

**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, January 25, 2022.

Present

Trustees Bill Brassington (Vice-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 Deanna Azzara.

Land Acknowledgement

Ryan Stewart, Trustee, acknowledged the Indigenous territories on which the district is located.

Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was submitted for confirmation.

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

THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Delegation

Joshua Mah, student at Burnaby North Secondary School and 637 Arrow Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron member, spoke briefly about Royal Canadian Air Cadets. All Air Cadet Squadrons are mandated at the national level to be fully vaccinated and follow strict distancing rules to parade and train in-person. The 637 Arrow Squadron is currently parading remotely but are fully prepared to be in-person as soon as district facility rentals become available.

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 Ryan Stewart:

THAT the minutes of the Public Session meeting of December 14, 2021 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Board Chair Report

Bill Brassington, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Reflecting on the start to 2022 I think about three things: challenges, change, and compassion. Omicron delayed school start up following winter break and schools and staff strategized to maintain continuity of learning in the face of potential ‘functional closures’ of schools. The sheer volume of COVID-19 cases has changed the way public health manages information and I am grateful for all that has been done to make schools as safe as possible, to keep them open, and to provide a place that my children and others can count on for routine and a semblance of normalcy. Despite what everyone has gone through, students, staff, and families have responded with care and compassion. On behalf of the Burnaby Board of Education I extend our deepest gratitude for everything you have done and continue to do.

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

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

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Superintendent Report

Black Excellence Day

Gina Niccoli-Moen, Superintendent of Schools, introduced Beth Applewhite, District Principal (Acting) Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, to share some comments and experiences around the district’s first Black Excellence Day, a virtual event rich with learning and celebration of Black contributions,

achievements, stories, art, history, joy, and love. The event helped raise awareness, uplift, and bring hope to not only Black youth, but all racialized and non-racialized youth.

District Operations Update

Ms. Niccoli-Moen presented information on the following items:

1. Classroom air scrubbers were purchased, received, and the units were immediately installed/deployed. Thank you to all who ensured this happened in a timely manner.
2. Rapid Antigen Tests allocated to the Burnaby School District have yet to be received but should be arriving soon. Test kits will require some assembly before distribution to all staff (2 kits/staff). Instructions and recommendations for use have already been sent to staff.
3. Functional closures have not been declared (to date) at any Burnaby school or site. Staff are closely monitoring/reporting potential staff shortages and temporarily filling positions as soon as possible. School and district- based staff are prepared to move to remote, at-home learning, if necessary.
4. COVID-19 update for the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) guidance on when to test and self-isolate. Links and tools have been shared with families and staff and posted to our website. District continues to direct parents and staff to the BCCDC website for up-to-date information and will always support individuals to call 8-1-1 or a medical professional if so needed. Information about a townhall event on January 26 regarding childcare centres in school settings was shared with community partners and childcare operators.

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

THAT the minutes of the public session of the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 10, 2022 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Business Services Report

2022/2023 Budget Process Calendar

Ishver Khunguray, Deputy Secretary-Treasurer, presented the 2022/2023 Budget Process Calendar which includes consultations with the Burnaby Leadership Team, Partner Groups, the Burnaby District Parent’s Advisory Council, and the public.

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

THAT the Board of Education approve the budget timeline, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Capital Project Status Report

Russell Horswill, Secretary-Treasurer, presented updated information about the status of the Cameron and Brentwood Park Elementary schools Project Planning, and the Stride Avenue Community School and Phase 3 Childcare Approved Project Planning. Construction updates for the Board Office, Burnaby North Secondary, Parkcrest and Seaforth Elementary, Phase 2 Childcare Projects, and information regarding Kitchener and Glenwood Elementary land consolidation were also provided.

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

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

Carried unanimously.

Adjournment

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

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Carried Unanimously.

Jen Mezei
Chair

Russell Horswill, DBA
Secretary-Treasurer