

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

A Public Session meeting of the Board of Education of School District 41 – Burnaby was held via video conference at 7:05 pm on Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

Present

Trustees Gary Wong (Chair), Bill Brassington, Peter Cech, Christine Cunningham, Larry Hayes, Jen Mezei and Ryan Stewart; Superintendent of Schools Gina Niccoli-Moen, Secretary-Treasurer Russell Horswill, Assistant Superintendents Roberto Bombelli, Jeannette Laursoo, Wanda Mitchell and Richard Per and Executive Assistant Sandra Brunner.

Agenda

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Jen Mezei:

THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Inside Burnaby Schools

Christine Cunningham outlined some recent events in Burnaby schools, as attached.

Minutes

It was moved by Ryan Stewart and seconded by Larry Hayes:

THAT the minutes of the Public Session meeting of June 23, 2020 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Gary Wong commented on the motion on anti-racism that had been passed at the June meeting. The Board had forwarded the recommendation contained in that motion to the BCSTA as an emergent motion.

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Jen Mezei:

THAT the minutes of the Special Public Session meeting of August 26, 2020 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Board Chair Report

Gary Wong thanked all district staff for working hard during the summer to prepare for the new school year. He also thanked partner groups and local Indigenous Elders and leaders for their input and guidance. It would be a demanding school year, but there was much to look forward to.

It was moved by Gary Wong and seconded by Bill Brassington:

THAT the Board of Education receive and approve the Board Chair Report, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

2019-20 Governor-General's Academic Medal Recipients

The Governor-General's Academic Medal is the most prestigious award that students in Canadian schools can receive. Gina Niccoli-Moen, Superintendent of Schools, recognized and honoured the talents and achievements of the 2019-20 medal recipients: Catherine Wang (Alpha), Sarah Chow (Burnaby Central), Zahrah Khan (Burnaby Mountain), Ruiqi (Ricky) Xu (Burnaby North), Simran Garcha (Burnaby South), Giovanni Ferraresso (Byrne Creek), Callum Lehingrat (Cariboo Hill) and Austin Ma (Moscrop). Ms. Niccoli-Moen wished the students all the best in their academic careers. Because of the pandemic they could not be recognized in person.

Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year

Ms. Niccoli-Moen welcomed students, staff and families and expressed her gratitude to staff for all they had done to ready schools for the September start-up. The pandemic had added an extra layer of anxiety and some uncertainty to the normal start-up process, but it was a joy to see students back in schools and participating in opportunities. She thanked all school and district staff for their efforts and recognized the support and insight provided by the district's partner groups. The district would continue to post updated information on COVID-19 on its website, including the steps to be taken in the event of an outbreak in a school.

District Vice-Principal – Equity Diversity and Inclusion

Ms. Niccoli-Moen introduced and welcomed Beth Applewhite, District Vice-Principal – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Ms. Applewhite had been hired following the unanimous motion passed at the June 23 meeting calling for the development of a district anti-racism action plan.

It was moved by Peter Cech and seconded by Bill Brassington:

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

Carried unanimously.

Correspondence

It was moved by Larry Hayes seconded by Jen Mezei:

THAT the following correspondence be received:

Kathryn Matts, Commission Secretary, Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission: Suspension of the City of Burnaby's Grade 5 Be Active Program;

Jay Chalke, Ombudsperson: Quarterly Reports for January 1 – March 31, 2020 and April 1 – June 30, 2020.

Carried unanimously.

Bill Brassington commented that the Parks Commission expected the suspension of the Grade 5 Be Active Program would be for just one-year because of the pandemic, that the program would be reinstated in September 2021 and be expanded to include Grade 6 students since those students would have missed out in 2020/21.

Finance Committee Report

It was moved by Bill Brassington and seconded by Larry Hayes:

THAT the Finance Committee Report be received, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Business Services Report

Audited Financial Statements, 2019/2020

Russell Horswill, Secretary-Treasurer presented the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Ryan Stewart:

THAT the Board of Education receive and approve the audited financial statements of the Board of Education of School District No. 41 Burnaby for the year ended June 30, 2020, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Question Period

A question on district policy 2.50: Whistle-Blower Protection was referred to the Policy Committee.

Adjournment

It was moved by Christine Cunningham and seconded by Larry Hayes:

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Carried unanimously.

Original signed

Gary Wong
Chair

Russell Horswill, DBA
Secretary-Treasurer