

**MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025**

<u>Board:</u>	D. Lang, Chair (<i>via video conference</i>) J. Bremner, Vice Chair M. J. Blackmore (<i>via video conference</i>) K. Etheridge (<i>via video conference</i>) A. Gribbin (<i>via video conference</i>) M. Shunter L. Trenaman
<u>Student Trustees:</u>	M. Gretchen, MSSS (<i>via video conference</i>) D. Lamoureux, JVH (<i>via video conference</i>) E. Lecompte, KRSS (<i>via video conference</i>) R. Metcalf, MSSS (<i>via video conference</i>) T. Solarik, LVR (<i>via video conference</i>)
<u>District Staff:</u>	T. Smillie, Superintendent C. MacArthur, Secretary-Treasurer L. Carriere, Director of Aboriginal Education (<i>via video conference</i>) B. Eaton, Director of Instruction - Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment D. Holitzki, Assistant Superintendent C. Kerr, Director of Operations T. Malloff, District Principal – Secondary & Innovative Learning S. Maloff, Principal C. Singh, Director of Human Resources K. Tamblyn, District Principal – International Education S. Bruskowski, Executive Assistant
<u>Guests:</u>	Nil
<u>Regrets:</u>	S. Chew S. Nazaroff

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

4. Consent Package Questions – Nil

5. Adoption of Agenda

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:**

24/25-033

THAT the Agenda for this February 11, 2025 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

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:** 24/25-034

THAT the minutes from the January 14, 2025 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. Connected Learners Continuous Learning Report 2024-2025

Director Eaton presented the Connected Learners Continuous Learning Report which focused on students being curious, critical, and creative stewards of the natural world, local and global community. The report analyzed student learning data to evaluate continuous improvement in this strategic priority. Mount Sentinel Secondary School principal Maloff and Student Trustee Gretchen presented two videos that were produced by the school's Academy of the Performance and Media Program, including students showcasing the Student Leadership Conference as well as the MSSS music program.

Director Eaton and Student Trustee Gretchen highlighted ongoing provincial discussions about values and beliefs in AI and technology education, and efforts to spark interest in these programs among students at other schools within the district.

B. International Education Annual Report 2024-2025

Principal Tamblyn presented the International Education Annual Report which highlights the program's contributions to educational and cultural diversity for the district. It supports three academic paths: graduation, co-validation, and cultural experience. Key achievements include effective student integration, a robust homestay program, and significant cultural and economic contributions to the local community.

The program plans to enhance marketing, recruitment strategies, and partnerships to support sustainable growth and diversify its student base.

Homestay options are available for durations of three months, six months, or a full year, with interested families directed to find more information on the program's website at <https://international.sd8.bc.ca/hosts>.

C. Board Authority Authorized Course Approval

Director Eaton presented the Board Authority Authorized Courses for approval as provided in the agenda package. Dungeons and Dragons 10/11/12 was designed to enhance soft skills through game design and storytelling, teaching students to create RPG elements and use 3D printing and map production.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-035

THAT the Board Authority Authorized course Dungeons and Dragons 10/11/12

BE APPROVED.

The motion carried unanimously.

D. 2023-2024 First Time Graduation Rates and Six-Year Completion Rates

11. Superintendent Smillie presented the 2023-2024 First Time Graduation Rates and Six-Year Completion Rates report, comparing district data to provincial averages and historical data. Positive trends were seen in both metrics across all student groups, with notable achievements for Indigenous and students with diverse abilities. Strategies to support these outcomes include individualized graduation plans, partnerships for dual credit programs, and specialized supports for priority student groups.

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

A. 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget

In a presentation, Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur compared the 2024-2025 Annual Budget to the 2024-2025 Amended Budget. The 2024-2025 Annual Budget was created and approved based on best information available as of the spring 2024 whereas the 2024-2025 draft Amended Budget is based on the September 30, 2024 enrolment count and takes into consideration developments and adjustments that have occurred over the course of the 2024-2025 school year.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-036

THAT the Board of Education proceed to conclude three readings in one evening for the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-037

- i. **THAT** the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2024-2025 **BE APPROVED** as read a first time;
- ii. **THAT** the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2024-2025 **BE APPROVED** as read a second time;
- iii. **THAT** the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2024-2025 **BE ADOPTED** as read a third time.

The motion carried unanimously.

