School District No. 69 (Qualicum)



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2021 6:00 PM VIA ZOOM

ATTENDEES

Trustees

Eve Flynn	Chairperson
Julie Austin	Vice-Chairperson
Laura Godfrey	Trustee
Barry Kurland	Trustee
Elaine Young	Trustee

Administration

Peter JorySuperintendent of SchoolsGillian WilsonAssociate Superintendent of SchoolsRon AmosSecretary TreasurerRudy TerpstraDirector of InstructionChris DempsterGeneral Manager of OperationsRosie McLeod-ShannonPrincipal, Indigenous Education ProgramsQualicum District Principals & Vice Principals Association (QDPVPA)

Education Partners

Mount Arrowsmith Teachers' Association (MATA) Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 3570 District Parents Advisory Council (DPAC)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Flynn called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chair Flynn acknowledged that the Board was meeting on the traditional unceded territory of the Coast Salish people and thanked the Snaw-Naw-As and Qualicum First Nations for sharing their shared territory.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

21-103R *Moved*: Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland **THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) adopt the agenda as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 26, 2021
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: October 26, 2021
- c. Receipt of Ministry News Releases
 - Student teaming up with BC Lions to end racism in schools
- d. Receipt of Reports from Trustee Representatives
 - Oceanside Health & Wellness Network Trustee Young
 - Early Years Table Trustee Young
- e. Receipt of Status of Action Items November 2021

21-104R

Moved: Trustee Godfrey Seconded: Trustee Austin **THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the consent agenda items of the Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021, as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. Vaccine Mandate

Chair Flynn referred to the recent missive from the Ministry for boards to determine whether or not they wished to mandate vaccine's in the district. She rose and reported from the In Camera Meeting held earlier in the day that the topic was discussed and the following recommendation was requested to be brought forward to the Regular Board Meeting.

21-105R

Moved: Trustee Flynn *Seconded*: Trustee Austin At this time, in recognition of high community vaccination rates and the continuation of in-school safety protocols, including masking and hand sanitizing, the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) will not mandate vaccines for its employees.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Feasibility of WIFI Free Schools

Superintendent Jory reviewed the information contained in his memo provided in the agenda package regarding the feasibility of a WIFI free school (or schools), the health impacts of WIFI and the use of technology as a means for inclusion and its alignment with the BCEd Plan and curriculum.

His recommendation to the Board was to reject the concept of a WIFI free school and that it not be included in any further conversations at the Board table or during the upcoming facilities review.

Trustee Austin suggested that the topic could be included as a question during the upcoming facilities review to gauge whether or not it might be of interest to the broader education community.

21-106R

Moved: Chair Flynn Seconded: Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) reject the concept of a WIFI free school and that it not be included in any further conversations at the Board table or upcoming Facilities Review.

CARRIED

Trustee Austin voted against the motion

7. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

Matt Woods, President, commented on the following:

- Support for the Board's decision not to mandate vaccines for employees as it was always the position of the BC Teachers' Federation that the government take responsibility for making that decision.
- Bargaining dates have been agreed to between the employer and the union beginning in December.
- 16 MATA members have been ratified to various district committees and MATA recognizes the extra time, dedication and commitment required by each of its members to support the district committees.
- The technology needs of teachers (is it reliable, does it work, how does one get it in the classroom and can it be accessed easily and readily?) He stated that teachers are moving away from teaching technology in isolation and are wanting it to be more integrated, intertwined and seamless when being used. Teachers would support a higher device/student ratio than what is currently in place.

8. CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (CUPE) LOCAL 3570

Sherrie Brown, President, commented on the following:

- Support for the Board's decision not to mandate vaccines for its employees.
- Recognition and support to those who were caught up in the recent floods.

9. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

Karri Kitazaki, DPAC Vice President, commented on the following:

- The New DPAC Executive is focusing on "back to the basics" with their PACs and parent/guardian volunteers and their purpose is to provide a voice for parents/guardians in the district (i.e. through the upcoming Facilities Review) and to look for opportunities to engage, empower and educate the community.
- Initial conversations indicated that exploratories and electives are important building blocks for the district's learners.
- While parents/guardians are excited about activities resuming in the district and the latest travel restrictions are disappointing, they appreciate the need to support local rationing.

