Board of Education

Public Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 7:00 pm 1st Floor Boardroom and via Zoom

| Present: | |
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| Chairperson | H. Larson |
| Vice Chairperson | K. Hamaguchi |
| Trustee | R Belleza |
| Trustee | D. Sargent |
| Trustee | D. Tablotney |
| Trustee | D. Yang |
| Superintendent of Schools | C. Usih |
| Deputy Superintendent | R. Ryan |
| Secretary Treasurer | C. Wang |
| Assistant Superintendent | J. MacMillan |
| Assistant Superintendent | M. Naser |
| Assistant Superintendent | C. Stanger |
| Executive Director, Learning and Business Technologies | R. Laing |
| Director, Communications & Marketing | D. Sadler |
| Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary) | T. Lee |
| | |
| Regrets: | |
| Trustee | A. Wong |
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The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledged and thanked the First Peoples of the h mi language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

1. Recognition

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(a) Recognition of Visitors

The Chairperson welcomed the gallery to the meeting.

(b) Announcements

Trustee Hamaguchi: Earth Day is an annual event on April 22 to demonstrate support for environmental protection. First held on April 22, 1970, it now includes a wide range of events event focused on promoting a healthy, sustainable habitat for all. The official theme for 2024 is Planet vs Plastics, focusing on reducing plastic use and calling for a 60% reduction in the

3.

- 7. Business Arising from Prior Minutes
 - (a) Preliminary 2024/25 Annual Budget

053/2024 MOVED BY R. BELLEZA AND SECONDED BY D. YANG:

THAT the Board of Education move into a committee of the whole to allow for all members of the public in attendance to have the opportunity to participate in the discussion on the 2024/25 annual budget and that the Superintendent facilitate the discussion.

CARRIED

The Superintendent assumed the role of Chair and asked the Secretary Treasurer to speak to her Budget Report as attached to the agenda package.

The Secretary Treasurer provided highlights of the 2024/25 Budget process, currently underway, and noted the preliminary three-year base budget is projected to be balanced, based on the budget assumptions and available information. She thanked education partner groups and staff for their input and feedback.

The Superintendent then called on Partner Group Representatives to present their budget briefs to the Board:

1.

Ms. Baverstock thanked the Board of Education and Secretary Treasurer for the transparent annual budget process and for the opportunity to provide feedback and listen to the priorities of partner groups. She appreciated the considerations in the the focus on

recruitment, retention, mentoring support, and the Classroom Enhancement Fund.

She then further clarified the specialist teacher ratio following a question from the Chairperson.

2. Stacey Robinson, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 716 and Nancy Williams, 1st Vice President, CUPE Local 716

3. Gordon Fitt, President, Richmond Association of School Administrators (RASA)

Mr. Fitt appreciated the opportunity to provide

budget, noting the concerns of the impact of City Centre enrolment pressures and the persistent issue of daily and systemic staffing shortages. He appreciated the focus of the budget proposals on inspired learners and to provide critical support for the system will enable school leaders to concentrate on delivering the best possible educational experiences for our students.

budgetary implications for

his concerns.

Trustees thanked the partner group presidents for their briefs and the Secretary Treasurer then responded to questions from trustees regarding the budget proposal.

The Superintendent turned the Chair over to Trustee Larson. Trustee Larson assumed the Chair.

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10. Standing Committee Reports

(a) Audit Committee

Chairperson: David Yang Vice Chairperson: Alice Wong

A meeting was held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2024.024