



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 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
Reuben Friesen	A/Vice Principal, Nanoose Bay Elementary School Qualicum District Principals/Vice Principals' Association

Education Partners

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

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 traditional territory of the Coast Salish people and thanked the Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose) and Qualicum First Nations for allowing the district to live, work and play on their shared territory.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

21-01R

Moved: Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Young

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 15, 2020
- b. Ratification of In Camera Board Meeting Minutes: December 15, 2020
- c. Receipt of Ministry News Releases
 - Increased funding supports students, keeps schools safe
 - Here2Talk offers students free 24-7 mental health help
 - Joint statement on Black Shirt Day
- d. Receipt of Reports from Trustee Representatives
 - Oceanside Track Renewal Steering Committee – Trustee Young
 - Oceanside Building Learning Together Coalition – Trustee Young
- e. Receipt of Status of Action Items – January 2021

21-02R

Moved: Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) approve the consent agenda items of the Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 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:

- The duration of time since the first case of the coronavirus to the closing and then reopening of the province, to the creation and rollout of the vaccine, all within a year.
- Statement by Teri Mooring, BCTF President regarding the recent vaccination rollout plan and the disappointment that there is no prioritization for the frontline workers who have kept schools, public services and the economy open.
- SD69 has the ability to go above and beyond the guidelines established by the BC CDC and the Ministry of Education and suggested that masks could be mandates for adults as well as students in grades 5-12 who do not have a medical reason for not wearing one. Also, having classes with less density, especially at the high school level, would support the health and safety of staff and students.
- The district is currently working on upgrading the ventilation systems with the recommended MERV 13 filters.
- Further to a question posed at a district DPAC meeting, she reported that, while teachers are happy to be working with students, they are also feeling very tired.
- Elementary teachers are in the process of finalizing the January communication of student learning home to parents, and the Secondary teachers are completing Quarter 2 with students while also preparing for Quarter 3 which begins on February 2nd.
- Thank you to parents for their queries for how to reach out to teachers to offer support.
- The Provincial Foundation Skills Assessments (FSAs) will begin February 15th, unless there is a last-minute cancellation. The BCTF and MATA strongly oppose

the FSAs and use of the results by the Fraser Institute to rank schools in the province. MATA will be sending home a BCTF information letter and an 'excuse my child from the FSA' form at the beginning of February.

- Thank you for the continued efforts of the Board of Education to advocate the cancellation of the FSA's for this year.
- February 12th is a Provincial professional development day and the MATA in-district professional development committee has been working to ensure a number of sessions suitable for its members.

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

Sherrie Brown, President, commented on the following:

- Appreciation for the support she has received during her first year of her term as president. She noted it takes a full cycle to gain the confidence in the role and to address the Board in a public forum.
- Thanks to the parents for entrusting members with their most valuable treasures. Members work each day to keep everyone safe as well as supporting students' social and emotional development and hope they can continue to be part of their children's success.

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

Andrea Button, President, commented on the following:

- A DPAC meeting was held on January 20th.
- Parents would like masks to be mandated for grades 5-12, noting that most parents have asked their children to wear their masks in class at all times.
- Parents also support the cancellation of the FSA's

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

None

11. **ACTION ITEMS**

None

12. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

a. **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Elder commented on the following:

- Echoed comments of MATA and CUPE presidents as the pandemic protocols drive the district's everyday practice in every way. Even as the primary focus is on student learning, staff are also ensuring their needs are met and doing their best to maintain a positive demeanor. During this difficult time he encouraged staff to also look after their own well-being and mental health. He hoped that the prospects for 2021 can help lessen the stress and that people take care of themselves and each other and seek the supports they need in dealing with these stresses.
- It is due to the diligence and discipline in attending to protocols regarding COVID that, to date, the district has only had 2 case exposures in schools.
- Special thanks to those who are serving children who are in home support and those who have moved to distributed learning through CEAP and shifted away from their neighbourhood schools. There are teams of people who are dedicated to serving those families and who are doing a lot of unusual work this year in providing services to children who are home.

- Appreciation to Jesse Witte, Principal at PASS/Woodwinds and his staff, who navigated with senior staff through this weekend of the COVID exposure through PASS/Woodwinds, as well as the many staff and students being looked after through the provisions of Island Health. It was his hope that we can carry on safely without COVID in our schools moving forward.
- Thank you to Secretary Treasurer Amos as he works towards launching the budget planning process.
- Credit to everyone out there who is beginning the discussion about what September 2021 school start up will look like and consider lessons learned this year and consider if some elements may be of benefit to moving with us into the 'new future' to make things even better, assuming things will be back to the way they were pre-pandemic.

b. Education Update

Vivian Collyer, Director of Instruction, reported on the following:

- At the Secondary Learning Network meeting held on January 25, 2021, ministry staff shared that the reporting policy, which the district has been piloting, may go into effect in September 2022, pending the new Minister of Education's agreement. There is also a possibility that the new proficiency scales will be used for grades K-12 and not just grades K-9. Receipt of a draft is anticipated this spring for districts to provide feedback.
- Secondary principals and vice principals are exploring the changes made this year to the learning cohorts and considering which changes they might wish to continue.
- The Home Support Learning page is now 'live' on the district website under the 'Parent' tab to provide resources for families.

