

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

Trustees: Bill Brassington (Chair), Kristin Schnider, Gary Wong, Jen Mezei, Larry Hayes, Mikelle Sasakamoose, Peter Cech

Staff: Superintendent of Schools Karim Hachlaf; Secretary-Treasurer Ishver Khunguray; Deputy Superintendent Roberto Bombelli; Assistant Superintendents Brandon Curr, Jeannette Laursoo, and Richard Per; Executive Assistants Deanna Azzara, Joanne Simpson

A Public Session meeting of the Board of Education of School District 41 – Burnaby was held at the District Administration Office, Brentwood Room and via video conference, at 7:03 pm on Tuesday, November 26, 2024.

---

**Territory Acknowledgement**

Bill Brassington, Chair, acknowledged the Indigenous territories on which the district is located.

**1. Confirmation of the Agenda**

The agenda was submitted for confirmation.

Moved by: Larry Hayes

Seconded by: Jen Mezei

*THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.*

Carried Unanimously

**2. Trustee Elections**

**1. Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair**

Section 1 of the Board's Procedural Bylaw states that the term of office of the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be one year, and elections shall be held annually. Elections will be held this evening for these positions.

Election of Chair

Ishver Khunguray, Secretary-Treasurer, called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Board of Education of School District 41 - Burnaby.

Bill Brassington nominated Kristin Schnider who accepted the nomination.

Secretary-Treasurer Khunguray called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, he declared Kristin Schnider elected by acclamation Chair of the Board of Education of School District 41 - Burnaby.

Kristin Schnider assumed the Chair.

#### Election of Vice-Chair

Chair Schnider called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board of Education of School District 41 - Burnaby.

Peter Cech nominated Jen Mezei who accepted the nomination.

Chair Schnider called a second and a third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Jen Mezei elected by acclamation Vice-Chair of the Board of Education of School District 41 - Burnaby.

#### 2. Election of BCSTA Provincial Councillor and Alternate

BCSTA bylaw 6b states that elections must be held at least once a year for the positions of Provincial Councillor and Alternate. Elections will be held this evening for these positions.

Chair Schnider called for nominations for the BCSTA Provincial Councillor.

Jen Mezei nominated Kristin Schnider who accepted the nomination.

Chair Schnider called a second and third time for nominations. There being none, she declared herself elected by acclamation BCSTA Provincial Councillor.

Chair Schnider called for nominations for the BCSTA Provincial Councillor Alternate.

Mikelle Sasakamoose nominated Bill Brassington who accepted the nomination.

Chair Schnider called a second and third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Bill Brassington elected by acclamation BCSTA Provincial Councillor Alternate.

#### 3. Election of BCPSEA Trustee Representative and Alternate

The BCPSEA Trustee Representative and Alternate may be appointed by the Board. Elections will be held this evening for these positions.

Chair Schnider called for nominations for the BCPSEA Trustee Representative.

Mikelle Sasakamoose nominated Peter Cech who accepted the nomination.

Chair Schnider called a second and third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Peter Cech elected by acclamation BCPSEA Trustee Representative.

Chair Schnider called for nominations for the BCPSEA Trustee Representative Alternate.

Peter Cech nominated Jen Mezei who accepted the nomination.

Chair Schnider called a second and third time for nominations. There being none, she declared Jen Mezei elected by acclamation BCPSEA Trustee Representative Alternate.

**3. Inside Burnaby Schools**

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

**4. Approval of Minutes**

1. Public Session - October 29, 2024

Moved by: Bill Brassington

Seconded by: Peter Cech

*THAT the minutes of the Public Session of October 29, 2024, be approved.*

Carried Unanimously

**5. Board Chair Report**

Kristin Schnider, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and presented the Board Chair Report.

Moved by: Bill Brassington

Seconded by: Jen Mezei

*THAT the Board of Education receive this information.*

Carried Unanimously

**6. District Operations - Superintendent's Report**

1. Supporting Newcomers Through Trades Training

Careers Week is November 25 – 29 and the Burnaby School District is shining a spotlight on its Youth Employment and Skills Strategy Program (YESS). With federal funding from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, the program is delivered by staff in the District's Career Education Department and Settlement Workers in Schools.

The YESS program supports students who are newcomers to Canada (including refugees, permanent residents, and naturalized citizens) who would like to find employment, learn new skills, and connect with the community and is designed to support both long and short-term employment goals.

Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent of Schools, introduced Nick Christofides, Director of Instruction, who invited Vili Der, YESS Program teacher and advocate, and Haben Gebremedhin and Alex Deres, students supported by the YESS program, to talk about their experiences.

Moved by: Jen Mezei

Seconded by: Larry Hayes

*THAT the Board of Education receive this information.*

Carried Unanimously

**7. Committee Reports**

1. Committee of the Whole - November 12, 2024

Moved by: Peter Cech  
Seconded by: Jen Mezei

*THAT the Board of Education receive the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Public meeting of November 12, 2024.*

Carried Unanimously

**8. District Operations - Administrative Services Report**

1. Field Experiences - Monthly Report

Moved by: Peter Cech  
Seconded by: Mikelle Sasakamoose

*THAT the Board of Education receive and approve the report presented in the Superintendent's District Operations - Administrative Services Report dated November 26, 2024.*

Carried Unanimously

**9. Unfinished Business**

1. Policy Updates

Superintendent Hachlaf presented Policies #1.10, #1.15, #1.20, and #7.35 for board approval.

Moved by: Bill Brassington  
Seconded by: Jen Mezei

*THAT the Board of Education receive this information and that updated Policies #1.10, #1.15, and #1.20 be approved for insertion into the Policy Manual, and that Policy #7.35 be permanently removed from the Policy Manual.*

Carried Unanimously

**10. Adjournment**

Moved by: Larry Hayes  
Seconded by: Bill Brassington

*THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:09 pm.*

Carried Unanimously