



Katrina Chen reminded the audience that the Lunar New Year will be celebrated this Saturday. Many Burnaby schools will be holding celebrations. It is a time to celebrate, but also to support those in need and to respect those with different backgrounds, ethnicity and socio-economic status. Ms Chen wished everyone a won-

## Correspondence

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Harman Pandher:

*THAT the letter from George Farkas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, regarding the Memorandum of Agreement signed by the Ministry of Education, BCPSEA and the BCTF to support the implementation of priority measures while negotiations continue regarding the restored collective agreement provisions, be received.*

Carried unanimously.

## Committee Reports

### Education Committee

It was moved by Harman Pandher and seconded by Larry Hayes:

*THAT the Education Committee Report be received, as presented.*

Carried unanimously.

### Policy Committee

It was moved by Gary Wong and seconded by Harman Pandher:

*THAT the Policy Committee Report be received, as presented.*

Carried unanimously.

## District Operations Administrative Services

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Larry Hayes:

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Carried unanimously.

## New Business

### 2017 Trustee Committee Responsibilities

presented the Trustee Committee Responsibilities for 2017.

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Meiling Chia:

*THAT the Board approve the Trustee Committee Responsibilities for 2017, as presented.*

Carried unanimously.

### BCSTA ATM: Call for Motions

Trustees were informed of the deadlines for the submission of extraordinary and substantive motions to the April 20-23 Annual General Meeting of the BC School

It was moved by Baljinder Narang and seconded by Gary Wong:

*THAT the Board of Education submit the following substantive motion to the 2017 BCSTA AGM:*

#### *Federal Funding of the Settlement Workers in Schools and Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada Programs:*

#### *BE IT RESOLVED:*

*That the BCSTA urge the B.C. Ministry of Education and the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) to request the federal government provide increased, predictable and stable funding to enable boards of education to provide essential support services for immigrant families settling in communities.*

#### *RATIONALE:*

*This motion is needed because budgets in the areas of Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) and Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) continue to decrease despite the rising number of immigrants and despite the record influx of Syrian Refugees.*

*We have a responsibility to properly settle immigrant families in our communities. This has a direct impact on student learning both in the K-12 sector and adult language learning. Inadequate settlement services negatively impact parents and families who are dealing*

*with multiple barriers in finding employment and housing, managing health issues including trauma, learning a new language and trying to adapt to a new country.*

*Multiple year reductions in budgets and uncertainty in funding tie-lines in the areas of SWIS and LINC programs force school districts to cut essential positions and programs that are vital to the successful settlement of students and families in schools and the community.*