

MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024

Board:

D. Lang, Chair
M. J. Blackmore
J. Bremner, Vice-Chair (*via video conference*)
S. Chew (*via video conference*)
K. Etheridge
A. Gribbin (*via video conference*)
S. Nazaroff (*via video conference*)
M. Shunter
L. Trenaman

Student Trustees:

Bo Ashe, KRSS
Kaia Fitz-Earle, LVR
Daisy Lamoureux, JVH
Emma Lecompte, KRSS
Thea Solarik, LVR
Emerson Zuk, JVH

Guests:

Don Nash, KWL

District Staff:

T. Smillie, Superintendent
C. MacArthur, Secretary-Treasurer
L. Carriere, Director of Aboriginal Education
B. Eaton, Director of Instruction - Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
(*via video conference*)
D. Holitzki, Assistant Superintendent
C. Kerr, Director of Operations (*via video conference*)
C. Makeiv, District Literacy Teacher Coordinator
T. Malloff, District Principal
E. Mather, District Principal
S. Bruskowski, Executive Assistant

Regrets:

Nil

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory

3. Changes to the Proposed Agenda – Nil

Item 12C: Public Advocacy was added to the agenda.

Item 12A.4: Approve Policy 160 and item 12B.1: Rescind Policy 840 were removed from the agenda.

4. Consent Package Questions – Nil

5. Adoption of Agenda

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-017

THAT the Agenda for this October 8, 2024 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Receiving Public Presentations – Nil

7. Comments or Questions from the Public regarding items on this Agenda – Nil

8. Adoption of Minutes

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-018

THAT the minutes from the September 10, 2024 Meeting of the Board held in public **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

The motion carried unanimously.

9. Future and Action Item Tracking – Nil

10. Education – Reports from the Superintendent

A. Literacy Continuous Learning Report 2024-2025

Superintendent Smillie welcomed Assistant Superintendent Holitzki, District Principal Malloff, and District Teacher Coordinator Makeiv who presented the Literacy Continuous Learning Report. The report analyzed student literacy trends and details the supports and resources aimed at ensuring success, especially for priority groups such as Indigenous learners and those with diverse abilities. With a district-wide literacy coherence model, SD8 aims to enhance K-12 literacy outcomes through ongoing data analysis and targeted action items for continuous learning. Actions from the literacy action plan were presented to the Board.

In response to Trustees' questions, Assistant Superintendent Holitzki outlined that data is used to determine areas of strength and areas of growth which is used for capacity building as well as targeted professional development.

B. Support for Inclusive Education

Assistant Superintendent Holitzki presented the inclusive support measures across the district. While the classroom teacher is primarily responsible for the support of students with diverse abilities, collaborative processes are in place to make the best use of specialists to assist and support.

In response to a Trustee's question, Assistant Superintendent Holitzki explained the categories of designations. Superintendent Smillie outlined that support provided to students is making sure their needs are met, regardless of them having designation that is in a Ministry-funded category.

C. Remembrance Day Ceremonies 2024

Superintendent Smillie presented the Remembrance Day Assembly schedule as outlined in the memo.

11. Operations and Finance – Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer

A. Final Enrolment and Budget Implications

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the Final Enrolment and Budget implications. Funding is based on FTE enrollment as well as on students with unique designations, English/French Language Learners and Indigenous Learners. Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur compared projected enrollment with actuals as per 1701 Snapshot in September 2024.

Enrollment numbers are a bit lower than expected, which will reduce the operating grant from basic enrolments. Since the decline in enrolment from the prior year exceeds 1%, the district will receive supplement funding. The trend of a slightly declining student population is based on larger cohorts graduating while smaller cohorts are entering the system. This decline has been anticipated for many years.

B. Brent Kennedy Elementary Water Quality

Guest: Don Nash, KWL

Director Kerr presented information on the Brent Kennedy water quality as outlined in the memo. Director Kerr and Don Nash responded to Trustees' questions. The fluctuation and dropping of water levels will be monitored in the future. The information is communicated to PAC. Depending on how water levels and water quality develop in the future, different mitigation measures are on the table to be considered. Discussion took place about whether this could be an opportunity to collaborate with RDCK if other dwellings in the area are facing similar challenges.

