

**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 7:01 pm on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

**Present**

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

Christine Cunningham, Trustee acknowledged the Indigenous territories on which the district is located.

**Confirmation of Agenda**

Addition to Agenda

The Rainbow Sidewalk Request, originally on the Private Session agenda, is moved to today's Public Session agenda as the second item under the Business Services section.

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Gary Wong:

*THAT the agenda be approved, as amended.*

Carried unanimously.

**Delegations**

New Westminster and District Labour Council (NWDLC) – National Day of Mourning, April 28, 2021

Lewis McIntyre, Member of the NWDLC residing in Burnaby, provided a presentation on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health and safety for workers, their families and our communities. Mr. McIntyre noted there will be an observance on April 28, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Details can be found on the NWDLC website.

Jen Mezei, Chair called for a moment of silence following the presentation in remembrance of all workers who have been killed on the job, and to recognize those who have suffered from workplace injury, accident or disease. The district will lower their flags on April 28, 2021 in honour of the National Day of Mourning.

### **Inside Burnaby Schools**

Trustees outlined several recent events in Burnaby schools, as per the Inside Burnaby Schools bulletin.

### **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Peter Cech:

*THAT the minutes of the Public Session meeting of March 30, 2021 be approved, as presented.*

Carried unanimously.

### **Board Chair Report**

Jen Mezei, Chair advised that her report this evening focuses on one of the most critical aspects in the district – the safety of students and staff, and provided an update on the vaccine program for the Burnaby School District, the survey being launched next month as part of the district’s anti-racism engagement process, and the district’s Safe and Caring Schools Program.

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Gary Wong:

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

Carried unanimously.

### **District Operations - Superintendent’s Report**

#### The Burnaby School District Student Advisory Council (DSAC) Student Forum Mental Health

Lilah Williamson, DSAC President provided a report on the conference, *Solutions Through Discussion: Pathways to Positive Mental Health and Well-being* held on April 23, 2021. Secondary students were invited to attend to learn more about

mental health and how they can take action in their own schools by sharing information with their peers and encouraging one another to provide time and space for solutions for wellbeing. An action plan will be developed and rolled out in the coming month.

#### Programs of Choice – Progress Report

Wanda Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent provided an update of the review of the district's programs of choice for elementary and secondary levels which was undertaken to identify key strengths of current programs, as well as to address possible gaps in existing supports and services. Information is being gathered from students, parents/guardians and staff and a final report with key findings will be presented to the Board in December 2021.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Committee of the Whole

It was moved by Ryan Stewart and seconded by Peter Cech:

*THAT the minutes of the public session of the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 12, 2021 be approved, as presented.*

Carried unanimously.

### **District Operations – Administrative Services**

#### Field Experiences - Monthly Report

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

*THAT the Board receive and approve the report presented in the Superintendent's District Operations – Administrative Services Report dated April 27, 2021.*

Carried Unanimously.

### **District Operations – Business Services Report**

#### Board Policy Manual - Governance

Russell Horswill, Secretary-Treasurer referred to the report and attached two policies. Policy #1.00 – Foundational Statement has been rewritten to incorporate

the Board of Education's 2019 – 2024 Strategic Plan. Policy #1.05 pulls content from Policy #1.00 to create a separate policy - Trustee Code of Ethics.

The following amendment to Policy #1.05 – 8. *Duty of the Board* was requested to be made as part of the motion: Beginning of first sentence change “The” to “A”.

It was moved by Peter Cech and seconded by Gary Wong:

*THAT the Board of Education approve Policies #1.00 – Foundational Statement and #1.05 – Trustee Code of Ethics containing administrative updates, without Notice of Motion circulation, as amended.*

Carried Unanimously.

### Rainbow Sidewalk Request

Mr. Horswill referred to the report and graphics regarding the requests by South Slope and Cascade Heights Elementary schools for the installation of rainbow sidewalks.

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Peter Cech:

*THAT the Board of Education authorize the painting of rainbow sidewalks at South Slope Elementary and Cascade Heights Elementary, as requested.*

Carried unanimously.

### **Correspondence**

No public correspondence has been received.

### **Adjournment**

It was moved by Ryan Stewart and seconded by Gary Wong:

*THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:03 pm.*

Carried Unanimously.

Original Signed

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Jen Mezei  
Chair

Original Signed

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Russell Horswill, DBA  
Secretary-Treasurer