

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00 pm

The Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) met in room 114 (the Boardroom), VSB Education Centre, 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. and online in Teams on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was live-streamed.

Trustees Present in the Room:	Carmen Cho, Chairperson, Estrellita Gonzalez, Vice-Chairperson, Barbara Parrott
Trustees Present in Teams:	Fraser Ballantyne, Lois Chan-Pedley, Janet Fraser, Oliver Hanson, Jennifer Reddy, Allan Wong, Ricky Huang, Student Trustee
Senior Management Present in the Room:	Suzanne Hoffman, Superintendent
Senior Management Present in Teams:	J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer David Nelson, Deputy Superintendent Carmen Batista, Associate Superintendent-Employee Services Pedro da Silva, Associate Superintendent-Learning and Information Technology Jody Langlois, Associate Superintendent-Learning Services Rob Schindel, Associate Superintendent-School Services
Also Present in Teams:	Shehzad Somji, Assistant Secretary Treasurer Marlene Phillips, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1.1 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and acknowledged that the meeting is being held in the traditional unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

1.2 Opening Remarks

The Chairperson acknowledged opportunities to celebrate learning and put Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion into action, which include:

- Black History Month
- Pink Shirt Day
- Lunar New Year
- Freedom to Read Week

The Chairperson informed everyone the meeting is being live-streamed and the audio and visual recording will also be available to the public for viewing after the meeting. The footage of the meeting may be viewed inside and outside of Canada. She reviewed meeting decorum for respectful behavior.

The Chairperson reported there will be an additional item on the agenda, item 10.3, which will be a motion from Trustee Parrott.

2. PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

In association with Black History Month, two video interviews were shown with students from AR Lord Elementary. The students in the videos are Darragh Woods and Lucy Alonso, both in grade 7.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Meeting of January 25, 2021

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the minutes of the January 25, 2021 meeting be adopted.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

3.2 Matters Arising from the Minutes – No Sale of Public Land

Following up on the motion approved at the January 25, 2021 meeting entitled **No Sale of Public Land**, Trustee Reddy brought forward a motion for consideration. During discussion and following up on a point of order called for by a trustee, the Chairperson ruled it was not an urgent motion and Trustee Reddy agreed it could be referred to the Facilities Planning Committee.

Referral Motion

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by B. Parrott, that the following motion be referred to the Facilities Planning Committee:

That staff seek a legal opinion on the use of a restrictive covenant attached to any sale or transfer of VSB land to a public body. This could prevent any public body to which VSB sells land from reselling privately, and would ensure that VSB lands remain in public hands forever, as per the intent of the motion of January 25, 2021 that amended Policy 20.

During debate of the motion, the Secretary Treasurer informed trustees that Policy 20 had not been amended. Considering this, Trustee Reddy agreed to remove “that amended Policy 20”.

The motion being referred to the Facilities Planning Committee now reads:

That staff seek a legal opinion on the use of a restrictive covenant attached to any sale or transfer of VSB land to a public body. This could prevent any public body to which VSB sells land from reselling privately, and would ensure that VSB lands remain in public hands forever, as per the intent of the motion of January 25, 2021.

No trustees opposed the referral motion.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

3.3 Meeting of February 2, 2021

Moved by E. Gonzalez, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the minutes of the February 2, 2021 meeting be adopted.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

4.1 Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent gave a PowerPoint presentation providing information on:

- Completion rates of English Language Learners
- Completion rates by Gender
- Completion rates for Indigenous Learners

She also provided a video on the Indigenous Education Department and support provided to Indigenous youth.

4.2 COVID-19 Update

The Superintendent continued her PowerPoint presentation providing an update on COVID-19, including:

- Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) data to February 19, 2021 (taken from the VCH website).
- COVID-19 research projects within the school district

Trustees asked questions and the Superintendent responded.

5. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

The Student Trustee provided a verbal report on:

- The Vancouver District Student Council's *Got Talent* event being held on April 1, 2021 and
- A VDSC general meeting discussion regarding the secondary model.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

6.1.1 Report: Meeting of February 3, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, L. Chan-Pedley, presented the report of the February 3, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- The School Liaison Officer Program Review
- Motion: Indigenous representation
- Motion: Policy 4 amendments
- Updates to Administrative Procedures 170, 171 and 350
- Motion: Delegations meeting

Moved by L. Chan-Pedley, seconded by A. Wong, that the report of the February 3, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.1.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of February 3, 2021

6.1.2.1 Motion: Delegations Meeting

Trustee Parrott presented alternate wording for the motion included in the agenda which had been referred to the Policy and Governance Committee and was now returning to the Board for consideration. The Chairperson accepted the alternate wording for trustees consideration.

