



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 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

Keven Elder	Superintendent of Schools
Gillian Wilson	Associate Superintendent of Schools
Ron Amos	Secretary Treasurer
Vivian Collyer	Director of Instruction
Chris Dempster	General Manager of Operations
Mark McInnes	Vice Principal, Qualicum Beach Elementary School Qualicum District Principals/Vice Principals' Association

Education Partners

Mount Arrowsmith Teachers' Association (MATA)
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 via zoom on the unceded territory of the Coast Salish people and the Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose) and Qualicum First Nations and thanked them for allowing the district to live, work and play on their shared territory.

She reminded everyone that February 24th was Pink Shirt Day

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

21-16R

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: January 26, 2021
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: January 26, 2021
- c. Receipts of Ministry News Releases
 - Enhanced safety measures for K-12 schools
 - New program to help students get moving
- d. Receipt of Reports from Trustee Representatives
 - Oceanside Building Learning Together Coalition – Trustee Young
 - Oceanside Track Steering Committee – Trustee Young
- e. Receipt of Status of Action Items – February 2021

21-17R

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 February 23, 2021, as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

7. MOUNT ARROWSMITH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (MATA)

Deb Comer, President, commented on the following:

- This time of year has people in the district working in 2 different timeframes; completing the current year in a strong way while being involved in the budget process, grade 7 transitions meetings, timetabling and course selection for next school year.
- MATA is expecting fulsome collaboration with the district as to what the September startup will look like and some options that could be considered along with parent and students' input.
- Applauds the concept of zero waste; however, there seemed to be a disconnect in communicating the initiatives with the teachers in the 4 schools which are part of the pilot recycling program.
- Timing of receipt of the draft of the updated Health & Safety Guidelines with only a day to review and provide feedback prior to a meeting of the District Health & Safety Committee to discuss. A longer timeframe would be appreciated to ensure the validity and work of that committee.
- Teachers are feeling exhausted and there appears to be more people taking leaves this year than in previous years. There seems to be a manifestation of COVID fatigue in the district and she hopes that the district leadership team is ensuring that they continue to monitor how members are feeling.

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

No report

9. DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

Andrea Button, President, advised that, due to the upcoming spring break period, the March DPAC meeting will be rescheduled from Wednesday, March 17th to Wednesday, March 3rd. Parents and students are looking forward to spring break.

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

None

11. ACTION ITEMS**a. SD69 External Communications Plan**

Director of Instruction Collyer referred to the draft external communications plan provided in the agenda package. She then gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the foundation used for the creation of an external communications plan and proposed strategies, including optimizing the district's virtual presence to showcase the district's values and initiatives, and the possibility of rebranding its identity representation. Once approved, next steps would be to include the cost of implementing a number of the strategies in the 2021-2022 annual budget discussions. Trustees commented that the plan was timely and requested that students be involved in some way, i.e. student liaisons to obtain student input, design support.

21-18R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) receive and adopt the Communications Plan as presented by Director of Instruction Collyer at its Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. INFORMATION ITEMS**a. Superintendent's Report**

- The new COVID guidelines and the zero waste project have both been the subject of extensive consultation. As always, matters such as those will be discussed at the MATA liaison conversations and he will ensure those two topics are both on the agenda at the next liaison meeting.
- Enhanced safety measures from the revised public health guidelines have been acted on for mid-day cleaning of desks and chairs. It was determined that products are available for students to wipe down their desks and chairs before heading out to lunch as there was no way for custodial staff to reach 100 learning spaces in 30 minutes and would not have been appropriate to give teachers that responsibility either. This will also teach responsible habits to students for life to 'leave it as you found it'.
- After confirming with the Health Authority and the Ministry of Education that there is no requirements for masking in elementary schools with the enhanced masking requirements, the requirement is in place where it has to be and the district will maintain its practice for Grades 5-7 to ensure masks are used in all public places or where students will be outside their learning group. He is proud of the district's enhanced safety measures which also have all students wear masks on buses, which exceeds the guidelines.

- SD69 is possibly the only district which has continued to allow for home support rather than require students to transition back to schools.
- Planning for September continues, although it is unusual in that districts still do not know what September will look like in the way of COVID protocols and how to organize classes. Senior staff are committed to ongoing consultation at the school level through surveys and focus groups as to what initiatives and protocols could be maintained and what could be changed for the upcoming year, irrespective of COVID.
- A communique will be sent to all employees on February 24th as to what the district's understandings will be regarding spring break and travel in regard to the requirements of the Public Health Authority regarding essential and non-essential travel.
- Staff are preparing the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning which requires schools to provide the FSA results and Grade 12 to be filed to the Ministry between June and September. This report will track progress over time; however, it will not replace the most important planning about school-based Enhancing Student Learning Plans and the District Enhancing Student Learning Plans which provide the centre for other important planning documents. (6:40)
- Appreciation to everyone for their understanding, diligence, patience, tenacity, care and dedication to students to make schools places that are safe and where learning is occurring during this most unusual of school years.

b. Education Update

Gillian Wilson, Associate Superintendent, stated that normally school calendars are brought forward for the Board's approval at this time of year; however, the Board approved a multi-year calendar in the spring of 2020, with the exception of False Bay School. In that case, a 1-year calendar was approved and discussions are currently underway to finalize a 2-year calendar for False Bay School which she anticipates presenting to the Board at the March regular board meeting.

Associate Superintendent Wilson then echoed the comments of the Superintendent and MATA President in terms of COVID fatigue. While people are tired of not seeing the light at the end of that tunnel, there is a lot of light emanating from a number of great initiatives and events going on at schools. Staff receive those sparks of light and buckets are filled by the work students do day in and day out with support from teachers and support staff.

Vivian Collyer, Director of Instruction, reported that the first of the Secondary Green Teams sessions, which included staff and students who have a special interest in environmental stewardship, was held on February 22nd. She shared how the Green Teams were working and communicating with the district's Climate Action Task Force (CATForce) to help inform plans around the learning piece and the action plan in progress. There are different perspectives on environmental stewardship and the teams are focussed on 2030 sustainable development goals, ecological literacy, Indigenous knowledge, inquiry and core competencies.

Students have been tasked, through an Appreciative Inquiry approach, to connect with staff and students at their schools for input on current strengths they are proud of in the area of environmental stewardship, what could be done to build on them and to explore some future possibilities. A Google Doc has also been created for students to pose questions about environmental stewardship, what they want to learn more about, voices to be included, and make suggestions. It is anticipated that the students will make a presentation to a future CATForce meeting.

13. EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

a. Social Justice Working Group

Trustee Godfrey referred to the committee report in the agenda package and introduced the recommendation regarding the social justice working group.

Trustee Young stated that the social justice initiative has been progressing slowly over the past 10+ months. The plan is to begin by reaching out to staff and partner groups in the school district to solidify the definition of social justice and then identify what is already occurring in the district, consider what could be expanded or fine-tuned, and what is still needed.

Trustee Austin added that it would be important to invite community members' voices to the working group table as there are many people with expertise in this area who are working locally on issues and it would be beneficial to the group to access that knowledge.

21-19R

Moved: Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) establish a working group to discuss, refine and accept a definition of Social Justice and invite interested stakeholders to join, with the goal of completing an environmental scan and action plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Trustee Young invited students as well as parents and staff to participate in all of the Committee of the Whole meetings to gain a good sense of what is happening in the district.

a. Board Policy 501: Acceptable Use of Technology

21-20R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 501: *Acceptable Use of Technology (AUP)* at its Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2021

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Board Policy 504: Copyright *(Previously Administrative Procedures Only)*

21-21R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 504: *Copyright* at its Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Board Policy 107: Use of Educational Property for Child Care (NEW)

21-22R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 107: *Use of Educational Property for Child Care* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Board Policy 505: Fundraising in Schools (Previously Administrative Procedures Only)

21-23R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 505: *Fundraising in Schools* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Board Policy 506: Conduct of Coaches

(Previously Administrative Procedure Only and numbered 5015)

21-24R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 506: *Conduct of Coaches* at its Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. Board Policy 602: Exempt Staff Supplementary Employment Benefits

21-25R

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 602: *Exempt Staff Supplementary Employment Benefits* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of February 23, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Trustee Flynn referred to the committee report provided in the agenda package, highlighting the recommendation being brought forward to support the BC School Trustees Association's submission to the Ministry of Education to increase school life cycle funding as some, such as the Annual Facility Grant, have not increased since 2002.

a. Letter of Support - Increased School Life Cycle Funding

21-26R

Moved: Trustee Flynn *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) write a letter of support for the BC School Trustees Association's recommendations to the Government of British Columbia for increased school life cycle funding.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

No Reports

17. TRUSTEE ITEMS**a. Climate Action Task Force Report and Notice of Motion**

Trustee Austin spoke to the task force report provided in the agenda package, noting that students are also involved in the meetings and are becoming vibrant members of the task force. She then drew attention to budget considerations coming out of the task force which would be for the Board to consider identifying funds for new school initiatives in future budgets.

Trustee Austin then presented a Notice of Motion to hire a consultant, to be paid for within this year's budget, to draft a report on the district's carbon emissions to date and scenarios of what it would look like for the District to meet certain targets. The motion will be brought forward to the March regular board meeting.

Trustee Kurland added that the original intent of the CATForce was to seek carbon neutrality by 2026 and, while that may not be possible, it would be valuable to review operations and what the district is currently doing to reduce carbon emissions, and then to consider other options and what those might cost. The task force would be asking for a certain amount of money to complete a study of what could be done and provide a pathway on which to move forward to carbon neutrality.

Notice of Motion: THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) ask staff to commission a report by an independent consultant to review our carbon emission practices and operations and create options for the board to consider as we move toward carbon reduction. The costing for this report would be obtained from the 2020/21 budget.

18. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

19. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA**a. Letter to Minister of Education re: Cancellation of Foundation Skills Assessments****20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

None

21. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Godfrey moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Original signed copy on file

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER