



Council/Board Liaison Committee Public Minutes

**Thursday, March 10, 2011
9:30 a.m.**

**School District Administration Offices
4th Floor Conference Room**

Present: Trustee Debbie Tablotney, Chair
Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt

Also Present: M. Pamer, Superintendent of Schools, SD 38
M. De Mello, Secretary Treasurer, SD 38
D. Semple, General Manager, Parks and Recreation, City of Richmond
D. Weber, City Clerk, City of Richmond
V. Jacques, Acting Director, Recreation and Cultural Services, City of Richmond
K. Champion, Director of Instruction-Learning Services, SD 38
K. Littlewood, Executive Assistant, SD 38

Regrets: Trustee Donna Sargent
Trustee Linda McPhail
Councillor Linda Barnes

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:34 am.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded

That the agenda for the meeting of Thursday, March 10, 2011 be approved as amended.

Item 4.7 moved to follow item 2.

2. MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council/Board Liaison Committee held on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 be adopted as circulated.

Item 4.7 moved to this point in the agenda

4.7 Voter/Election Awareness

- The City Clerk advised Council has been notified that voter turnout in the last election was approximately 22%. Ideas and initiatives have been put forward

to encourage a higher turnout and staff has been asked to work with the school district on initiatives.

- It was noted that encouraging the younger vote is a priority. The Justice Education Society of BC has developed a teaching resource package that was provided to this committee and includes education/lesson plans for students. It was noted that students and teachers at Mitchell elementary and McMath Secondary assisted in the pilot study.
- The non-profit organization "Student Vote" also has an educational program that runs parallel to provincial elections and includes a voluntary program for teachers.
- The committee was advised that City Council has discussed the possibility of the school district supporting the 2 noted programs.
- The Superintendent advised Student Vote has been used in the past at the secondary level.
- Trustees commented on the benefits of these programs in the schools.
- The school district will advise teachers of the appropriate sites and forward to Table 38 to advise students.
- It was noted that the 'vote anywhere' initiative will be enacted in the upcoming election. Richmond will not have on-line voting at this time. Profiles of all the candidates will also be included in correspondence that will be distributed via credit unions.

The City Clerk departed the meeting at 10:00 am

3. STANDING ITEMS

3.1 Joint School District / City Management Committee

- The School Site Acquisition Charge (SSAC) was discussed and it was noted an increase will be forwarded to Council in this regard.
- There was discussion on the Francophone school district having access to the funding.
- The capital plan is referred to the City by the Board and the funding request is part of the plan.

3.2 PROGRAMS

- The Acting Director, Recreation and Cultural Services noted that environmental stewardship and the Sport for Life Strategy was discussed at the previous meeting.
- Upcoming program items include 'Go Day', 'Move for Health Day', 'Sport Fit' and social media.
- The District's revision on the Environmental Stewardship policy was noted and comments are currently being invited.
- The City is undertaking an initiative through BC Hydro - the Energy Reduction by Employee Awareness initiative.
- Discussion ensued on Healthy snacks and advocates for the programs in the schools.

The Director of Instruction-Learning Services departed the meeting 10:15 am.

3.3 School Planning and Construction Schedule

- The Secretary Treasurer discussed the full day kindergarten additions; the new Brighthouse elementary school opening following spring break; and the Neighbourhood of Learning Centre.
- The City advised the Hamilton Community Centre project is near completion and that the McMath school field is being reconstructed by the City over spring break.
- There was discussion on the official opening for Brighthouse.

4. BUSINESS ARISING & NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Full-Day Kindergarten – Play for Children 0-6 Years

- There was discussion on Ministry funding for the modular units that includes equipment inside the classrooms but does not include any specialized playground equipment for this age group.
- The City is assisting in pre-school age playground equipment at Currie, Blundell, Dixon and Cook Elementary schools.

4.2 School District Budget Timeline

- The Secretary Treasurer noted budget preparations are underway and two public meetings have taken place. The ministry announces its funding in mid-March and it is anticipated districts will be advised on March 18th and funding will remain at the previous year's level.
- There was discussion on the district's surplus funding being due to hold back funding from the Ministry and International Student revenues.

4.3 School District Funding Cuts - Outcomes

- The Secretary Treasurer explained the primary areas affected by budget cuts last year were Educational Assistants and custodians in schools.

4.4 Hamilton Community Centre Operating Agreement Revision Update

- The Secretary Treasurer noted the new operating agreement is similar to the previous agreement with some minor revisions. A Tenants in Common agreement will have to be initiated for insurance purposes.
- The agreement will come back to the Board when it returns from legal services.
- The formal opening for the Centre is anticipated for mid-late May, 2011.

4.5 Wellness Opportunities – Joint Use

- The General Manager, Parks and Recreation advised on wellness packages expanding to include school trustees and district staff. Community association involvement is also being investigated.
- Various program times and access to programs throughout the city were noted.

ACTION: The General Manager, Parks and Recreation will provide an update at the next CBL meeting

4.6 Policy 602.14.1 – Environmental Stewardship

- The Superintendent spoke to the district's goals and initiatives in environmental stewardship.

Item 4.7 moved to earlier in the agenda

4.8 Transportation Review Report

- The Secretary Treasurer noted the report has been provided for information and explained the External Consultant's findings included comments on ridership and potential structural changes for cost savings, and concluded that the system is personalized for students, especially students with special needs.

The Acting Director, Recreation and Cultural Services departed the meeting at 10:50 am

4.9 Sidewalks to Schools

- The Secretary Treasurer spoke to the necessity of busing students to schools where sidewalks are not located. A breakdown of the areas and number of students involved was provided.
- The City advised that the district can inform the City's Transportation department where there are issues and ask about the plans for those areas.
- Concerns over the Odlin Road and Anderson area were raised.

ACTION: The Secretary Treasurer to forward a list of concerns to Victor Wei, City of Richmond, Traffic Division.

5. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 18, 9:00 am, 4th floor conference room, Administration Building

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.