Gillian Wilson, Associate Superintendent, reported on the following:

- A BC Early Learning Framework online session will be held on the afternoon of Thursday, January 28th. The guest speaker, Alison Bedsoe, will be working with groups of primary teachers to discuss the BC Early Learning Framework and play-based learning.
- The district will be offering the Primary Learning Community Program at Craig Street Commons in 2021/22 and a second on-line information session for parents will be held on Tuesday, February 2nd at 6:00 p.m.
- Student registration is now on-line along with the applications for the Primary Learning Community and STREAM programs and cross boundary requests.
- French Immersion sibling only on-line registration for 2021/22 was held from January 18 to 22nd and it went smoothly. She acknowledged the work of the Lesley Rowan, Karin Hergt and Brenda Fleming for their work in organizing the on-line registrations/applications.
- Many processes outside of COVID are still in play and staff are not only continuing to work and celebrate learning in the current year but are also planning for next year. School reviews have been scheduled throughout February which lead to determining the staffing supports for each school.
- Thank you to MATA for the collegiate relationship during work on a staffing agreement for the hiring process.
- Acknowledgement of Trustee Godfrey for her work in sharing information from the Education Committee meetings which shared the district's successes as well as challenges.

13. EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Trustee Godfrey referred to the report in the agenda package noting that there will be two placeholders on future agendas for discussion regarding lessons learned and the recommendations from the Alternative Program Review.

Trustee Godfrey then spoke to the recommendation regarding the merits of completing the foundation skills assessments this year given that the district has a home support cohort, as well as a number of students who are participating in on-line learning, to whom it would be challenging to provide assessments.

21-03R

Moved: Trustee Godfrey *Seconded:* Trustee Young

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) write to the Minister of Education questioning the merits of completing the Foundation Skills Assessment in our schools during this time of a pandemic.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

14. POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Trustee Young extended her apologies to Superintendent Elder for misleading information at the December meeting and clarified that student absences over 10% do not need to be reported to the public health authority; rather, they are to be reported to the Superintendent of Schools and the Director of Instruction.

Dr. Elder then advised that, as presented at the policy committee, the administrative procedures to Board Policy 502: Field Experiences (Trips) was changed based on legal advice to include the following note:

NOTE: Whether at approval in principle or final approval, if a travel advisory pertinent to the trip is in place at the time of approval, the trip will be cancelled if a travel advisory remains in place at the scheduled travel time. Similarly, if a travel advisory is not in place at approval in principle or final approval, and a travel advisory pertinent to the trip arises prior to departure or during the trip, the trip will be cancelled. Should a cancellation occur the participants will bear all financial risk related to non-refundable expenses incurred. In all cases where travel advisories are or become pertinent to the trip the overriding considerations will be health and safety of participants.

This will serve as a strong notification to planners of excursions, especially those out of country and overseas, that if it is not safe to do so, the trip will be cancelled; therefore, relevant travel insurance should be obtained and parents/students fully informed of that direction.

Trustee Young then advised that on February 16th all committee of the whole meetings will be held on the same day due to the Family Day holiday. She encouraged members of staff and parents/students to participate.

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

21-04R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 107: *Use of Educational Property for Child Care* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. **Board Policy 500: Communicating Student Learning and Student Placement** (*merging of 5004 and 5010*)

21-05R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 500: *Communicating Student Learning and Student Placement* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

21-06R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 505: *Fundraising in Schools* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. **Board Policy 506: Conduct of Coaches**
(*Previously Administrative Procedure Only and numbered 5015*)

21-07R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve first reading to adopt Board Policy 506: *Conduct of Coaches* at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. **Board Policy 602: Exempt Staff Supplementary Employment Benefits**

21-08R

Moved: Trustee Young *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve second reading to adopt Board Policy 602: *Exempt Staff Supplementary Employment Benefits* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

f. Board Policy 606: Respectful Workplace

21-09R

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 606: *Respectful Workplace* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

g. Board Policy 106: Financial Reporting and Operating Surpluses

(Previously 4005 and 4006)

21-10R

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 106: *Financial Reporting and Operating Surpluses* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

h. Board Policy 108: School Generated Funds

(replaces 4008)

21-11R

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 108: *School Generated Funds* and its attendant Administrative Procedures at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

15. FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT

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

a. Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2020/2021

21-12R

Moved: Trustee Flynn *Seconded:* Trustee Austin

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 2020/2021 fiscal year at its Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Secretary Treasurer Amos then provided a high level overview of the amended budget.

21-13R

Moved: Trustee Flynn *Seconded:* Trustee Young

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 \$59,308,600 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21-14R

Moved: Trustee Flynn *Seconded:* Trustee Godfrey
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 \$59,308,600 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21-15R

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 \$59,308,600 for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

No Reports

17. TRUSTEE ITEMS

None

18. NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

19. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA

- a. **RDN Board Appointment to Ballenas Track Renewal Steering Committee**
- b. **Letter to Minister of Education re: Foundation Skills Assessments**
- c. **Letter to City of Parksville re: Safety Issues at Moilliet and Despard**

20. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

None

21. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Godfrey moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Original Signed Copy on File

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY TREASURER