

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 38 (RICHMOND)
7811 GRANVILLE AVENUE, RICHMOND, BC (via ZOOM)
ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2020
AT 7:30 P.M.**

Present:	Chairperson	S. Nixon
	Trustees	D. Tablotney
		N. Goldstein
		K. Hamaguchi
		H. Larson
		D. Sargent
		R. Lee
	Superintendent of Schools	S. Robinson
	Deputy Superintendent	R. Ryan
	Secretary Treasurer	R. Uyeno
	Assistant Superintendent	L. Archer
	Assistant Superintendent	C. Brautigam
	Executive Director, Facilities Services	F. Geyer
	Executive Director, Learning & Business Technology	R. Laing
	Director, Communications & Marketing	D. Sadler
	Recording Secretary	C. Cleary

The Chairperson called the meeting to order 7:24 pm

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledged and thanked the First Peoples of the hənq̓əminəm' (hun-ki-meen-um) language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

Secretary-Treasurer Uyeno - A reminder was made for those that joined the meeting to please ensure that video was turned off and microphones muted to eliminate background noise;

there will be two question periods at which time, questions sent to the Board meeting email account will be read out. For those who have not already submitted questions, there is an opportunity to via: boardmeetings@sd38.bc.ca; or through the Q and A feature in Zoom.

For the public joining the meeting, they are able to listen to the meeting but not speak or use chatbox during the meeting; and an audio/video recording of the meeting will be made available for viewing after this meeting.

1. Recognition of Visitors, Announcements and Updates from Trustees

(a) Recognition of Visitors

The Chairperson welcomed the gallery to the meeting.

- (b) Trustee Nixon** – Congratulations to the following newly elected Richmond Members of the Legislative Assembly: Kelly Greene, MLA for Richmond-Steveston; Aman Singh, MLA for Richmond-Queensborough; Teresa Wat, MLA for Richmond North Centre; and Henry Yao, MLA for Richmond South Centre.

Trustee Tablotney – On December 5, 2020 the Richmond School District celebrates the significant contributions of our leadership and management staff. In Richmond, this includes principals, vice-principals, district educational administrators and management and professional staff.

This is a day to reflect on the positive impact that these individuals have made throughout the district on a daily basis. On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to thank all members of our leadership management team who contribute to making the Richmond School District the best place to learn and lead.

- (c) Any materials not included in packages available to the public.

The Secretary Treasurer noted that all materials had been made available.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Item 11 (b) Provincial Council Update was added to the Agenda

128/2020 MOVED BY N. GOLDSTEIN AND SECONDED BY D. TABLOTNEY:

THAT the Wednesday, November 25, 2020 Regular agenda of the Board of Education (Richmond) be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. Presentations, Special Recognitions, Briefs and Questions from the Public

- (a) Presentations

Nil.

- (b) Special Recognitions

Nil.

- (c) Briefs

Nil.

- (d) Questions from the Public

Liz Baverstock, President, Richmond Teachers' Association, congratulated newly elected Chairperson Sandra Nixon, and thanked Trustee Ken Hamaguchi for the good work as past Chair.

Ms. Baverstock expressed appreciation for the hard work of District staff on behalf of Richmond teachers. Thanks also were expressed to all the work of the employees, and that schools are the best place for kids to be. Ms. Baverstock noted that it is important to continuously remind the community and parents about what's being done, and the great work and increased advocacy that needs to be communicated out.

4. Executive

The Superintendent of Schools provided an update on COVID cases in schools noting there were approximately 40 cases of possible exposure but that it was important to note there has not been one actual transmission of the virus in a school. This positive news ensures that health and safety measures that are in place and are working very well. The Superintendent expressed gratitude to staff, parents and students on coming together to keep each other safe in schools.

The Superintendent next reported on the *Transitional Learning Program* with approximately 15% of students currently enrolled. The program is scheduled to end at the end of January; however, with recent increases in cases in the community, parents have expressed that they would like to see the program extended past the deadline. The Board of Education will be considering options that may be available in terms of extending the program with a decision at the December Board meeting.

The District's *Strategic Plan* is in the final phase of the consultation period, and the Superintendent thanked internal stakeholder groups, external partners and members of the community who responded, with special appreciation to students who took the time to provide feedback on the draft plan. The District received a large volume of helpful feedback that indicated the Plan is headed in the right direction with a few areas to be refined and adjusted. Staff are now collating and analyzing the feedback and will provide some suggestions for changes to the Board. On December 16, 2020 the final draft of the Plan will be brought to the Board for consideration and approval.

Highlights in schools across the district along with a visual presentation included: Making Connections at Byng Elementary with integrated project storytelling and content; a Halloween pumpkin patch celebration at Hamilton with over 300 pumpkins brought in from Westham Pumpkin & Herb Farm; Arts Umbrella at Blundell Elementary with six visual art sessions; Arts Education at Maple Lane Elementary where students created a mural based on the book *The Elders Are Watching*; Virtual Remembrance Day at Palmer Secondary where staff and students worked through the month of October to film content including veteran Captain Matthew McBride, and the virtual ceremony then streamed into each individual classroom; Grade 10 Richmond Secondary student Jason Chan, winner of the Spelling Bee of Canada's BC provincial championship won with the final words "Chupacabra" and "isomorph"; students from Homma, Brighthouse Byng, Maple Lane Blair and Anderson Elementary submitted 20 designs as part of the Premier's Holiday Greeting Card Project. Hopefully one of the District's students will be chosen and become the Premier's Winter Holiday Card this year.

Trustees thanked the Superintendent for the presentation showing the important work that is happening in the District's schools. Despite the pandemic, schools and teachers are working hard to make learning creative, impactful and fun.

5. Approval of Minutes

- (a) Regular meeting of the Board held October 28, 2020

Trustee Goldstein noted that the Minutes should reflect he attended via Zoom.

129/2020 MOVED BY D. TABLOTNEY AND SECONDED BY H. LARSON:

THAT the Board of Education (Richmond) approve the Minutes of Wednesday, October 28, 2020 Regular meeting as amended.

CARRIED

- (b) Record of an In-camera meeting of the Board held October 28, 2020 was included for information.

6. Business Arising

- (a) Planning & Development Update

The Executive Director shared a Planning & Development Presentation that included the LRFP initiatives and Action Plan, a Major Capital Projects Update that includes 11 supported seismic mitigation projects, and a visual update of the progress and project additions at William Cook Elementary, Hugh Boyd Secondary, Robert J. Tait Elementary, W.D. Ferris Elementary, Mitchell Elementary, Manoa Steves, F.A. Tomsett Elementary, Maple Lane, William Bridge, and James Whiteside. The school project updates can be viewed on the District site under the *Planning & Development* page.

Trustees had comments and praise for the Executive Director stating the significant progress for all the projects is exciting news. Trustees thanked the Executive Director and his team for all the hard work.

7. New Business

Nil.

8. Questions from the Public: Tonight's Agenda

Liz Baverstock, President, Richmond Teachers' Association noted the importance of the Board setting meetings with the new MLAs and stressed topics such as funding for seismic upgrades, school safety, and additional funds to support the continued efforts throughout the pandemic be highlighted.

Ms. Baverstock also talked about the new mask campaign initiated by BCTF and the RTA encouraging wearing masks and a reminder about the respectful culture of mask wearing. She noted that as we see increased exposures, wearing masks is mandated for public spaces but not fully in schools. Ms. Baverstock asked that the Board advocate for province-wide wearing of masks.

Trustees thanked Ms. Baverstock and had questions and comments on the specifics for such advocacy. Ms. Baverstock responded that consistency throughout the province is needed as in secondary schools wearing masks is consistent but with elementary "not required". Ms. Baverstock asked that the Board encourage parents, students and the community to strengthen the wearing of masks in schools.

9. Standing Committee Reports

- (a) Audit Committee
Chair: Donna Sargent
Vice Chair: Debbie Tablotney

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2021.

- (b) Education Committee
Chair: Ken Hamaguchi
Vice Chair: Norman Goldstein

- (i) Minutes of meeting held October 21, 2020 were attached for information.

A meeting was held Wednesday, November 18, 2020. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 6 pm.

- (c) Facilities and Building Committee
Chair: Debbie Tablotney
Vice Chair: Sandra Nixon

- (i) Minutes of the meeting held September 9, 2020 were attached for information.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 5 pm.

- (d) Finance and Legal Committee
Chair: Ken Hamaguchi
Vice Chair: Richard Lee

- (i) RECOMMENDATION: Trustee Expenses for three months ending September 30, 2020 attached.

130/2020 MOVED BY K. HAMAGUCHI AND SECONDED BY R. LEE:

WHEREAS the Board of Education of School District No. 38 (Richmond) is paying for expenses incurred by the Trustees in the discharge of their duties,

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with the School Act, the Board of Education of School District No. 38 (Richmond) approves Trustees' expenses paid during the three-month period ended September 30, 2020, in the amount of \$870.00.

CARRIED

- (ii) Minutes of meeting held September 16, 2020 were attached for information.

A meeting was held Wednesday, November 18, 2020. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 11 am.

- (e) Policy Committee
Chair: Sandra Nixon
Vice Chair: Donna Sargent
 - (i) A Notice of Motion for Policy 631 & 631-R: *Accumulated Operating Surplus and Capital Reserves* was attached for information.
 - (ii) Minutes of the meeting held March 9, 2020 were attached for information.

A meeting was held on November 16, 2020. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2020 at 10:30 am.

10. Correspondence

- (a) A letter dated November 16, 2020 was included for information from Deputy Minister Scott MacDonald that the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) administration is postponed and will occur between January 18 and February 26, 2021.
- (b) An email dated November 17, 2020 was received from Anneke Wijtkamp regarding the Remote Transitional Program.

11. Board Committee and Representative Reports

- (a) Council/Board Liaison Committee

A meeting was held on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2020 via WebEx and the Anderson Room, City Hall at 11 am.

- (b) Provincial Council – an update was provided by Trustee Larson regarding the meeting on October 24, 2020. Trustee Larson noted that the main topics discussed were Covid 19, the Climate Change Working Group, Governance for the Recovery Stage of Covid 19, and action on the Anti-Racism initiatives.

12. Adjournment

131/2020 MOVED BY H. LARSON AND SECONDED BY K. HAMAGUCHI:

THAT the Regular meeting of Wednesday, November 25, 2020 of the Board of Education (Richmond) be adjourned at 8:48 pm.

CARRIED

S. NIXON,
CHAIRPERSON

R. UYENO,
SECRETARY TREASURER