12. Governance and Policy

A. Policy Approval

- Policy 112: Governing Principles

After minor changes to align the policy with the Board's practices this was brought to the Board for approval.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-019

THAT policy 112 **BE APPROVED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

- Policy 120: Board Meeting Procedures

Superintendent Smillie provided an update on the edits in this policy.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-020

THAT policy 120 **BE APPROVED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

- Policy 140: Communication Protocol for Trustees

Superintendent Smillie outlined that two were added to the policy which regulate extending formal letters from Board of Education as well as aligning communication with staff to office hours.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-021

THAT policy 140 **BE APPROVED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Rescind Policy

- Policy 910: Online Learning

Online learning has shifted in the province and School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) has now a Provincial Online Learning School that provides services to students across the province. Details are of operational nature and are outlined in administrative procedure.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-022

THAT policy 910 **BE RESCINDED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

C. Public Advocacy

The BCSTA provided school districts with 3 questions to bring raise awareness for public education at events related to the 2024 provincial election.

- Question #1 – What specific strategies will you implement to eliminate employment barriers for Early Childhood Educators and Education Assistants, and how do you plan to support professional development opportunities to create a more diverse and inclusive workforce in our schools?
- Question #2 – Given the urgent need for increased Annual Facilities Grants and equitable capital funding, how will you advocate for a comprehensive funding strategy to address maintenance in aging school facilities, particularly in rural and remote communities.
- Question #3 – What commitments will you make to ensure adequate funding for programs support new immigrant and refugee students, as well as neurodiversity training for educators, to foster an inclusive environment that meets the needs of all students.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-023

THAT the Board of Education send a letter with these 3 questions to candidates and that the results are published on the district website.

The motion carried unanimously.

13. **Human Resources – Nil**

14. **Trustee Verbal Reports**

A. Student Trustees

Chair welcomed the 2024-2025 Student Trustees.

- LVR Student Trustees Fitz-Earle and Solarik reported of the Truth and Reconciliation assembly and provided updates on the renaming of the school's team to LVR Grizzlies, as well as a basketball game the previous Saturday. A new crosswalk was painted which allows students to safely walk to and from the bus stop at LVR. The LVR student council and Green Team are working on bringing more e-bike friendly bike racks to LVR.
- KRSS Student Trustees Ashe and Lecompte informed the Board of start of school events, including a pancake breakfast for truth and reconciliation, the school's Terry Fox run, and a

presentation on career opportunities across the province. Upcoming events are an all-candidates forum for political candidates, a fundraiser concert from the concert society, the Remembrance Day assembly, as well as volleyball and basketball games with First Aid responders.

- JVH Student Trustees Lamoureux and Zuk highlighted their school's overarching goal of bringing all students together. In a school-wide activity all k-12 students got together in the park for challenges and activities. JVH has 3 volleyball teams this year and senior girls are teaching the junior team. The Truth and Reconciliation assembly on September 30th showcased art and poems. The Student Trustees thanked Chair Lang for attending. On October 7th, students met at the gyp, played a tag game, before splitting off and working on art projects. The art will be displayed on the bulletin board. At the Terry Fox run on September 19th, a poster was signed by all students and then posted at the school outside the library. The student parliament meeting was held on September 24th.

B. Trustees

- Trustee Trenaman attended the BCSTA bylaw committee meeting. The committee will make recommendations to the BCSTA Board to be presented at the AGM next spring. She also attended the KBB AGM in Nakusp, the Policy Review Committee meeting, the judication meeting of new Rec 10 committee, as well as the Kaslo candidates' meeting together with Chair Lang.
- Trustee Shunter went to the all-candidates forum on environment in Nelson and was able to ask candidates a question about support for a provincial climate action curriculum.
- Trustee Nazaroff attended Truth and reconciliation ceremonies at KRSS.
- Trustee Blackmore highlighted the KBB AGM and the value of collaboration with other districts. She attended the Canyon corn roast event as well as the walk for truth and reconciliation with LKB.

C. Chair

Chair Lang attended the BCSTA Board Chair meeting, the Policy Review Committee meeting, various BCPSEA meetings, the Student Trustee onboarding session, the Truth and Reconciliation meeting in Kaslo, the all-candidates meeting in Kaslo, as well as the KBB AGM which concluded her second term as KBB president.

D. British Columbia School Trustee Association (BCSTA)

Trustee Chew reminded the Board that the Provincial Council as well as the BCSTA Academy are coming up this fall.

E. British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) – Nil

F. District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Trustee Trenaman attended the meeting in Vice-Chair Bremner's absence.

G. Other – Nil

15. Comments or Questions from the Public

The employee engagement survey is an internal project. Superintendent Smillie will be providing updates to the board.

16. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

A. Board Meetings

The next Meeting of the Board held in Public is scheduled for November 12, 2024.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

[REDACTED]

Board Chair

[REDACTED]

Secretary-Treasurer