

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**April 25, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.**

---

**TRUSTEES:** Amanda Dowhy, Interim Board Chair    Cendra Beaton  
Ebony Logins (virtual)                                    Ravi Parmar  
Trudy Spiller

**STAFF:** Scott Stinson, Superintendent  
Harold Cull, Secretary-Treasurer  
Windy Beadall, Acting Associate Superintendent  
Monica Braniff, Associate Superintendent  
Paul Block, Associate Superintendent  
Fred Hibbs, Executive Director, HR  
Farzaan Nusserwanji, Executive Director, IT  
Nicole Gestwa, IT Operations

**REGRETS:** Russ Chipps  
Allison Watson

**SECRETARY:** Kristina Ross

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board Chair. Amanda Dowhy acknowledged the traditional territories of the First Nations.

The Board of Education would like to express its sympathy and condolences to the family of Langford Assistant Fire Chief Lance Caven who passed away after a battle with cancer. A funeral procession and service will be held on April 29, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at Belmont Secondary School to honour his 30-year career with the Langford Fire Department.

**2. AGENDA**

2.1 Call for amendments and additional items

71.        MOVED Cendra Beaton/Ravi Parmar



That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the public meeting agenda of April 25, 2023, as amended.

CARRIED

### 3. MINUTES

#### 3.1 Call for amendments to minutes

72. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Ravi Parmar

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the public meeting minutes of March 14, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED

### 4. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 4.1 Board Chair Update – Amanda Dowhy

The Interim Board Chair spoke of the approval from the Ministry of Education and Child Care for Port Renfrew Elementary School and the approval for the seismic upgrade to Sooke Elementary School. She spoke of the pressure that the District is facing with regards to growth, and also that she is looking forward to attending graduation ceremonies in May and June.

#### 4.2 Citizens Environment Network in Colwood (CENIC) Environment Stewardship Award –

The Sooke School District has been awarded with the CENIC 2023 Environment Stewardship Award which recognizes organizations that wish to reduce their carbon footprint by including in its operations and buildings practices that demonstrate a desire to reduce greenhouse gases and move forward in climate action.

### 5. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

#### 5.1 Music Departments in SD 62 – Lorna Bjorklund

Students from the Grade 8 band at Journey Middle School performed “Shadow Dancer by Michael Adair” for the Board of Education. District music teachers discussed their concerns with regards to the current state of the District Music Program. They spoke of the need for dedicated music spaces and the requirement for a stable and robust music program at the elementary, middle, and secondary levels.

73. MOVED Ebony Logins/Cendra Beaton

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) direct staff to provide a report to the Board of Education on the cost of portables for those schools that do not have a dedicated music program room.



DEFEATED

74. **MOVED** Ravi Parmar/Trudy Spiller  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) direct the Superintendent to engage with the District's music program teachers to find ways to ensure that our schools can continue to offer robust music programs as we deal with capacity challenges in schools.

CARRIED

- 5.2 Student Trip to Japan – March 16-27, 2024 – Belmont Secondary School – Megan Bondurant

Staff provided an overview of the student trip to the Board of Education.

75. **MOVED** Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) approve the Belmont Secondary School trip to Japan, March 16-27, 2024, subject to the oversight and direction of the Superintendent's Office.

CARRIED

- 5.3 Student Trip, to Galapagos and Ecuador - March 18-29, 2024 – Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School– Christine DoSouto

Staff provided an overview of the student trip to the Board of Education.

76. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Ravi Parmar  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) approve the Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School trip to Galapagos and Ecuador, March 18-29, 2024, subject to the oversight and direction of the Superintendent's Office.

