

The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
Police Liaison Officer Ad Hoc Committee

MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, 11 January, 2023 at [4-5:30p.m](#)  
Location: Via Zoom

Chairperson: Trustee Duncan

Attending: M. Christie, B. Bidney, J. Snow, K. Kraft, L. Gunderson, T. Humphries, T. Aerts,  
T. Wills, A. Carmichael, J. Massey, D. Underwood, M. Brown, H. Caldwell

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A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories -

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

It was noted that the Vancouver School Board was bringing the SLO program back and a Vancouver parent had reached out for information on what possible changes would look like if adopted in Victoria.

How do we share information? Once the review goes to the B, it is publicly accessible.

#### B.2. Review of Letter from Human Rights Commissioner

The Board has received the letter.

Conversation centred around research and the difference between peer reviewed research and the collection of information through a survey. The evidence based research in the letter indicates people have been harmed by police and it was noted that this research does not ~~really~~ reflect the Victoria experience; there is less animosity with police here. The data from our survey would suggest the majority of our school community are not harmed by police but the question presented was 'how do we care for those that are ~~unsafe~~ unsafe with police?'

Another question surfaced regarding why police are in schools. Safety, authentic relationship, invitation from staff for presentations, and supporting students who were potentially on a path to criminality were offered. It was noted that the student perception of police presence in schools was different based on an informal conversation and included punishment or penalization as part of their experience.

#### B.3. State of School Liaison Programs in Canada

No comments were provided.

#### B.4. BC Human Rights Commissioner to the Special Legislative Committee on Reforming the Police Act

It was suggested that police should not be in schools until they take the time to look at the issues within their organization and that there are other ways to support schools including using outreach officers without gear, not calling 911 for mental health calls, ending the program, using other specialists including counsellors and YFCs. We could also consider the Advocacy Committee to request resources from Ministers. The Board will have to grapple with this information.

#### B.5. Ed Access Letter to GVSD61 about SPLO Program.

BCED Access does not support this program in schools. Black and People of Colour need to be consulted; deep consultation has not occurred. These voices should be front and centre. The survey was not effective as not a lot of middle and high school students participated. The report needs to acknowledge limitations.

## C. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next steps:

- We will collate all of the information we have gathered including all recommendations – approximately 4 weeks
- We will come together to review the draft report and provide feedback – approximately 2 weeks after the draft is collated, an invite will come from Kelly
- Once the report is submitted to the Board and it is published, the information is available for partners to review
- It is anticipated that the committee will be dissolved by the Board unless the Board reconvenes the committee

## D. ADJOURNMENT

5:31