

MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC AND INAUGURAL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024

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

Student Trustees: Bo Ashe, KRSS
Daisy Lamoureux, JVH
Rebecca Metcalfe, MSSS
Thea Solarik, LVR
Emerson Zuk, JVH

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

Guests: Nil

Regrets: Nil

1. **Call to Order** – Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur
The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.
2. **Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory**
3. **Trustee Positions & Appointments**
 - A. **Election of Board Chair** (12 month term)
Trustee Lang was acclaimed Chair of the Board of Education.
The Secretary-Treasurer transferred the meeting Chair position to Chair Lang.

Chair Lang thanked everyone for their support and their continued work towards student success.

B. Election of Board Vice-Chair (12 month term)

Trustee Bremner was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the Board of Education.

C. Election of Provincial Representative and Alternates (12 month term)

- BCSTA Provincial Councilor

Trustee Chew was acclaimed BCSTA Provincial Councilor.

- BCPSEA Representative

Trustee Nazaroff was acclaimed BCPSEA Representative.

- BCSTA Provincial Councilor Alternate

Trustee Shunter was acclaimed BCSTA Provincial Councilor Alternate.

- BCPSEA Representative Alternate

Trustee Blackmore was nominated but declined the nomination to avoid a conflict of interest.

Trustee Etheridge was acclaimed BCPSEA Representative Alternate.

D. Election of Committee Chairs (24 month term)

- Education Partner Advisory Committee

Trustee Nazaroff was acclaimed Committee Chair for the Education Partner Advisory Committee.

- Policy, Operations, and Finance Partner Advisory Committee

Trustee Etheridge was acclaimed Committee Chair for the Policy, Operations, and Finance Partner Advisory Committee.

E. Notice for Expression of Interest for Representing the Interests of the Board of Education in Roles at Other Committees (12 month term)

Chair Lang asked Trustees to express interest for the following roles within the upcoming two weeks:

- Accessibility Committee (1 seat)

- Joint Safety Advisory Committee (JSAC) (2 seats)

- Policy Review Committee: (1 Trustee seat in addition to Policy PAC chair and Board Chair)

F. Destruction of Ballots (if there is a secret ballot vote held)

All positions had been acclaimed and no ballots needed to be destroyed.

4. **Changes to the Proposed Agenda – Nil**

5. **Consent Package Questions – Nil**

6. **Adoption of Agenda**

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-024
THAT the Agenda for this November 12, 2024 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as
circulated.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. **Receiving Public Presentations – Nil**

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

9. Adoption of Minutes

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-025

THAT the minutes from the October 8, 2024 Meeting of the Board held in public **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

The motion carried unanimously.

10. Future and Action Item Tracking – Nil

11. Education – Reports from the Superintendent

A. Numeracy Continuous Learning Report 2024-2025

Superintendent Smillie invited Assistant Superintendent Holitzki and District Principal Malloff to present the Numeracy Continuous Learning Report, emphasizing numeracy as a priority focus for the district. The report highlighted the district's data-driven, evidence-based approach to action planning.

The team presented the numeracy assessment inventory, outlining various aspects of numeracy progress within SD8, the methods used to monitor these metrics, and how this focus aligns with the district's Strategic Plan. They also shared successful initiatives, such as the Slocan Math Fairs, along with key highlights from the current year's action plan.

Trustees expressed their support for the math fair initiative and inquired about the possibility of expanding it to other areas of the district.

B. SD8 Recruitment and Retention Action Plan Update

Superintendent Smillie invited Director Singh to present the SD8 Recruitment and Retention Action Plan Update, as outlined in the agenda package. Director Singh detailed the district's efforts to broaden its applicant pool through strategic job postings. To enhance employee engagement and retention, the district recently conducted an employee engagement initiative.

Trustees expressed their appreciation for the HR team's efforts.

C. Winter Celebrations

Superintendent Smillie reminded attendees of the upcoming winter celebrations scheduled for December. Events will proceed as outlined in the agenda package, and Trustees will receive individual invitations from schools.

12. Operations and Finance – Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer – Nil

13. Governance and Policy

A. KBB BCSTA Motions

Chair Lang outlined that SD8 is part of the Kootenay Boundary Branch, a regional division. The Board was asked to support bringing three motions, as attached in the agenda package, forward to the regional branch for consideration.

One Trustee emphasized the importance of addressing climate action, in addition to climate change, in the curriculum to help alleviate climate anxiety among students and the community.

The proposed motions include requests for District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) support for the Parent Advocacy Program Funding and DPAC Financial Support for Director's Insurance, both aimed at strengthening DPAC's role on a provincial level.

14. Human Resources – Nil

15. Trustee Verbal Reports

A. Student Trustees

- L.V. Rogers Secondary (Student Trustee Solarik)
L.V. Rogers held its Remembrance Day ceremony on November 8. Many students attended the Student Leadership Conference and provided positive feedback. The school celebrated Halloween with various activities, including pumpkin carving and decorating the canteen.
- Kootenay River Secondary School (Student Trustee Ashe)
The student council expressed appreciation to the Board for supporting the Student Leadership Conference. From October 28 to November 1, the school held a spirit week with themed dress-up days. A Remembrance Day assembly on November 8 featured a meaningful land acknowledgment, three guest speakers, and poetry readings. The Career-Life Connections class is working to reactivate the school's social media presence.
- J.V. Humphries (Student Trustees Zuk & Lamoureux)
J.V. Humphries celebrated Halloween with a school-wide costume parade, games, and a costume contest for high school students. The school hosted a talent show open to the community on November 8. A member of the student parliament presented at the monthly assembly, highlighting October as Disability Employment Awareness Month. Students attended the Student Leadership Conference, and the Remembrance Day ceremony on November 8 featured presentations by grade 10 students, along with a guest speaker. The school also hosted a successful volleyball tournament.
- Mount Sentinel Secondary (Student Trustee Metcalfe)
Trustee Metcalfe joined the meeting later; however, due to technical issues, audio was unavailable during their report.

B. Trustees

- Trustee Trenaman attended two Principal/Vice-Principal (PVP) interview meetings, the bylaw review committee meeting, and the DPAC meeting. She acknowledged former DPAC Chair Natalia Nazaroff for her contributions to DPAC and her role in developing the draft resolutions for the Kootenay Boundary Branch. Trustee Trenaman also attended the Student Leadership Symposium and was inspired by the presentations on artificial intelligence and the students' collaboration at the event. Additionally, she attended the Remembrance Day assembly at Redfish, where all students actively participated in the ceremony.

- Trustee Nazaroff commended the Student Leadership Conference at Mount Sentinel Secondary for its student involvement. She also participated in the Slocan Valley Literacy Advisory Committee meeting, where she learned about valuable partnerships, such as the reading challenge hosted by the Nelson Library for valley students. Trustee Nazaroff attended the BCPSEA symposium, where discussions on AI in public education were particularly engaging.
- Trustee Chew attended the Provincial Council for BCSTA, where the council welcomed a new CEO. She highlighted an upcoming initiative for BC Boards of Education to include non-voting students in the Provincial Council, emphasizing the importance of integrating student voices into district decisions.
- Trustee Shunter attended Remembrance Day ceremonies at South Nelson and Hume, observing student-led efforts in honoring those who sacrificed for freedom. He also participated in the Student Leadership Conference, noting the collaborative organization by students, teachers, and administrators and the positive impact of the event.
- Vice Chair Bremner attended Remembrance Day ceremonies at South Nelson and L.V. Rogers Secondary, observing different stages of students as they go through the public education system. She highlighted the Student Leadership Conference for bringing together students from various communities across the district.
- Trustee Blackmore attended several Remembrance Day assemblies, including at ARES and Erickson, appreciating the diverse approaches to the ceremonies. Erickson's assembly uniquely incorporated an Indigenous perspective. Trustee Blackmore also attended events at Yaqan Nuki School and in Kaslo.

C. Chair

Chair Lang attended the BCPSEA conference in Vancouver where she participated in Remembrance Day learning and gained insights into artificial intelligence in education as well as the bargaining framework.

D. British Columbia School Trustee Association (BCSTA)

See Trustee report above.

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

See Trustee report above.

F. District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Vice Chair Bremner attended the DPAC AGM which nor was a new executive:

- Sheri Pawlyshyn - Chair and Alternate DPAC Committee Rep,
- Michelle Harris - Vice Chair,
- Taryn Stokes - Secretary and Education Partners DPAC Rep,
- Chase Leushner - Policy, Operations & Finance Committee DPAC Rep,
- Natalia Nazaroff - Past Chair and Education Partners Committee DPAC Rep, and
- Lesley Garlow - Policy, Operations & Finance Committee DPAC Rep.

G. Other – Nil

16. **Comments or Questions from the Public** – Nil

17. **Meeting Schedule and Reminders**

A. Board Meetings

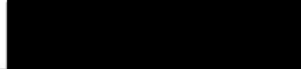
The next Meeting of the Board held in Public is scheduled for December 10, 2024.

18. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 PM.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer