



**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022  
6:00 PM  
VIA ZOOM

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**ATTENDEES**

**Trustees**

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

**Administration**

Peter Jory	Superintendent of Schools
Gillian Wilson	Associate Superintendent of Schools
Ron Amos	Secretary Treasurer
Rudy Terpstra	Director of Instruction
Chris Dempster	General Manager of Operations
Ben Braun	Vice Principal, Ballenas Secondary School Qualicum 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 zoom meeting to order at 6:00 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 allowing the board to live, work and play on their lands.

**3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**22-01R**

*Moved:* Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

**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 – December 14, 2021
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: December 14, 2021
- c. Receipt of Ministry News Releases
  - Joint Statement on Black Excellence Day
- d. Receipt of Reports from Trustee Representatives
  - Oceanside Community Track Committee – Trustee Young
  - Oceanside Health & Wellness Network – Trustee Young
  - Early Years Table – Trustee Young
  - Climate Action Task Force – Trustee Austin
- e. Receipt of Status of Action Items – January 2022

#### 22-02R

*Moved:* Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the consent agenda items of the Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022, as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Chair Flynn then acknowledged the upcoming retirement of Judi Malcolm, Manager of the Oceanside Building Learning Together Centre. Ms. Malcom was recognized as having been a quiet force in the community for early learning and the Chair expressed appreciation on behalf of the Board for her enduring work in connecting the community and doing the work of early learning of which the district is very proud. Her position will be assumed by Scott Beam in February.

#### 5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

##### a. Ballenas Secondary School Climate Action Initiatives

Vice-Chair, Julie Austin, introduced, Monica Bradbury, from Ballenas Secondary School. Ms. Bradbury works with a group of staff and students who are providing leadership in the school community in the area of climate action.

Monica Bradbury then shared a number of initiatives undertaken by students to reduce waste, recover food, create a school garden and increase awareness on climate action, sustainability and environmental stewardship. Students are also planning to host a symposium for Ballenas as a call to action to reduce waste and packaging - not just recycle waste but to really reduce waste. Students also collaborate with community and municipal partners and have received grants to support some of their initiatives.

#### 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

#### 7. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

Matt Woods, President, commented on the following:

- COVID continues to be a concern for MATA members. While start-up after winter break could have been chaotic, members greatly appreciated having the time to plan for in-class learning, online learning and possible functional school closures. Generally, members felt supported by their school administrators and by messaging from senior administration. He noted that the advocacy of the BC

Teachers' Federation at the provincial steering table was a big reason why time was set aside for January start-up.

- The added uncertainty that COVID brings to our daily lives, when added to the pressure teachers already feel with normal workload and with the understanding that societies issues use schools as a focal point to their cause, all contribute to creating a stressful work environment for members. Fortunately, members are finding support from the union, from the BCTF Wellness Program and from their administration.
- The Public Health Officer has mandated that students from K to grade 12 are to be wearing a mask to protect themselves and others. This is an important tool in preventing the fast spread of COVID and its variants especially since a large number of students are not vaccinated. Although some students are able to be exempted from wearing a mask, it has been reported to MATA that some classes have mask exemptions of up to 50% of the class. From the union perspective, this is not in the spirit of the exemption and MATA asks that the board and district continue to strongly advocate to parents the importance of wearing masks and to limit the number of exemptions through a stronger requirement of due process.
- Another topic of concern is the type of masks one should be wearing and some members feel most comfortable and safe wearing an N95 mask. MATA will be receiving 1000 N95 masks that were donated to the Union to distribute to teachers who require that level of safety. In addition, rapid tests will be arriving soon to quickly be distributed to teachers.
- He applauded those people in the education system, especially teachers who have demonstrated a high degree of resiliency over the last 2 years while navigating through COVID protocols and continuing to create a sense of "normalcy" to the education of our youth.

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

Sherrie Brown, President, commented on the following:

- CUPE has been a big part of front line workers over the last 2 years and they are thankful for all the support for the health, wellness and safety for our staff and students.
- She expressed appreciation to Monica Bradley for the presentation and noted that we have many fabulous students in SD69.
- Thank you to everyone after 2 year of a difficult time through this pandemic: to the board for extra time before schools opened to put safety protocols in place due to the new COVID variant.
- Special thanks to the District's Assistant Manager of Operations & Safety who has implemented a new Annual School Inspection Checklist which is thorough and effective.

#### **9. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)**

Angel Delange, DPAC President, commented on the following:

- Appreciation to the district for hosting the January 13, 2022 Town Hall on the Long Range Facilities Planning. It was well received and the feedback we've heard has all been quite positive and parents are looking forward to the next one.
- Initial conversations with parents indicate that discoveries, exploratories and electives are important building blocks for learners and contribute to a positive school experience as well as positive mental health and wellness. DPAC will continue to express support of those spaces and resources as a vital part in supporting the district's community of learners.

- DPAC will be co-hosting the free parent session titled *Childhood Stress and Anxiety : Building Resilience*, on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 The Eric Palmer Foundation has graciously offered to cover the cost of the session for which DPAC is grateful. DPAC looks forward to working with the district to co-host more of these types of events in the future.
- There is still concern about the number of families/children not following the BC Public Health Officer's masking orders and while DPAC appreciates that there may be many exemptions, it is believed that there are not that many who fall under that exemption, nor should they be given that exemption.
- In order to keep staff and students as safe as possible, Ms. DeLange encouraged the school district to set the precedent that would require visitors and volunteers in schools be vaccinated as is required in any other public venue in the province that requires proof of vaccination.

## 10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS)

Superintendent Jory responded to a question regarding the following topic:

### a. External communications plan update

While work is being done to revise and update the district website to make it more current and modern, the plan is to work through the long range facilities planning process and then review/revise the district's strategic plan. Once that work is done the goals that come from that can be considered in the development of a new communications plan as well as other district plans such as in the areas of maintenance and technology.

## 11. ACTION ITEMS

### a. Appointment of Chief Election Officer

#### 22-03R

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn      *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) appoint Dennis J.A. Brown as Chief Election Officer for the District, and Ron Amos, Secretary-Treasurer, as a Deputy Election Officer, for the October 2022 Trustee elections.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 12. INFORMATION ITEMS

### b. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jory reported on the following:

- The wave of COVID cases through December holidays which prompted the Ministry to delay reopening of schools for a week to allow for planning. Staff, principals, and site managers were able to meet and work from a list of revised provincial recommendations to adjust their safety plans and reinstate a number of measures that they felt would best mitigate against the increased transmission rate of the Omicron variant. They then set their minds to planning for higher rates of student absenteeism and for the possibility of functional closures.
- Senior staff has been doing their own planning, with much of that energy considering how they might keep schools open by redeploying staff, should there be challenges at a particular site or sites. Superintendent Jory then referred attendees to his recent Parksville/Qualicum Beach News Podcast and ensuing transcript where he covered this topic in more detail.

- Despite pockets of higher absenteeism at specific sites, the district's overall student attendance is not out of step with previous Januarys, with 80 to 90 percent of elementary students fully present at school, and 70 to 80 percent of secondary students fully present, meaning in attendance for the entire day.
- Staff attendance has also been steady to date. A few schools have had significant numbers away due to illness or self-isolation; however, replacements are still available and, to date, none have reached a threshold that has caused the district to reconsider deployment of district staff or to ponder a functional closure.
- In regard to comments about mask wearing, though they are considered mandatory, as educators we do not believe in exclusion, and the Ministry was very clear on its position regarding exclusion. Therefore, we are in a position where we need to use our relationships, reason, data and these types of strategies to convince everyone to be a part of the community. However, at the end of the day, some parents are still not allowing their children to wear masks, and there is not much more the district can do about that
- The District hosted its first Virtual Town Hall regarding the district's long range facilities planning which generated a significant turnout with lots of good questions. *Frequently Asked Questions* will be posted to the district website as well as the recording of the Virtual Town Hall. The next Town Hall is scheduled for Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> and planning conversations will be taking place with the Board to determine the next areas of focus and consideration.
- The district has made a commitment to do what it can this year in regard to professional learning, so it can give its professional staff all the tools they need to support our students in their journey through our renewed curriculum and towards meaningful graduation.
- Thank you again to all staff for their hard work this January during the return to learning, and for their resolve to provide a safe, positive, thoughtful and educationally rich experience in our schools.

**c. Educational Programs Update**

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

- 25 elementary educators attended a virtual session with Val Edgell from SD to review the data from the Foundation Skills Assessment, teachers looking at their students and their schools and in the afternoon they brought in the high school educators who went through their Numeracy and Literacy results.
- That work translated into a 5-part numeracy series for elementary teachers have been scheduled over the next few months with well over 30 teachers and administrators involved.
- District programs and outdoor programs will be presenting to the Education Committee in February and then back to the board meeting.

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

- Acknowledgement of Virginia Worcester of Borealis Hair Bar and Champagne Boutique, who co-founded the District Backpack Program which provides families from the Qualicum School District with backpacks

of food at the end of each week throughout the school year. The program has received a \$28,200 donation from 100-plus Women Who Care Oceanside group and Ms. Wilson expressed the district's gratitude to the group in supporting this valuable program. Sheila Morrison, Principal of Errington Elementary, supports Ms. Worcester in the coordination of the program at the school level.

- French Immersion Kindergarten Sibling Only Registration was held the week of January 17 to 21.
- Registration for Kindergarten and elementary programs of choice opened on January 24<sup>th</sup> and runs to February 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Elementary schools are already thinking of articulation about what they know about the Grade 7's and passing that information onto secondary schools to assist them as they begin their planning for the next school year.
- Staff are working on enrolment projections for 2022-2023 in alignment with the Facilities Review, which helps drive the district's staffing.
- A follow-up conversation with secondary principals and vice principals is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup> to review grad rates and to ensure we are not missing any grade 12's. There are some students who are struggling and staff are reaching out to them to determine how best to support them in getting back on track.
- The District is hiring Teachers Teaching on Call (TTOC's) to have a healthy pool from which to dispatch while providing a meaningful number of hours to the TTOC's so the district can cover professional development and sick days.
- Schools are currently completing a Curriculum Implementation Advisory Committee survey which will help support, through Chair Flynn, any recommendations that come from that information.
- Appreciation to Judi Malcolm, Manager of the Oceanside Building Learning Together Centre, for all her work over the past 7 years. Ms. Malcolm is retiring at the end of January and will be greatly missed.
- Scott Beam was the successful candidate as the incoming manager for the Oceanside Building Learning Together Centre.
- Elementary Progress Reports will be sent to families which provides a snapshot of a student's learning at one point in time; however, it was acknowledged that it is a stressful time for teachers.
- Carolyn Roberts, Indigenous Educator and Presenter, will be leading the session on the morning of the district wide planning day on February 7<sup>th</sup> and doing work around equity scan. In the afternoon school administrators will be completing an equity scan for their sites the information from which will then be provided to the Equity Scan Working group for its next meeting to discuss who we are and what we are doing as a district and to identify areas of growth.
- Trustee Young added an acknowledgment for the service of the Rotary Club which also fundraises for the District Backpack Program through their weekly bottle drive. Rotary members also assist in the packing of the backpacks for the program.
- Associate Superintendent Wilson further advised that she and Ms. Morrison will be speaking to the Rotary Club to share some stories from volunteers and families in the program and how the donations are allocated. She also acknowledged the support of the local grocery stores in the community who provide the food at a discount

**13. EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

Chair Flynn referred to the report as provided in the agenda package and highlighted the International Student Program presentation. It was great to hear testimonials from the students who come to the district and how much they enjoy their time here. It was also encouraging to hear about the community support of the program with homestays being steady, although more are always needed.

**14. POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT****a. Board Policy 705: Corporate/Community Sponsorships, Partnerships and Advertising in Schools**

*(previously numbered 7059)*

**22-04R**

*Moved:* Trustee Young      *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 705: *Corporate/Community Sponsorships, Partnerships and Advertising in Schools* at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**b. Board Policy 706: Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect**

*(previously numbered 7140)*

**22-05R**

*Moved:* Trustee Young      *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 706: *Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect* at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**c. Board Policy 603: Employee Attendance Support****22-06R**

*Moved:* Trustee Young      *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 603: *Employee Attendance Support* at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

*(previously 7015 – Student Catchment Areas/Cross Boundary Transfers and 7054-Transportation of Students by District School Bus Service)*

**22-07R**

*Moved:* Trustee Young      *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 704: *Student Catchment Areas/Cross Boundary Transfer/District Bus Transportation* at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. **Board Policy 700: Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities**  
(previously numbered 700)

**22-08R**

*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 700: *Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Communities* and its attendant administrative procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. **Board Policy 701: Student Discipline**

(previously policies 7001: *Student Discipline* and 7002: *Substance Use-Student*)

**22-09R**

*Moved:* Trustee Young      *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve third and final reading to adopt Board Policy 701: *Student Discipline* and its attendant administrative procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

g. **Rescinding of Board Policy 7002: Substance Use- Student**

**22-10R**

*Moved:* Trustee Young      *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) rescind the following Board Policy at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022:

- 7002: Substance Use – Student (merged into Policy 701)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. **FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

Chair Flynn referred to the report provided in the agenda package.

a. **Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2021-2022**

Secretary Treasurer Amos reviewed the amended annual budget which reflects confirmed enrolment and additional funding as well as any reductions as with the enrolment grant. The budget also reflects the use of approximately \$800,000 of operating surplus to balance the operating budget.

**22-11R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn      *Seconded:* Trustee Kurland

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve all three readings of the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the 2021-2022 fiscal year at its Regular Board Meeting of January 25, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**22-12R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn      *Seconded:* Trustee Austin



**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) give first reading to adopt the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$62,064,316.00 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**22-13R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Young

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) give second reading to adopt the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$62,064,316.00 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**22-14R**

*Moved:* Trustee Flynn                      *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

**THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) give third and final reading to adopt the School District No. 69 (Qualicum) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$62,064,316.00 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**16. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS**

None

**17. TRUSTEE ITEMS**

**a. Social Justice Committee Report**

Trustee Young reported that the Social Justice Committee met on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. The main topic of discussion was about privilege which became a deep discussion about how the district has to do this work as well as how it is personal and political; both individual and systemic. A full report will be provided at the next Education Committee of the Whole meeting.

Chair Flynn added that the Wheel of Power and Privilege as presented by Rudy Terpstra, Director of Instruction, was interesting as well as the ensuing discussion and suggested reading, such as *Coaching for Equity – Conversations that Change Practice*, which school administrators are currently reading. These are powerful places for the district to take some time to review and gain some understanding; however it will be long work starting from the personal, to the systemic, to the community and beyond.

The next Social Justice Committee is scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:15 a.m. Teachers, students and parents are welcome to participate. If people are interested, they can contact Gillian Wilson, Associate Superintendent, to be added to the committee distribution list.

**18. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**19. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA**

None

**20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

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

- None

**21. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Godfrey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

*Original signed copy on file*

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CHAIRPERSON

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SECRETARY TREASURER