. Hamaguchi Vice Chairperson Trustee Member R. Belleza Trustee Alternate A. Wong Superintendent of Schools C. Usih **Secretary Treasurer** C. Wang **Assistant Secretary Treasurer** M. Fu Executive Director, Human Resources T. Major Director of Instruction, Learning and Business Technologies W. Walker President, Richmond Teachers' Association L. Baverstock 1st Vice President, Richmond Teachers' Association S. Wenglowski Representative, Richmond Management and Professional Staff R. Corbin President, Richmond District Parents Association C. Huang President, Richmond Association of School Administrators N. Widdess Vice President, Richmond Association of School Administrators A. Goulas President, Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 716 S. Robinson Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary) T. Lee

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

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

As this was the first meeting of the new school year, the Chairperson initiated introductions among the Committee members.

1. Adopt Agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Approve Minutes

The minutes of the public meeting held Wednesday, June 12, 2024, were approved as circulated.

3. Human Resources Update

The Executive Director, Human Resources referred to her report as included in the agenda package, highlighting the recruitment process for the new school year.

The President, Richmond Teachers' Association (RTA) expressed appreciation for the Human Resources team's efforts and collaboration with the RTA in staffing. She then noted the need for better support for public education to address recruitment challenges.

The President, Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 716 also noted the recruitment challenges and staffing shortages in schools and acknowledged their collaboration with HR to develop strategies to incentivize individuals to join the district.

Discussion followed regarding pensionable service and staffing challenges in the province.

In response to a trustee's question, the Executive Director of Human Resources addressed the number of classrooms without assigned teachers.

Following a question from the President, Richmond District Parents Association, the Superintendent of Schools noted that school specific issues and concerns should be directed to the principal of the school for appropriate context and guidance. The Executive Director, Human Resources then provided additional details on the recruitment process for counselors.

4. Trustees' Expenses for the Three Months Ending June 30, 2024

The report was included in the agenda package. The Committee agreed to forward the following recommendation to the Board:

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 Trustees' expenses paid during the three-month period ended June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$7,328.32.

5. Next Meeting Date - Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 10:00 am

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Sargent Chairperson, Finance and Legal Committee