CARRIED

**6. CORRESPONDENCE & DELEGATIONS**

6.1 Correspondence

- a. Email from Single Mothers' Alliance dated March 7, 2023, RE: Transit for Teens
- b. Letter from the Sooke Music Teachers' Association dated March 8, 2023, RE: Current State of Music Education in SD 62
- c. Letter from the City of Langford Mayor and Council dated March 16, 2023, RE: Response to Request for All-Weather Turf Field and Lights
- d. Letter to the Mayor and Council of the City of Langford, dated March 17, 2023, RE: Request for Meeting
- e. Email from Laurel Parliament, dated March 17, 2023, RE: Expansion, Growth



- and Music Programs
- f. Email from Alia Riza, dated March 31, 2023, RE: Moose Hide Campaign
  - g. Letter from Kevin Allen, dated April 17, 2023, RE: SD 62 International Student-Juan de Fuca Soccer Partnership
  - h. Letter from Bob Beckett, dated April 19, 2023, RE: Support for Global Stewardship Project Motion
  - i. Letter from Stew Young, dated April 19, 2023, RE: Support for Global Stewardship Project Motion
  - j. Letter from Skye and Alan McBride, dated April 21, 2023, RE: Colwood Elementary Music Room
77. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Ravi Parmar  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 receive the above noted correspondence.  
CARRIED

6.2 Standing Delegations (STA, CUPE, PVP, SPEAC) – 5 minutes each  
STA – Jennifer Anderson

The STA will host its AGM May 10, 2023, at the Olympic View Golf Course; further, it will host Keynote Speaker Rosemary Sadlier at its pro-d Conference highlighting “What is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and How Does It Apply to Us?” on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Jennifer Anderson noted that violence in the schools has risen since Spring Break and the need for more staffing and safety plans are key. Further, she indicated that space has become an issue in the District.

CUPE 459 – Lou Leslie

The National Day of Mourning, held on April 28, 2023, is dedicated to remembering those who have lost their lives, suffered injury or illness on the job or in a work-related tragedy. CUPE will be observing the day by flying the canary-yellow flag at half mast at some sites. The District has recently requested staff participate in a survey on diversity, equity and inclusion. 1st Vice President Lou Leslie indicated that some CUPE members were concerned and, in some cases, offended at the questions included in the survey.

Red Dress Day, also known as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two-Spirit People, is observed on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Spencer Middle School and Ruth King Elementary School students will be marching down Goldstream Avenue to Savory Elementary School to mark this day.



PVP – Ruchi McArthur

Ruchi McArthur provided an update to the Board of Education on the activities happening around the district. Highlights included: the completion of student/parent conference around the District, a Dunsmuir/Spencer Middle School Community Clean Up Challenge, the District Cross Country races and the upcoming District Track and Field Event.

The International Student Program is looking for homestay families. Those interested are asked to visit [Homestay - International Student Program | Sooke School District #62 \(sookeschoolsvictoria.com\)](https://sookeschoolsvictoria.com).

SPEAC – Melissa Da Silva

SPEAC is hosting a workshop on May 1<sup>st</sup> for parents and caregivers of elementary and middle school students to aid in the discussion of sexuality with youth in their lives. Further, on May 10<sup>th</sup>, parents and caregivers of high school students have an opportunity to discuss the same topic. SPEAC is hosting its AGM on May 17th and is looking for interested individuals to run for its Executive Team, all positions are available. In addition, the SPEAC President noted she is hearing from District families on the diversity, equity and inclusion survey, surrounding issues with several questions.

**7. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

**7.1 Resources Committee – Meeting of April 11, 2023 – Ebony Logins**

Trustee Logins provided an overview of the Resources Committee Meeting to the Board of Education.

78. **MOVED** Ebony Logins/Ravi Parmar  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) allow all three readings of the Capital Plan Bylaw 2023/24-CPSD62-01 at its meeting of April 25, 2023.  
CARRIED
79. **MOVED** Ebony Logins/Ravi Parmar  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give first, second and third readings of the Capital Plan Bylaw 2023/24-CPSD62-01.  
CARRIED
80. **MOVED** Ebony Logins/Cendra Beaton  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Resources Committee Meeting of April 11, 2023.



CARRIED

7.2 Committee of the Whole (COW) Meeting of April 18, 2023 – Amanda Dowhy

The Board Chair provided an overview of the ECOW Meeting.

81. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting of April 18, 2023.

