

Policy Committee
Public Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 9, 2026 – 11:00 am
Via Zoom

Present:

Chairperson	D. Tabolotney
Vice Chairperson	H. Larson
Trustee Member	D. Yang
Trustee	A. Wong
Superintendent	C. Usih
President, Richmond Teachers' Association	L. Baverstock
1 st Vice President, Richmond Teachers' Association	S. Wenglowski
Vice President, Richmond Teachers' Association	F. Marsic
Vice President, Richmond Teachers' Association	S. Boljuncic
President, Richmond Association of School Administrators	N. Widdess
Chair, Richmond Management and Administrative Professionals	K. Gibson
Member at Large, Richmond District Parents Association	K. Ching
Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)	J. Coronel

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

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. Adopt Agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

2. Approve Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held November 10, 2025 were approved as circulated.

3. Proposed Policy on Renaming District Facilities (schools)

The Superintendent spoke to his report as included in the agenda package and responded to suggestions from the President of the Richmond Teachers' Association to add a column to the research summary attached to the report reflecting the district's proposed language in the renaming policy, and to include in the proposed policy a requirement that a renaming proposal should specify how it aligns with the definition of an exceptional circumstance.

In response to trustees' comments and suggestions, the Superintendent explained that the determination of whether a proposal to rename a school falls within an exceptional circumstance under the proposed policy is subject to the final decision of the board, and that the board will be

informed whether or not a proposal qualifies as an exceptional circumstance. He also noted a trustee's suggestion to name the proposed policy as *Naming and Renaming of Schools and District Facilities* for clarity.

The President of Richmond Teachers' Association further noted that Indigenous rights holders should be invited to participate as members of the Renaming Committee.

Following discussion, the committee agreed to forward the following **RECOMMENDATION** to the board:

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Education that revised Policy 701.11-R: Naming and Renaming of Schools and District Facilities be referred to Partner Group Review Process for the period of February 19, 2026, to April 10, 2026.

4. Policy 701.12-G: School Opening Ceremony

The Superintendent shared a draft rewrite of the Administrative Guidelines on School Opening Ceremony. The President of Richmond Teachers' Association emphasized that Indigenous rights holders should be consulted in the event planning and invited to participate as speaker.

Trustees expressed appreciation for the timely revision of Policy 701.12-G which had not been updated since its approval in 2005.

5. Status of Current and Anticipated Items

A Status of Current and Anticipated Items was attached to the agenda package.

6. Next Meeting Date – Monday, April 13, 2026 at 11:00 am.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Debbie Tabolotney
Chairperson, Policy Committee*