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

REGULAR PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
EDUCATION LEARNING CENTRE, ROOM 104

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024

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

PRESENT

Chair:	Michael Thomas
Vice Chair:	Carol Brodie
Trustees:	Chuck Denison
	Kerri Palmer Isaak
	Lisa Park
	Christine Pollock
	Zoë Royer
	Craig Woods
Absent:	Jennifer Blatherwick
Administration:	
Acting Superintendent of Schools	Stephen Whiffin
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO	Randy Manhas
Assistant Superintendent	Carey Chute
	Anthony Ciolfitto
	Paul McNaughton
	Nadine Tambellini
Executive Director, Facilities and Planning	Ivano Cecchini
Executive Director, Human Resources	Michelle Daycock
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Corporate and Financial Services	Nita Mikl
Assistant Director, Communication and Community Relations	Ken Hoff
Recording Secretary	Nicole Schenato

CALL TO ORDER

Michael Thomas, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Chair Thomas thanked those who participated in the recent electoral process and expressed appreciation for using their democratic freedom. Trustee Blatherwick was congratulated on her successful election as MLA for Coquitlam–Maillardville.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF TERRITORY

The Acknowledgment of Territory was expressed by Trustee Denison.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA
a) Acceptance of Agenda

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

WOODS/POLLOCK moved acceptance of the agenda.
Question was called. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INTRODUCTIONS
a) Partner Groups

Representatives in attendance from the Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA), Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 561, Coquitlam Principals & Vice Principals Association (CPVPA), and the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) introduced themselves.

b) DLT

The District Leadership Team (DLT) members in attendance introduced themselves.

DELEGATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

There were no delegations/presentations.

EDUCATION

There were no education matters to report.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to the consent agenda, which included the following items:

a) Approval of September 24, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
b) Trustee Calendar Planning Report for Information
c) Trustee Reports for Information
d) AFG Summer Work & Classroom Conversions Report

PALMER ISSAK/ROYER moved approval of the consent agenda.

Question was called. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A copy of the Trustee Reports is attached to the official minutes.

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS DELEGATIONS

There were no responses to previous delegations.

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS
a) Superintendent Report
i) News & Events

Stephen Whiffin, Acting Superintendent, addressed the tragic passing of Sonya McIntyre, valued teacher from Aspenwood. Mr. Whiffin also presented a comprehensive report on district news and events, highlighting numerous activities and discussions that took place in September and October. Events included meaningful engagements by staff and students in activities centered around Truth and Reconciliation, annual Terry Fox run and Student vote program.

There were no questions from Trustees.

A copy of the Superintendent's News & Events report is attached to the official minutes.

ii) Superintendent's Update

Stephen Whiffin, Acting Superintendent provided a district update including recent Provincial Election, Trustee Blatherwick is MLA elect, and new Ministry of Education, further information will be provided on the Byelection.

There were no questions from Trustees.

iii) Enrolment Update

Anothy Ciolfitto, Assistant Superintendent, provided an update regarding enrolment. The Ministry of Education 1701 enrolment submission was completed on October 4th, 2024, with continued growth of International Education Funding Eligible students enrolled in our district. Additionally, the increased number of students in the school district from outside of Canada has significantly increased the number of English Language Learners requiring support.

Trustee questions regarding projections and planning for International funded students, the timing of the September due date, and enrollment numbers for level two and alternate education were responded to.

A copy of the Enrollment Update Memo is attached to the official minutes.

iv) Tech Twenty

Principal of Technology Implementation, Dave Sands, Teacher, Brian Barazzuol and Grade 11 student and Tech Team Member, Elias Matson from Riverside Secondary, provided the Board of Education with a presentation regarding the use of emerging Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to support learning.

Trustee questions and comments regarding the use of AI in schools, the potential for AI to present incorrect information, innovative methods for engaging and teaching students, and the District's standards for online etiquette in a safe and ethical teaching environment were responded to.

A copy of the Tech Twenty presentation is attached to the official minutes.

v) Trades and Transitions

Ben King, Principal of Career Programs, TRAIN in Trades, updated the trustees on the opportunities available to secondary students within the district's Trades and Transitions programs. These programs support students interested in pursuing career paths outside the traditional university route.

Trustee question and comments regarding exposure and awareness for both students and parents, government funding, industry tours of sites, the differences between the BCIT Indigenous Try a Trades, Jill of All Trades, and KPU Try a Trades were responded to.

Trustee Royer left the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

A copy of the Career and Trades presentation is attached to the official minutes.

b) Secretary-Treasurer Report

i) First Quarter Financial Report

Nita Mikl, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, provided the 1st Quarter Financial Report for 2024/25 school year displaying information for the 3-month period, July 1 – September 30, 2024. A positive financial outlook is anticipated for the year, given meeting enrollment projections and positive trends other revenue streams including international education and investment revenues.

Trustee Royer joined the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Trustee questions regarding the expected occupancy of Scott Creek Middle School with respect to the ten classroom additions was responded to.

A copy of the 1st Quarter Financial Report is attached to the official minutes.

ii) Rental and Lease Department Report

Martha Vassos, Manager, District Rentals and Theatre Operations, provided an overview of the Rental and Lease Department Annual Report. The rentals department has responsibility for the rental and lease of school district facilities including leasing closed schools, daycare rentals, Terry Fox Theatre, school facility rentals, specialty rentals (churches, filming, cafeteria operations), and community schools rentals.

Trustee questions and comments regarding the Terry Fox Theatre and community, permits issued this year compared to last, the potential use of Centennial and Heritage Woods Theatres, and comparisons to other districts regarding rentals were responded to.

A copy of the Rental and Lease Department presentation is attached to the official minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

QUESTION PERIOD

At 8:49 pm the Chair opened the floor to questions.

a) Trustees

There were no trustee questions.

b) Gallery

Ken Christensen, CTA President, thanked Stephen Whiffin, Acting Superintendent, for acknowledging the passing of Ms. McIntyre. He also informed The Board of Education of another teacher's passing, who lost their battle with cancer Mr. Hoben.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Catchment Area Changes 2025-2026

Anthony Ciolfitto, Assistant Superintendent, provided an update on School catchment area and the proposed changes for the 2025-2026 School year.

Trustee questions and comments regarding grandfathering of current students and siblings, the potential implications on catchment middle and secondary schools, were responded to.

A copy of the Catchment Area Update memo is attached to the official minutes.

NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no items of Trustee business.

ITEMS OF TRUSTEE BUSINESS

a) Trustee Attendance at Remembrance Day Ceremonies

The members of the Board of Education discussed their attendance at the Remembrance Day Ceremonies hosted by the legions in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, and Port Moody.

QUESTION PERIOD

At 8:57 pm the Chair opened the floor to questions.

a) Trustees

There were no trustee questions.

b) Gallery

There were no questions from the gallery.

ADJOURNMENT

BRODIE/WOODS moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm.

Question was called. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

"Original Signed by"

____

Chair

"Original Signed by"

____

Secretary-Treasurer