CARRIED

7.3 2023/24 Annual Budget Bylaw – Harold Cull

Staff provided an overview of the 2023/24 Annual Budget.

82. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give first reading to the 2023/24 Annual Budget Bylaw, specifying a total of \$205,967,471.

CARRIED

83. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) direct the Superintendent to consult with employee groups to explore professional learning opportunities focused on a) supports for new educators entering the system, b) expand professional learning opportunities for CUPE employees, and ~~c) provide opportunities to expand their learning about outdoor learning~~. Further, that the Superintendent bring forward recommendations to the Board via the Resources Committee to be included in debate on the Amended Budget Process.

CARRIED

84. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) write to the Minister of Education and Childcare to request increased funding for our capital plan to address the space needs for educational outcomes and the over-capacity stressors in schools due to continuous annual growth and projections with enrollment.

MOTION TO TABLE

8. EDUCATION PROGRAM

8.1 Education-Policy Committee – Meeting of April 4, 2023 – Ravi Parmar



Trustee Parmar provided an overview of the Education-Policy Committee Meeting to the Board of Education.

85. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy and Regulations F-333 “Accumulated Operating Surplus”.  
CARRIED
86. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft new Policy and Regulations F-334 “Financial Planning and Reporting”.  
CARRIED
87. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) direct the Superintendent to develop a Global Stewardship program for SD62 to be reviewed through the Education-Policy Committee for the purposes of initiating opportunities to support SD62 students becoming global citizens.  
CARRIED
88. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Education-Policy Committee Meeting of April 4, 2023.  
CARRIED

## 87. STUDENTS

### 10. FOUNDATIONS AND GOVERNANCE

- 10.1 Board Work Plan 90 Day Outlook – Amanda Dowhy  
The Interim Board Chair provided the Board of Education a review of the next 90-day work plan.
- 10.2 Na'tsa'maht Education Committee Meeting of April 19, 2023 – Paul Block  
Staff provided an overview of the meeting to the Board of Education which included presentations on the Employment Equity Application for Special Program from HR, a presentation from the Secretary-Treasurer on Budget 2023/24 and a presentation from The Village Initiative.



10.3 Governance Committee Meeting of April 17, 2023 – Amanda Dowhy

Trustee Dowhy provided an overview of the Governance Committee meeting to the Board of Education.

89. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy A-100 “Statement of Philosophy” as presented to the Governance Committee at its meeting on April 17, 2023.

CARRIED

90. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Cendra Beaton

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy A-101 “Administrative Organization” as presented to the Governance Committee at its meeting on April 17, 2023.

CARRIED

91. MOVED Ravi Parmar/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy A-350 “Professional Development” as presented to the Governance Committee at its meeting on April 17, 2023.

CARRIED

92. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Ravi Parmar

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Governance Committee Meeting of April 17, 2023.

CARRIED

10.4 BCSTA AGM Motions – Cendra Beaton

Trustee Beaton will be attending the BCSTA AGM on April 27-30, 2023, as the Board of Education Representative.

11. **ADMINISTRATION**

11.1 Superintendent’s Report – Scott Stinson

The Superintendent provided an update to the Board of Education on Learning, Engagement and Growth in the District. Highlights included: the Safety and Resilience Grant, the Feeding Futures School Food Program, and Na’tsa’maht Community Dinners occurring in the District.

12. **PERSONNEL**





13. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

14. **FUTURE ITEMS**

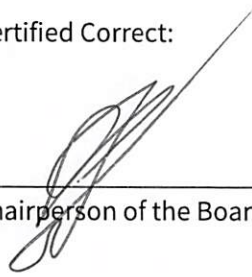
15. **QUESTION PERIOD**

Members of the public have the opportunity to ask questions related to agenda items discussed at tonight's meeting using the QA function in MS Teams. Individuals must identify themselves and ask questions directed to the Chair. Members of the media can direct their questions to the Manager, Communications for response following the meeting.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Certified Correct:



---

Chairperson of the Board



---

Secretary-Treasurer

