MINUTES BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT 41 - BURNABY

A Public Session meeting of the Burnaby Board of Education was held in the Board Room at 7:10 pm on Tuesday, March 13, 2012.

Present

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

Agenda

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

THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.

Carried unanimously.

The amendment moved the Superintendent's Report ahead of Delegations on the agenda.

Superintendent's Report

"Body Worlds and the Brain" in Burnaby

Cultural Transitions Coordinator Ruby Chan outlined background to the "Body Worlds and the Brain" program. This innovative program is designed to meet the unique needs of immigrant and refugee students, many of whom have experienced extreme stress and, in some cases, trauma, prior to their arrival in Burnaby schools. The district has run two groups through the program in the past two years.

Dr. Sarina Kot, psychologist, explained how the program is designed to support students and address their trauma in an indirect way, through activities such as the teaching of Kung Fu. Mr. Peter Van den Hoogen, Youth Services Coordinator, provided an overview of how the program impacts students and how students are encouraged to talk about their own experiences.

It was moved by Ron Burton and seconded by Baljinder Narang:

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

Carried unanimously.

Delegations

Mr. Gordon World made a presentation regarding "Pink Project" participation.

Good News

Gary Wong presented Good News items from various Burnaby schools, as attached.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Meiling Chia:

THAT the minutes of the Public Session of February 28, 2012 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Board Chair Report

Chair Larry Hayes referred to Bill 22 that had recently been introduced by the provincial government. Chair Hayes indicated the bill contained a number of contentious issues and limited the right of teachers to negotiate a new collective agreement. He hoped that the legislature would remember that labour negotiations take time and have inconveniences.

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

That the Board receive and approve the Board Chair Report, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Correspondence

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

THAT the letter from Patti Bacchus, Chairperson of the Vancouver Board of Education, thanking the Board for its support of the Vancouver Board's LGBTQ policy, be received.

Carried unanimously.

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

THAT the letter from Dave Ellenwood, Director of the City of Burnaby's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, enclosing a list of the Parks Recreation and Culture Commission members for 2012, be received.

Carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Education Committee Report

It was moved by Ron Burton and seconded by Baljinder Narang:

THAT the Education Committee Report be received, and the recommendations contained therein be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Youth and Community Services Committee Report

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

THAT the Youth and Community Services Committee Report be received, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Administrative Services

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

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

Carried unanimously.

New Business

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

THAT the Burnaby Board of Education send a letter to Education Minister George Abbott and Premier Christy Clark expressing our strong insistence that the provincial government delay the passage of Bill 22 and immediately appoint a mediator with no restrictions on their mandate, to work toward resolving the current labour dispute with teachers.

Carried unanimously.

Question Period

Trustees responded to questions from the floor.

Adjournment

It was moved by Ron Burton and seconded by Harman Pandher:

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Original signed by:

Larry R. Hayes Chair D. Greg Frank, C.A. Secretary-Treasurer