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that on the second Monday of April 2021, May, 2021, and June, 2021, the VSB pilot scheduling a second Board meeting for the purpose of hearing delegations. Delegations that wish to present at these meetings will follow the process outlined in Board Policy 7.8, and

That this pilot be evaluated at the regular June meeting for a final decision.

Trustee Parrott reviewed her rationale for the motion. During discussion, Trustee Chan-Pedley reported there was broad support from the Policy and Governance Committee.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

6.2.1 Report: Meeting of February 3, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, E. Gonzalez, presented the report of the February 3, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- Staffing and recruitment
- Wellness and employee engagement
- Motion: COVID-19 Funding

Moved by E. Gonzalez, seconded by B. Parrott, that the report of the February 3, 2021 meeting be received, with a spelling correction.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of February 3, 2021

6.2.2.1 Motion: COVID-19 Funding

Trustee Parrott presented alternate wording for the motion included in the agenda which had been referred to the Personnel Committee and was now returning to the Board for consideration. The Chairperson accepted the alternate wording for trustees consideration.

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by A. Wong, that staff be requested to continue to discuss jointly with the Vancouver Elementary School Teachers' Association and the Vancouver Elementary Principals' and Vice Principals' Association, the needs for additional teachers to work with Option 4 students. The funding for additional teachers will be found in the unspent amounts in the Federal COVID-19 grant.

Trustee Parrott reviewed her rationale of the motion. During discussion, staff provided clarification.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 STUDENT LEARNING AND WELL-BEING COMMITTEE

6.3.1 Report: Meeting of February 10, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, J. Reddy, presented the report of the February 10, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- VLN Enrollment / Completion Rates
- Supports for Students of African Ancestry
- COVID-19 Update – Option 4 – Learning from Home Transition
- COVID-19 Update – 2021-22 Secondary School Model
- Music Review Feedback
- School Calendar 2022-2024

In presenting the report Trustee Reddy noted that there had been a date change in the calendar for a Professional Development Day in the 2021-2022 school year from February 11 to February 18, 2021.

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by B. Parrott, that the report of the February 10, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of February 10, 2021

6.3.2.1 School Calendar for 2022-2024 (Attachment)

Moved by J. Reddy, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board approve the dates outlined in the attached report for the 2021-22; 2022-23; and 2023-24 school years.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4 FINANCE COMMITTEE

6.4.1 Report: Meeting of February 17, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, O. Hanson, presented the report of the February 17, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- Financial update to December 31, 2020 (Operating Fund)
- COVID-19 Funding update
- 2020/2021 Amended Annual Budget

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by L. Chan-Pedley, that the report of the February 17, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4.2 Matters Arising from the Meeting of February 17, 2021

6.4.2.1 2020-2021 Amended Annual Budget

6.4.2.1.1

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2020/2021 in the amount of \$671,399,306 be given first reading on the 22nd day of February 2021.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, J. Reddy, A. Wong

Against: B. Parrott

6.4.2.1.2

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2020/2021 in the amount of \$671,399,306 be given second reading on the 22nd day of February 2021.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, J. Reddy, A. Wong

Against: B. Parrott

6.4.2.1.3

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) approve having all three readings of the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2020/2021 in the amount of \$671,399,306 take place at the Board meeting on the 22nd day of February 2021.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4.2.1.4

Moved by O. Hanson, seconded by F. Ballantyne, that the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2020/2021 in the amount of \$671,399,306 be given third reading, passed and adopted on the 22nd day of February 2021.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, J. Reddy,
A. Wong

Against: B. Parrott

6.5 AUDIT COMMITTEE

6.5.1 Report: Meeting of February 17, 2021

The Chairperson of the Committee, B. Parrott, presented the report of the February 17, 2021 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on:

- 2020-2021 Financial Statement Audit Process and Timeline
- Update on 2019-2020 Auditor's Management Letter
- Asset Retirement Obligations
- Enterprise Risk Management Project

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by A. Wong, that the report of the February 17, 2021 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chairperson announced the on-line link for submitting questions to this meeting will now be closed.

7. REPORT ON PRIVATE SESSION ITEMS

7.1 Meeting of February 18, 2021

The Chairperson reported that the Board of Education authorized the Board Chair to report to the February 22, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of February 18, 2021, the Board discussed personnel and legal matters, as well as writing a letter to the Minister of Education from the Board.

7.2 Meeting of February 22, 2021

The Chairperson reported that the Board of Education authorized the Board Chair to report to the February 22, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of February 22, 2021, the Board discussed personnel, property, business interests and legal matters; and

That the Board of Education authorized the Board Chair to report to the February 22, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of January 25, 2021, the Board approved a retroactive adjustment to VSB trustee compensation to account for the loss of the tax treatment for non-accountable allowances that came into effect on January 1, 2019.

That the Board of Education authorized the Board Chair to report to the February 22, 2021 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of February 22, 2021, the Board approved proceeding with the initial consultation process as described in *Policy 20 – Disposal of Land and Improvements*, to consider the potential declaration of the southern portion of the Fleming school site as surplus to the educational needs of the school district.

8. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

- 8.1** Report from Trustee Wong on the Diversity Advisory Committee meeting held on January 27, 2021.
- 8.2** Reports from Trustee Fraser on the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee meeting held on February 8, 2021 and the Vancouver City Planning Commission meeting held on February 10, 2021.
- 8.3** Report from Trustee Chan-Pedley on the City of Vancouver Transportation Advisory Committee meeting held on January 27, 2021.
- 8.4** Reports from Trustee Gonzalez on the Renters Advisory Committee meetings held on January 27, 2021 and November 18, 2020, and the Vancouver Heritage Commission meeting held on February 1, 2021.

Trustee Gonzalez also provided a verbal report on the Vancouver Heritage Commission meeting held on February 22, 2021. She reported:

- A presentation was given by the Downtown Eastside Plan, with a specific target of childcare spaces for children ages 5-12.
- 44 childcare spaces are required to achieve their target.
- City of Vancouver Capital Funding Grant is being released March 1, 2021.

9. NEW BUSINESS: None

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

10.1 Notice of Motion from Trustee Gonzalez – BCSTA Advocacy for the Reinstatement of the Chief Educator Role

Trustee Gonzalez presented the following motion and requested it be considered at the meeting.

Moved by E. Gonzalez, seconded by L. Chan-Pedley, that the Vancouver Board of Education submit the following motion to the British Columbia School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) Annual General Meeting:

That the BCSTA advocate for the reinstatement of the Chief Educator role at the Ministry of Education.

Trustee Gonzalez reviewed the rationale of the motion.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, J. Reddy, A. Wong
Abstained: B. Parrott

10.2 Notice of Motion from Trustee Fraser – Land and Assets Strategy

Trustee Fraser presented the following motion and requested it be considered at the meeting.

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by E. Gonzalez, that the Vancouver Board of Education create a process to develop and approve a Land and Assets Strategy as a public document.

Trustee Fraser reviewed the rationale of the motion.

During discussion, the Secretary Treasurer provided clarification.

Trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong
Abstained: J. Reddy

10.3 Notice of Motion from Trustee Parrott – Secondary School Model

Trustee Parrott presented the following motion as an urgent motion and requested it be considered at the meeting. The Chairperson accepted the motion as an urgent motion.

Moved by B. Parrott, seconded by A. Wong, that the Vancouver Board of Education requests the Superintendent to continue to analyze student achievement data, in particular for the Grade 8 and Grade 9 students, and to report back to the Board;

That the Board maintain the current model of instructional delivery for secondary students and, pending review of Quarter 2 student progress data and evaluation of current COVID case numbers, consider evidence based adjustments to the model.

Trustee Parrott reviewed the rationale of the motion.

During discussion, the Superintendent responded to questions. She also summarized her understanding of data to be analyzed and brought back to the Board, seeking clarification and any further direction from the Board.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED

For: F. Ballantyne, L. Chan-Pedley, C. Cho, J. Fraser, E. Gonzalez, O. Hanson, B. Parrott, A. Wong
Abstained: J. Reddy

11. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

The Superintendent responded to questions regarding:

- Ministry reporting based on gender
- COVID-19 transmission data

The Chairperson provided a generalized response to multiple questions regarding the Secondary School model structure. She reported 36 submissions were received through the on-line link relating to the model, and all of the information shared will be shared with all trustees.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Trustees agreed to adjourn by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

J. David Green, Secretary Treasurer

Carmen Cho, Chairperson