

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BOARD MEETING - BUDGET
DISTRICT OFFICE, BOARD ROOM**

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

Chair:

Vice-Chair

Trustees:

Michael Thomas
Craig Woods
Jennifer Blatherwick
Carol Cahoon
Chuck Denison
Kerri Palmer Isaak
Lisa Park
Christine Pollock
Zoe Royer

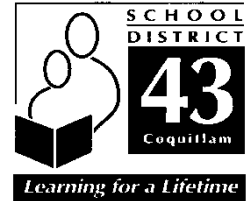
Regrets:

Administration:

Superintendent of Schools/CEO	Patricia Gartland
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO	Randy Manhas
Assistant Superintendents	Carey Chute
	Gerald Shong
	Nadine Tambellini
	Robert Zambrano
Executive Director, Facilities & Planning Services	Ivano Cecchini
Executive Director, Human Resources	Randy Manhas
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Corporate and Financial Services	Nita Mikl
Director of Instruction	Paul McNaughton
Director of Instruction	Stephen Whiffin
Assistant Director of Communications and Community Relations	Ken Hoff
Executive Assistant	Nicole Schenato

Michael Thomas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

The Acknowledgement of Territory was expressed by Trustee Pollock.



*Our mission is to ensure
quality learning opportunities
for all students of all ages*

PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF TERRITORY**

The Chair asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.

CAHOON/ROYER moved acceptance of the agenda.

Question was called.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA), Coquitlam Principals and Vice Principals Association (CPVPA), and SLC representatives in attendance introduced themselves. The District Leadership Team (DLT) members in attendance introduced themselves.

The Board Chair reviewed the budget process, guidelines, and sequence of events for the Special Public Board Meeting.

The Chair delivered remarks regarding the Board's continued financial focus and decision making guided by the goals and objectives of the *Directions 2025* strategic vision document. Strong financial stewardship is the foundation that will ensure that *Directions 2025* three goals: *achieve student success, develop the educated citizen and foster a sustainable educational organization*, will be met.

The Chair commented that the Board's key budget objective is to maintain a financially healthy, stable, and sustainable school district for the long-term to continue in achieving their vision and mission.

Patricia Gartland, Superintendent, commented that the Board of Education and the District Leadership Team have listened carefully paying close attention to stakeholder and partner group feedback throughout the budget process. From that feedback and, in alignment with our district's strategic vision document *Directions 2025*, Board direction has helped maintain excellent student success levels and sustained a secure financial position. The Superintendent further remarked that the Board is committed to financial transparency and accountability.

The Superintendent thanked the Secretary-Treasurer and his team, the Board of Education and the District Leadership Team for their leadership and collaboration and for their commitment to the strategic vision and objectives of the board. The school district school is in a very favorable position from a financial and a student success perspective.

There were no trustee questions.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

INTRODUCTIONS

- a) Partner Groups
- b) DLT

OVERVIEW OF BUDGET PROCESS AND

REMARKS FROM BOARD CHAIR

REMARKS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

TRUSTEE QUESTIONS

Bryn Williams CPVPA President, thanked the board, Superintendent Gartland, Secretary Treasurer Manhas and staff for all their hard work and support during the budget process. Mr. Williams shared his appreciation for bringing the focus back to supporting the families and staff.

Rosey Manhas, DPAC President provided budgetary comments on behalf of the District Parent Advisory Council, recognizing that the budget process is not easy and that risks are sometimes needed to achieve greater rewards.

Ms. Manhas thanked the Board and District Leadership Team for their ongoing support and commitment to DPAC as a partner group. DPAC looks forward to continued engagement and partnership, with building even stronger relationships moving forward.

Ken Christensen, CTA President, provided budgetary comments on behalf of the Coquitlam Teachers' Association membership, citing the main concerns are a balanced budget and job security for their members. The best example is the elimination of layoff/recall. Mr. Christensen thanked the board and staff for their efforts and looks forward to continuing working together in the future.

A copy of the DPAC budgetary presentation is attached to the official minutes.

At 6:51 p.m. the Chair opened the floor to questions. Trustee questions and comments regarding the following topics were responded to:

- Highlight the enormous amount of work and effort that staff has put in with a little bit of risk.
- Increase inclusivity and diversity.
- Great things have happened with this budget and pleased on how the board was able to engage and help.
- Ability to pay down Burke mountain, a remarkable accomplishment.
- How this budget looks at people and school community cultures,
- Express our sincere appreciation to our partner groups.
- 35-hour Education Assistant positions at middle school will benefit our most vulnerable and at risk which speaks to inclusivity that our district is striving for.
- Sense of stability that comes with this budget.

STAKEHOLDER BUDGET FEEDBACK QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

**COQUITLAM
PRINCIPALS & VICE-
PRINCIPALS
ASSOCIATION (CPVPA)**

**DISTRICT PARENT
ADVISORY COUNCIL
(DPAC)**

**COQUITLAM
TEACHERS'
ASSOCIATION**

**TRUSTEE DISCUSSION
QUESTION PERIOD
a) Trustees**

- Questions regarding the role of the minor department were answered.

There were no questions from the gallery.

POLLOCK/PALMER ISAAK motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Question was called.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b) Gallery

ADJOURNMENT

“Original Signed by”

Chair

“Original Signed by”

Secretary-Treasurer