

Facilities and Building Committee Public Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 - 4:30 pm
Via Zoom

Present:

Chairperson	K. Hamaguchi
Vice Chairperson	H. Larson
Trustee Member	R. Belleza
Trustee	A. Wong
Superintendent of Schools	C. Usih
Secretary Treasurer	C. Wang
Director, Richmond Project Team	J. Ho
Director, Facilities Services	K. Wilkins
President, Richmond Teachers' Association	L. Baverstock
2nd Vice President, Richmond Teachers' Association	F. Marsic
President, Richmond District Parents Association	C. Huang
President, Richmond Association of School Administrators	N. Widdess
Vice President, Richmond Association of School Administrators	A. Goulas
Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)	T. Lee

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm.

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

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the February 5, 2025 meeting was approved as circulated.

3. Facilities Planning Update (standing item)

The Director, Richmond Project Team noted that the report was included in the agenda package.

Following a question from the President, Richmond Teachers' Association (RTA) regarding the City Centre schools and the recently released Budget 2025 from the Government of BC, a discussion ensued about advocacy efforts and the meetings the Board had with the Minister of Infrastructure and the Minister of Education and Child Care.

4. Capital Projects Update (standing item)

The Director, Richmond Project Team noted that the report was included in the agenda package.

The President, RTA then asked a question regarding seismic safety and earthquake preparedness. The Superintendent responded, noting that a committee is being formed with representatives from every department for emergency preparedness and communications, with more details to be provided soon.

The Director, Richmond Project Team then responded to the President, Richmond District Parents Association question regarding seismic upgrades to schools in the district.

5. Facilities Services Update (standing item)

The Director, Facilities Services noted that the report was included in the agenda package and responded to a question from the President, RTA regarding project updates on the Richmond Secondary sewage backup and restoration.

The Director, Richmond Project Team then responded to a trustee's question regarding energy conservation measures for electricity and natural gas, as well as incentives and recognition for schools that meet their goals.

The President, RTA raised a concern about the lack of staff washrooms at Richmond Secondary, with only two toilets available due to two washrooms being out of service as a result of the recent sewage backup. The issue was linked to accessibility, and it was suggested that accessibility be included in the district's operations activities, with involvement from partner groups to ensure these concerns are addressed and tracked moving forward. A discussion followed regarding staff bathroom facilities.

6. Minutes for Information

(a) Child Care Development Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held January 8, 2025 were attached for information.

7. Next Meeting Date – April 2, 2025 at 4:30 pm

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ken Hamaguchi
Chairperson, Facilities and Building Committee*