

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC MEETING
February 27, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES: Amanda Dowhy, Board Chair Cendra Beaton, Vice Chair
Christine Lervold Trudy Spiller
Allison Watson (virtual)

STAFF: Paul Block, Superintendent
Harold Cull, Secretary-Treasurer
Monica Braniff, Deputy Superintendent
D’Arcy Deacon, Associate Superintendent
David Strange, Associate Superintendent
Fred Hibbs, Executive Director, HR
Farzaan Nusserwanji, Executive Director, IT
Steve Tonnesen, Manager, IT Operations

REGRETS: Russ Chipps, Trustee
Ebony Logins, Trustee

SECRETARY: Kristina Ross

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES**
The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by the Board Chair, who acknowledged the traditional territories of the First Nations.

2. **AGENDA**
 - 2.1 Call for amendments and additional items
 29. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Christine Lervold
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the public meeting agenda of February 27, 2024, as presented.
CARRIED



2.2 Report on In Camera Meeting – Amanda Dowhy

This notice is to inform the public that prior to this meeting an “in-camera” meeting of the Board was held where issues of legal, land and personnel were discussed.

3. **MINUTES**

3.1 Call for amendments to minutes

30. MOVED Trudy Spiller/Christine Lervold
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the public meeting minutes of January 23, 2024, as presented.
CARRIED

4. **INFORMATION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

4.1 Board Chair Update – Amanda Dowhy

The Board Chair congratulated MLA Parmar on his recent appointment as the Parliamentary Secretary for International Credentials. He will continue to be a strong advocate for our community. The School District looks forward to working with Chief Lawrence Underwood of T’Sou-ke First Nation and Chief Arliss Jones of Pacheedaht First Nation and congratulates them on their election. The Provincial Budget 2024 outlined \$968M in funding to support enrolment growth, hire more teachers including special education teachers, teacher psychologists and counsellors and renovate, and seismically upgrade schools and playgrounds.

Every February, people across Canada participate in Black History Month events and festivities that honour the legacy of Black people in Canada and their communities.

Congratulations to John Lyall who was named to the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame in the Builder Category.

5. **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

5.1 Sangster Elementary Equity Team – School Mural Presentation – Camille McFarlane

In 2023 the Sangster Elementary Equity Team and their students created a mural, made up of 250 tiles, each painted individually by the children. This mural represented their vision of their school and surrounding community.

5.2 Havenwood Park Cleanup – Ella Steele

The Environmental Science Class from Royal Bay Secondary School over the last semester had the opportunity to partner with the Friends of Havenwood and help



remove invasive species and plant native species at Havenwood Park. It was an exceptional experience for the students who learned valuable skills. It allowed them to connect classroom learnings to practical work, teaching them about the local ecosystems, and how we all can contribute to preserving it.

5.3 School Trip to Seattle WA, 8-11 July 2024 – Belmont Secondary School – Stephen McHugh

Staff provided an overview of the School Trip to the Board of Education.

31. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) **conditionally** approves the Belmont Secondary School Football Trip to Seattle, WA July 8-11, 2024, subject to the oversight and direction of the Superintendent's Office.
CARRIED

6. **CORRESPONDENCE & DELEGATIONS**

6.1 Correspondence

- a. Letter to the Board of Education dated January 31, 2024, from Colwood Women's Institute South Vancouver Island District.
- b. Letter to the Board of Education dated January 31, 2024, from Colwood Women's Institute South Vancouver Island District.
- c. Email from Szilvia Paradi, dated February 15, 2024, RE: Welcoming Back the 49th Annual Flower Count.

32. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Christine Lervold
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the above noted pieces of correspondence:
- a. Letter to the Board of Education dated January 31, 2024, from Colwood Women's Institute South Vancouver Island District.
 - b. Letter to the Board of Education dated January 31, 2024, from Colwood Women's Institute South Vancouver Island District.
 - c. Email from Szilvia Paradi, dated February 15, 2024 RE: Welcoming Back the 49th Annual Flower Count.

CARRIED

6.2 Standing Delegations (STA, CUPE, PVP, SPEAC) – 5 minutes each
STA – Christina Kempenaar

The STA hosted a TTOC PD Day on February 16, 2024, and offered a full day of workshops, further members received a stipend in lieu of wages. Digital Solutions



has added a Digital Literacy Coordinator position and the STA looks forward to working with Ana Galac. Further, the Truth and Reconciliation Committee continues its hard work on behalf of members and is busy planning its next PD Day.

CUPE 459 – Amber Leonard

Amber Leonard thanked the PVP Representative for her kind remarks in thanking the members of the Facilities Team. The President thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to raise CUPE priorities during the budget presentation. She indicated that BCTF and CUPE BC both support steps towards expanding before and after school daycare at our schools. Finally in celebration of its 60th Birthday, CUPE 459 is offering its members free swims with family at the local recreation centres.

PVP – Grania Bridal

Belmont Secondary School hosted an Industry Event, in which students spoke to members of the film industry regarding opportunities after graduation. Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School hosted a Junior Skills Competition and a Find Your Fit job fair, in which students were helped to identify what job would be best suited to them. Spencer Middle School opened its rainbow crosswalk, focussing on positive messages. École Poirier Elementary School thanked the Facilities Team for its continued support and loves their new hockey nets now that they have a permanent home.

SPEAC – Nevada Kaludjar

SPEAC thanked the Board of Education for its opportunity to provide input into the budget priorities for the upcoming 2024/25 school year. A call for nominations to fill SPEAC executive roles will occur on May 15, 2024, at SPEAC's Annual General Meeting. The next SPEAC meeting will be held on March 13th.

7. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND SERVICES

7.1 Resources Committee Meeting of February 13, 2024 – Christine Lervold

Trustee Lervold provided an overview of the Resources Committee Meeting of February 13, 2024, to the Board of Education.

33. **MOVED Christine Lervold/Cendra Beaton**

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) approve the District and School Fees for the 2024/2025 and the International Program Fees for 2025/2026 school year as presented at the Resources Committee meeting of February 13, 2024.



CARRIED

34. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the Environmental Scan report as part of the Strategic Planning Renewal Process as presented at the Resources Committee meeting of February 13, 2024.

CARRIED

35. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Cendra Beaton
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give first, second, and third readings to the 23/24 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw specifying a total budget of \$214,947,988.

CARRIED

36. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Cendra Beaton
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) direct staff to bring back transportation fee models for consideration during the 24/25 budget development process.

CARRIED

37. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Resources Committee Meeting of February 13, 2024.

CARRIED

- 7.2 23/24 February 1701 Enrolment Update – Farzaan Nusserwanji
Staff provided the Board of Education an update on the February 1701 process and current enrolment. As of September 2023, the District was sitting at 13,866 and 13,139 FTE. In February 2024 the District is at 13,792 and 13,022 FTE. Further, ELL/ESD has increased from 1408 to 1514 and student designations have increased from 2186 to 2376.

- 7.3 24/25 Enrolment Update – Monica Braniff
Staff provided the Board of Education with the estimated enrolment for 2024/25. The District estimated that it will have 13,468 students in 24/25, an increase of 347 students.

8. EDUCATION PROGRAM

- 8.1 Education-Policy Committee Meeting of February 6, 2024 – Cendra Beaton



Trustee Beaton provided an overview of the Education-Policy Committee Meeting of February 6, 2024, to the Board of Education.

38. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the Quarter 2 Report as presented at the Education-Policy Committee meeting of February 6, 2024.
CARRIED

39. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Education-Policy Committee Meeting of February 6, 2024.
CARRIED

8.2 Adoption of Policy & Regulation – Paul Block

40. MOVED Christine Lervold/Allison Watson
Given that the required period for Notice of Motion has been served, that the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt draft revised Policy F-302 “Use of School Facilities for Child Care Programs’.
CARRIED

9. STUDENTS

10. FOUNDATIONS AND GOVERNANCE

10.1 Trustee Liaison Reports – Board of Education
No reports.

10.2 Na’tsa’maht Education Council Meeting of February 27, 2024 – Paul Block
Superintendent Block provided an overview of the Na’tsa’maht Education Council meeting. Highlights included discussion surrounding the delivery of the mass timber for SĆIΛNEW STELIT̓KEL Elementary School, the passing of Bill 40 and its implementation, and the upcoming 2024/25 School Year Budget.

11. ADMINISTRATION

11.1 Board of Education 90 Day Work Plan – Amanda Dowhy
The Board Chair provided an overview of the work plan to the Board of Education.

12. PERSONNEL



12.1 Superintendent's Report – Paul Block

The Superintendent provided the Board of Education an update on Learning, Engagement and Growth. Highlights included Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) feedback-strengths and areas of growth, the McCreary Adolescent Health Survey results that came forward, Laptop distribution and a PowerBI dashboard that has been launched.

13. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

14. **FUTURE ITEMS**

February 28 – Pink Shirt Day
March 5 – Education-Policy Committee Meeting
March 6 – Resources Committee Meeting
March 8 – International Women's Day
March 12 – Public Board Meeting
March 18/April 2 – Spring Break
April 3 – Schools Reopen

15. **QUESTION PERIOD**

Members of the public have the opportunity to ask questions related to agenda items discussed at tonight's meeting using the QA function in MS Teams. Individuals must identify themselves and ask questions directed to the Chair. Members of the media can direct their questions to the Manager, Strategic Communications for response following the meeting.


16. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Certified Correct:



Chairperson of the Board



Secretary-Treasurer

