

**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 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.

Present

Trustees Jen Mezei (Chair), Bill Brassington, 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 Deanna Azzara.

Land Acknowledgement

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

Elections

Election of Chair

Mr. Horswill called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Burnaby Board of Education for 2021/22.

Christine Cunningham nominated Jen Mezei who accepted the nomination.

Mr. Horswill called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, he declared Jen Mezei elected by acclamation Chair of the Burnaby Board of Education for 2021/22.

Ms. Mezei assumed the chair.

Election of Vice-Chair

Ms. Mezei called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Burnaby Board of Education for 2020/21.

Peter Cech nominated Bill Brassington who accepted the nomination.

Ms. Mezei called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Bill Brassington elected by acclamation Vice-Chair of the Burnaby Board of Education for 2021/22.

Election of BCSTA Provincial Councillor

Ms. Mezei called for nominations for the position of BCSTA Provincial Councillor for 2021/22.

Gary Wong nominated Bill Brassington who accepted the nomination.

Ms. Mezei called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Bill Brassington elected by acclamation BCSTA Provincial Councillor for 2021/22.

Election of BCSTA Provincial Councillor Alternate

Ms. Mezei called for nominations for the position of BCSTA Provincial Councillor Alternate for 2020/21.

Bill Brassington nominated Peter Cech who accepted the nomination.

Ms. Mezei called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Peter Cech elected by acclamation BCSTA Provincial Councillor Alternate for 2021/22.

Election of BCPSEA Trustee Representative

Ms. Mezei called for nominations for the position of BCPSEA Trustee Representative for 2021/22.

Larry Hayes nominated Gary Wong who accepted the nomination.

Ms. Mezei called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Gary Wong elected by acclamation BCPSEA Trustee Representative for 2021/22.

Election of BCPSEA Trustee Representative Alternate

Ms. Mezei called for nominations for the position of BCPSEA Trustee Representative Alternate for 2021/22.

Gary Wong nominated Larry Hayes who accepted the nomination.

Ms. Mezei called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Larry Hayes elected by acclamation BCPSEA Trustee Representative Alternate for 2021/22.

Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was submitted for confirmation.

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

THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

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 October 26, 2021 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Board Chair Report

Jen Mezei, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. The provincial government has implemented temporary emergency orders to restrict non-essential travel in some areas to prioritize fuel for essential vehicles. Burnaby Schools will continue to remain open as in-person instruction is a key priority and school-based staff will continue to be in schools, supporting students, staff, and communities. Some school events may be impacted or deferred to a later date as the district supports the province-wide efforts to conserve fuel.

The new Board office reflects many of the values that Burnaby Boards of Education have prioritized, and I would like to thank our previous trustees for being such a strong foundation for us to continue this work in capital planning and operation. The new office includes a renovation of and addition to a heritage building that is fully accessible, with non-gendered bathrooms, and modern video conferencing capabilities. We are thankful to

staff for engaging with the Nations to name our new education facility and collaborating with Indigenous artists to create installations that acknowledge the history of the unceded territories of these lands.

It was moved by Bill Brassington and seconded by Ryan Stewart:

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

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Superintendent Report

Paddling Together for Indigenous Student Success

Gina Niccoli-Moen, Superintendent of Schools, spoke about examples of the organizational learning and changes underway that is helping to create a more equitable experience for Indigenous learners. Rob Smyth, District Principal - Indigenous Education, and Brandon Curr, Director of Instruction, provided insight to the District's work and introduced some next steps in this journey. Together, we are in the same canoe paddling to a destination that is brighter for all.

Action Against Racism

The District's Anti-Racism engagement process began with the Anti-Racism working group, as outlined by the priorities set forth by the Burnaby Board of Education. Quantitative data was shared with District partners on September 13, 2021, and over 11,000 open-ended responses were received and reviewed. Beth Applewhite, Acting District Principal - Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, shared the summary comments and provided insight regarding next steps in the District's action against racism.

It was moved by Peter Cech and seconded by Christine Cunningham:

THAT the Board of Education receive this information, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Committee of the Whole

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

THAT the minutes of the public session of the Committee of the Whole meeting of November 8, 2021 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Administrative Services Report

Field Experiences – Monthly Report

Jeannette Laursoo, Assistant Superintendent, presented the field experiences report for the period up to November 23, 2021.

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

THAT the Board of Education receive and approve the District Operations – Administrative Services Report, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Business Services Report

Duthie Union School Land Disposition

Mr. Horswill presented on the Duthie Union School Land Disposition. Following broad community engagement as determined by the Board, the following two motions are brought to the Board in order to finalize the Duthie Union School Land Disposition Bylaw No. 2021-1.

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

THAT Duthie Union School Land Disposition Bylaw No. 2021-1 be read a third time.

Carried unanimously.

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

THAT Duthie Union School Land Disposition Bylaw No. 2021-1 having been read a first, second, and third time, be finally passed and adopted on the 23rd day of November, 2021; that the Chair of the Board and the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign the bylaw; and that the bylaw be sealed with the corporate seal of the Board.

Carried unanimously.

Adjournment

It was moved by Ryan Stewart and seconded by Christine Cunningham:

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Carried Unanimously.

Jen Mezei
Chair

Russell Horswill, DBA
Secretary-Treasurer