13. Governance and Policy

A. Draft School Calendar 2027-2028 Approval for Field Testing

Superintendent Smillie presented the draft school calendars 2027-2028. All neighbouring districts were informed of the draft calendars to allow alignment when they develop their calendars.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-038

THAT the 2027-2028 school calendar **BE APPROVED** for posting on the website for field testing beginning on February 12, 2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Policy Approval for Field Testing

- Policy 410: Catchment Areas

Superintendent Smillie presented the draft Policy 410: Catchment Areas. The revised policy now outlines the catchment areas.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-039

THAT policy 410 **BE APPROVED** for field testing.

The motion carried unanimously.

C. Policy Approval

- Policy 112: Governing Principles

Superintendent Smillie presented the draft Policy 112: Governing Principles. In this revision, the Board Norms were incorporated into the policy.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-040

THAT policy 112 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Policy 130: Trustee Code of Conduct

Superintendent Smillie presented the draft Policy 130: Trustee Code of Conduct. A reference to the Board Norms as outlined in policy 112 was added to this policy.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-041

THAT policy 130 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

- Policy 160: Policy Development

Superintendent Smillie presented the draft Policy 160: Policy Development. The policy development was streamlined to increase readability to Trustees and the public.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-042

THAT policy 160 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried with one opposed.

- Policy 173: Climate Action and Sustainability

Superintendent Smillie presented draft Policy 173: Climate Action and Sustainability. After extensive public consultation, the draft policy had been posted for field testing and no further input was received. The district's goals for climate action and sustainability were presented in a video.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-043

THAT policy 173 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

14. Human Resources – Nil

15. Trustee Verbal Reports

A. Student Trustees

- Mount Sentinel (Student Trustee Gretchen)

Student Trustee Gretchen commended the Academy Program for producing four out of the five videos showcased at the meeting and highlighted its recent murder

mystery event. She also reported on the successful collaboration between the outdoor and culinary programs, known as ORCA. Furthermore, the hot lunch program has been expanded to offer more days, ensuring all families who pre-order can enjoy equitable access to nutritious meals. Gretchen added that the academy's documentary is set to be screened at the Capitol Theatre on June 9 and 10, with additional information available on the academy's social media and website.

- JV Humphries (Student Trustee Lamoureux)
Student Trustee Lamoureux reported on the theme of interconnectedness, highlighted by buddy class activities and science project demonstrations, emphasizing school unity through shared learning experiences. February's focus on Black History Month enriches the curriculum in English and Social Studies. Additionally, the school's sports and outdoor education programs are thriving, with successful basketball teams and educational outings like skiing and avalanche training, further enhancing student engagement and community ties.
- LVR (Student Trustee Solarik)
New classes began last week, sparking excitement for the second semester. Students are looking forward to the upcoming Spirit Leadership Week. Additionally, students in the arts class are preparing for an LVR student show, which will be held in Nelson at the public library, showcasing their work to the community.
- KRSS (Student Trustee Lecompte)
As the second semester begins, students are settling into their new classes following the release of report cards last week. The student council is actively advocating for enhancing privacy in changing rooms through curtains. Several fundraising efforts are taking place, such as the sales of candy and pink pancakes. Additionally, students are engaged in fundraising efforts to provide hygiene kits at the public library.

B. Trustees

- Trustee Bremner is looking forward to attending the LVR art show this weekend with her daughter.
- Trustee Trenaman attended the District Parent Advisory Council meeting and participated in the BCSTA Kootenay Boundary Branch meeting, where three resolutions originating from our district were passed to be presented at the upcoming BCSTA AGM.

C. Chair

Chair Lang attended multiple BCPSEA meetings, the BCPSEA AGM, sector calls, and the BCSTA Board Chairs call where matters of the BCSTA Bylaw Review Group well as cybersecurity were discussed.

D. British Columbia School Trustee Association (BCSTA) – Nil

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

Chair Lang attended the BCPSEA AGM. Four positions for the board of directors ran without rival candidates and the incumbents were re-elected. A lot of professional development for Trustees will be offered.

F. District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Vice Chair Bremner reported on actively engaged parents at the meeting. Learning sessions are offered for parents to further enhance their involvement and understanding of educational matters.

G. Other – Nil

16. Comments or Questions from the Public

Superintendent Smillie clarified in response to public inquiries that graduates from the Dogwood and Evergreen programs are not included in the school completion rate statistics.


17. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

A. Board Meetings


The next Meeting of the Board held in Public is scheduled for March 11, 2025.

18. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer