

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 41 - BURNABY**

A Public Session meeting of the Board of Education of School District 41 - Burnaby was held in the Board Room at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 14, 2012.

Present

Trustees Larry Hayes (Chair), Baljinder Narang, Meiling Chia, Harman Pandher, James Wang, Gary Wong; Superintendent of Schools Claudio Morelli, Secretary-Treasurer Greg Frank, Assistant Superintendents Heather Hart, Kevin Kaardal and Gina Niccoli-Moen, and Executive Assistants Betty Choi and Diana Sturhahn.

Agenda

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Harman Pandher:

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

Carried unanimously.

The amendment moved part 1 of the Superintendent's report ahead of Good News on the agenda.

Superintendent's Report

Mandarin Language Arts Program

Assistant Superintendent Gina Niccoli-Moen introduced Deb Taylor, Principal at Forest Grove Elementary School. Ms. Taylor provided an overview of the Mandarin Language Arts program, now in its second year at Forest Grove.

Teachers Deborah Tang and Jaimie Bin Li and their students from Mandarin Kindergarten and grade one classes performed a costumed dragon dance, sang songs in Mandarin and English in celebration of the Chinese New Year.

Good News

Trustee Baljinder Narang presented Good News items from various Burnaby schools, as attached.

Minutes

It was moved by Gary Wong and seconded by Harman Pandher:

THAT the minutes of the Public Session of January 24, 2012 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Board Chair Report

Chair Larry Hayes commented on Education Minister George Abbott's remarks to the local media, regarding the lowest per-student funding provided to the Burnaby School District. Mr. Hayes commented that Burnaby has challenges in the district to provide for 4,700 ESL students, representing 20% of the school district population – almost twice the provincial average in other school districts, as well as high child poverty rates compared to other districts in Metro Vancouver and the Province.

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Gary Wong:

THAT the Board Chair Report be received and approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

The History of Burnaby Schools

BC Retired Teachers Association, President Janet White introduced herself and provided background on the BC Retired Teachers' Association. Ms. White is compiling the stories of individuals who have attended, taught or worked at Burnaby schools. The stories and pictures will be published in a book titled *The History of Burnaby Schools* later this year.

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Gary Wong:

THAT the Superintendent's Report be received, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Correspondence

It was moved by Harman Pandher and seconded by Meiling Chia:

THAT the letter from the Office of the City Clerk, regarding appointments of Council representatives to Burnaby organizations and committees, be received.

Carried unanimously.

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Gary Wong:

THAT the letter from CUPE President Barry O'Neill, regarding a new Canada European Union Trade Agreement (CETA), be received, and the recommendation contained therein be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Education Committee

It was moved by James Wang and seconded by Harman Pandher:

THAT the Education Committee report be received, as amended to remove BTA Representative Richard Storch's name from the list of attendees.

Carried unanimously.

Finance Committee

It was moved by Gary Wong and seconded by Baljinder Narang:

THAT the Finance Committee report be received, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Youth and Community Services Committee

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by James Wang:

THAT the Youth and Community Services Committee report be received, and the recommendations contained therein be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Administrative Services

It was moved by Gary Wong and seconded by James Wang:

THAT the Board receive and approve the Superintendent's District Operations – Administrative Services Report, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

District Operations - Business Services

Parent Representation on District Standing Committees

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Gary Wong:

THAT the Board receive the District Operations – Business Services report on parent representation on district standing committees and approve the motion contained therein, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

New Business

Vancouver Board of Education Support

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Gary Wong:

THAT the Burnaby Board of Education applaud and support the recent decision of the Vancouver Board of Education to reiterate and reinforce their strong commitment to their existing policy dealing with bullying behaviour based on sexual orientation. We also encourage all other boards of education in BC to pass similar motions and to ask the Minister of Education to be proactive in passing provincial legislation addressing this devastating bullying issue.

Carried unanimously.

Adjournment

It was moved by Harman Pandher and seconded by Baljinder Narang:

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Carried unanimously.

Original signed by:

Larry R. Hayes
Chair

D. Greg Frank, C.A.
Secretary-Treasurer