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS) None

11. ACTION ITEMS

None

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

b. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jory reported on the following:

- Recognition of hardships friends and colleagues have been experiencing from the recent flooding
- Travel and fuel restrictions which are in place until midnight November 30th. The District is doing its part by limiting extracurricular travel and rescheduling meetings and learning sessions into the new year. Student bus schedules will not be affected.
- Reminder that the Ministry had made a decision not to send exposure notification letters. If there is a need for a student to remain home, the family will receive direct contact from Island Health. Information on COVID-19 in schools can be found on the island health website.
- Caution to the community to exercise restraint in social settings to reduce the transmission of the virus into the classroom.
- He mentioned the announcement that vaccines will be made available for students aged 5-11 years. At this time, there has been no instruction from Island Health asking the district to host vaccination sites. He noted that Island Health had sent home brochures and parent permission forms when vaccinations were available for students 12 and up. If the district is asked to host, that information would be shared with the public.
- Staff and students did a wonderful job acknowledging Remembrance Day with limited virtual events.
- Winter concerts will be going ahead with some being presented virtually while other will be in-person with limited seating and full safety protocols in place.
- A meeting with senior staff and secondary principals was held on the morning of November 23 to review grad cohort data.
- 2021 graduation results are now public and the district results are up slightly in some areas and slightly lower in others. The goal is to have a 90% graduation rate within the next 5 years.

c. Educational Programs Update

Associate Superintendent Wilson, commented on the following district initiatives and events:

- There have been lots of opportunities to continue learning this year and part of the work is moving from 'knowing' to 'doing bridging the knowing/doing gap. One is through use of the *Universal Design for Learning* with examples of how that is implemented in schools and how to support teachers doing that work.
- In February 2022 Kindergarten teachers will be completing the Early Years Development Instrument (EDI) on each of their students. This is a questionnaire that includes questions on children's social and emotional development, health and well-being, language and cognitive development, and communication skills.
- The District will be resuming its Early Learning Framework (ELF) work for ages 0-8 years and a small grant has been received to ensure teachers are supported in looking at that framework.
- The first Curriculum Implementation Advisory Committee meeting was held on November 22nd. A few more MATA members are still to be ratified and the committee is scheduled to meet once per month to look at items that have budget costs which will support curriculum in the district.

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- Acknowledgement of the work done by teachers during the month of conferencing at schools to communicate with parents either virtually or in person.
- On a visit to a Kindergarten classroom earlier in the day, the teacher shared the work the students have been doing around land acknowledgement and what they are thankful for. They are also learning the Hul'qumi'num language.
- An overwhelming number of applications were received for the Learning Grant. She and the Director of Instruction are reviewing them to see how they can support as many initiatives as possible this year.

Director of Instruction Terpstra, commented on the following district initiatives and events:

- Change to the drug, alcohol, and vaping cessation program where students will meet with the district Child & Youth Care Worker (CYCW) who guides them through a reflection package prior to their hearing with the District Drug & Alcohol Review Committee (DDARC) as well as providing followup support to the student as needed. The CYCW is also supporting work at the elementary schools and with most grade 8 to 9 cohorts.
- The Foundation Skills Assessments have been completed and were scored over the weekend.
- The Superintendent has organized a working session with Val Edgell to review the numeracy assessment with secondary school teachers and to review the FSA results with elementary teachers to discover what the data reveals and put those supports in place that are needed to support student learning.
- The District has reinstated its dinner learning series with the first being held on November 15th led by Lisa Bosio with a focus on Universal Design for Learning. Attendees included student support teachers, counsellors, nonenrolling teachers and administrators.
- The first French Advisory Committee meeting of the school year was held on November 22nd with a focus on creating a path towards a vision of the French Immersion Program by starting with the end in mind i.e. what does an immersion graduate student look like and what is the path from K-12 to guide them to that goal.
- Several teachers were involved in the Performance Standard Project. They designed lessons and will deliver them to students from K-12 and then choose some samples to send to the Ministry that show the reflection of learning at the proficiency standard, either developing or descending.
- The Education Technology Committee will be meeting early in the new year to review the Ed Tech Plan.

13. EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Trustee Godfrey referred to the report as provided in the agenda package and provided highlights on the presentation by False Bay School – Digging with Dana and meeting the district's social worker, Marcela Ortiz, who works to support families, children and teachers in the community as well as being a conduit and liaison between other local ministries. She also noted that last year there were 15 approved Learning Grants and this year there are 22. There is consideration being given to having the projects showcased differently than at the Education Committee meeting i.e. in a Science Fair format.

14. POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Trustee Young, Chair of the Policy Committee, outlined the process for the review, editing and drafting of policies and invited any interested parties to participate in the meetings which are usually held the 3rd Monday of each month during the school year (with the exception of December and March).

a. Board Policy 703: Fees and Subsidies

(previously numbered 7010: Student Fees and Band Instruments)

21-105R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Austin **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 703: Fees and Subsidies at its Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Board Policy 704: Student Catchment Areas/Cross Boundary Transfer/ District Bus Transportation

21-106R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Austin **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 704: Student Catchment Areas/Cross Boundary Transfer/District Bus Transportation at its Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Board Policy 700: Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities

21-107R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Kurland **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 700: Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities at its Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Board Policy 701: Student Discipline

21-108R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Godfrey **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 701: Student Discipline at its Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Policy 601: Employee Conflict of Interest e.

21-109R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Kurland THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve third and final reading to adopt Board Policy 601: Employee Conflict of Interest and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. Board Policy 604: Workplace Bullying and Harassment

21-110R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Austin **THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve third and final reading to adopt Board Policy 604: Workplace Bullying and Harassment and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Policy 710: Resolution of Student and Parent Complaints g.

21-111R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Godfrev THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve third and final reading to adopt Board Policy 710: Resolution of Student and Parent Complaints and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2021. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT 15.

Chair Flynn referred to the report in the agenda package and noted that one recommendation came forward.

a. Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report

21-112R

Moved: Trustee Flynn Seconded: Trustee Godfrey THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) receive the Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report for the year ended June 30, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS** None

17. TRUSTEE ITEMS

a. French Language Advisory Committee

Trustee Young reported on a meeting which was held on Monday, November 22nd. Following are some of the goals the committee is focusing on:

- French Immersion links to resources for parents on each of the French Immersion school websites
- The development of PATH (a visual goal setting exercise)
- Development of teacher sharing website
- Continuing to improve results for successful FI students transitioning from grades 7 to 8.

One highlight is the work being done by Ines Mentec, Language Assistant who is providing oral language support as well as teaching about culture.

A full report will be provided at the December Board Meeting.

b. BCPSEA Symposium Highlights

Trustee Kurland reported on the topics presented by a number of speakers, including the Minister of Education, at the recent virtual symposium held by the BC Public School Employers Association on November 4 and 5, 2021 which included presentation on the following topics:

- Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging
- Mental Health
- Freedom of Expression in K-12
- Bargaining
- COVID-19 and the K-12 Education Sector
- Professional Boundaries in K-12
- Case Law Review

c. Oceanside Community Track Renewal Project (at Ballenas Secondary)

Trustee Young referred to her report as provided in the agenda package. She highlighted that each of the three local municipalities (City of Parksville, Regional District of Nanaimo and Town of Qualicum Beach) had all contributed funding to the project.

She also announced that a silent auction fundraiser would be held on-line and in person on December 9th at Pacific Shores Resort. Donations of services or items would be greatly appreciated and the list of auction items will be available on the Oceanside Community Track Facebook page.

Trustee Young then noted that the committee had been formed with specific people identified and in order to change the membership, board approval was required.

21-113R

Moved: Trustee Young Seconded: Trustee Austin **THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) include Sarah Russick as a member of the Oceanside Community Track Renewal Steering Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Consideration will be given at the next steering committee meeting to allow future additions to the steering committee membership be at the discretion of the steering committee.

18. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

19. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA

a. Letter to Minister of Education re Funding of Electric Buses

20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

Trustees and Senior Staff responded to comments/questions on the following topic:

- A number of parents and a past graduate of the program, expressed their dissatisfaction with the decision as well as the timing of the Superintendent's cancellation of the district's Vancouver Island Ski Patrol Program (VISPP).
- Superintendent Jory provided his perspective and rationale as to why he made the decision to cancel the VISPP. These included:
 - Low enrolment
 - Number of students attending from other districts
 - Students taking the program more than once
 - Students attending who are already grad eligible
 - Batch loading of courses
 - Amount of teachers' time and funding being allocated to the program compared to the low number of students in the program.
 - Not meeting ministry criteria for that type of program to generate funding and credits.
- Parents disagreed with a number of the reasons and asked that the Board consider allowing the program to continue this year with a view to reorganizing it for the next school year.
- Staff will be reaching out to the students who were enrolled in the program to see if they can be connected to other types of experiences for credits.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Kurland moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER