

## Education Committee Public Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 11, 2025 – 6:00 pm  
Via Zoom

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**Present:**

Chairperson	H. Larson
Alternate Member	A. Wong
Trustee	D. Sargent
Superintendent	C. Usih
Assistant Superintendent	M. Naser
Director of Instruction	L. Hayes-Brown
District Administrator	L. Chau
Teacher Consultant	A. Ridley
Teacher Consultant	K. Gamble
Teacher	M. Taylor
Teacher	J. Eguia
Teacher	S. Parvez
Student	Chloe
Student	Livia
Student	Ryan
Representative, Richmond Association of School Administrators	A. Pikkarainen
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Richmond Teachers' Association	J. Cho
President, CUPE716	S. Robinson
Representative, Richmond Management and Professional Staff	S. Glanzmann
President, Richmond District Parents' Association	C. Huang
Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)	S. Khan

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

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

Chairperson Larson made an announcement to the committee, that June is National Indigenous History Month and June 21<sup>st</sup> is National Indigenous Peoples Day, it is a time to recognize and honour the history, culture, and contributions of the First Nations Inuit and Metis Peoples across Canada.

**1. Adopt Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

**2. Approve Minutes**

The minutes of the public meeting held Wednesday, May 14, 2025, were approved as circulated.

### **3. Equity in Action**

Assistant Superintendent Maryam Naser introduced Director of Instruction Liz Hayes-Brown and informed the committee that the Equity in Action is an annual report to the board that highlights the ongoing work across our district to support and improve outcomes for our indigenous students. Liz shared key initiatives, targeted supports, and areas of progress for the success of Indigenous students in our district. She informed the committee that an Indigenous Education Council was formed, as per Ministerial order for 60 districts across the province. The first meeting was held in April 2025.

Partner groups asked for clarification on the turnaround time for the conclusion of the Grad Coach Pilot to the 10 Grad Coaches in each secondary school and if these grad coaches are existing teachers.

Trustees asked questions regarding Indigenous Education and Digital Literacy with AI protocols.

### **4. Indigenous Education in the Richmond School District**

Assistant Superintendent Maryam Naser introduced District Administrator Linda Chau and Teacher Consultants Allie Ridely and Karla Gamble. A presentation on Indigenous Education in the Richmond School District was shown which highlighted the ongoing efforts to advance Indigenous Education and deepen all students' understanding of Indigenous history, culture, and perspectives by showcasing the work in schools around Indigenous learning and brilliance.

Richmond teachers integrate Indigenous worldviews and perspectives throughout the year, teacher Michael Taylor, students Chloe, Livia and Ryan from Hugh Boyd Secondary showcased the work they are doing to continue on the path to Truth and Reconciliation. Teachers from Tomsett Elementary presented on Inquiry Grants and how they can deepen understanding of Indigenous knowledge and histories with their students and staff. Finally, Teacher Consultant Karla spoke on behalf of Teacher Lincoln Lew from Walter Lee Elementary around Indigenous education and curriculum integration.

Trustees expressed their gratitude and the incredible work staff are doing to incorporate Indigenous ways of learning into the curriculum.

### **5. Collaborative Time & Personal Learning Time**

Assistant Superintendent Maryam Naser informed the committee that the Collaborative Time and Personal Learning Time is an annual report to the board. She highlighted that collaboration time is dedicated time for staff to work and collaborate to strengthen instructional practices in order to support student learning. The focus areas for this year included literacy and numeracy, inclusive teaching practices, interdisciplinary planning, mental health supports as well as supports for new teachers. Personal learning time (PLT) is a structure for secondary students which allows dedicated time for students to access teacher support to complete assignments, work on group projects, or engage in independent study.

The committee was informed that feedback regarding PLT has brought awareness to lower student attendance. Due to the importance of all students having access to PLT the placement of PLT for the 2025/26 school year will now be moved from first period to second period to encourage higher attendance, along with standardized timing of PLT to 96 minutes per week, to promote more consistency across the district. Feedback will be gathered through the school year from families, staff, and students to assess the effectiveness of these changes.

Partner groups asked for clarification regarding the timing of collaboration time and personal learning time.

Trustees expressed their gratitude to staff and feedback received from students and they revision to PLT time.

**6. Next Meeting Date – September 17, 2025 at 6:00pm.**

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Heather Larson*

*Chairperson, Education Committee*