

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020**

**3:00 PM PST – 4:00 P.M. PST**

Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/402928242>

**BOARD:**

L. Trenaman  
S. Walsh  
D. Lang  
B. Maslechko (*via video conference*)  
A. Gribbin (*via video conference*)  
S. Nazaroff (*via video conference*)  
S. Chew (*via video conference*)  
B. Coons (*via video conference*)  
C. Beebe (*via video conference*)

**DISTRICT STAFF:**

C. Perkins, Superintendent  
M. McLellan, Secretary-Treasurer  
N. Howald, Director of Information Technology  
C. Singh, Director of Human Resources  
B. Eaton, Director of Innovative Learning  
D. Holitzki, Director of Inclusive Education  
N. Ross, District Principal  
J. Schmidt, District Principal of International Education (*via Video Conference*)  
V. Finnie, District Teacher (*via Video Conference*)  
B. Firkser, District Teacher (*via Video Conference*)  
N. Lynn, Learning Innovator

**PARTNERS:**

D. Kunzelman, KLTF (*via Video Conference*)  
C. Bendig, KLTF (*via Video Conference*)  
R. Bens, CUPE (*via Video Conference*)  
S. Kalabis, KLPVPA (*via Video Conference*)  
L. Mackay, KLPVPA (*via Video Conference*)  
S. Metcalf, DPAC (*via Video Conference*)  
L. Quattrocchi, DPAC (*via Video Conference*)  
A. Early, CUPE (*via Video Conference*)  
M. Bennett, CUPE (*via Video Conference*)

**GUESTS:**

J. McMurray, Valley Voice – Media (*via video conference*)

**1. Call to Order**

Committee Chair Trenaman called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory**

*We acknowledge, respect and honor the First Nations in whose traditional territories the Kootenay Lake School District operates and all Aboriginal people residing within the boundaries of School District No. 8.*

**3. Insertions/Deletions to proposed Agenda**

Director Eaton added item: 10. A. i. – Covid-19 Resource webpage

**Moved** by Trustee Walsh, seconded by A. Early, CUPE representative, **AND RESOLVED:**

**THAT** item 10.A.i. – Covid-19 Resource webpage be added to the agenda.

**4. Adoption of Agenda**

Upon a motion duly **MOVED** and **RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the agenda for this April 28, 2020 meeting, **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

**5. Receiving Presentations: Nil**

**6. Opportunity for Comments by the Public: Nil**

**7. Consent Package: Nil**

**8. Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved** by Trustee Beebe, seconded by Trustee Walsh, **AND RESOLVED:**

**THAT** the minutes of the March 10, 2020 Education Committee of the Whole meeting **BE ADOPTED** as amended.

**9. Old Business: Nil**

**10. New Business**

A. Virtual Learning in School District 8

i. Covid-19 Webpage Resource

Director Eaton shared the new Covid-19 web page tab which is located on the SD8 main webpage. The Covid-19 resource page was created to provide district recommended resources to families and teachers. In addition to the Covid-19 webpage, Scott Rothermel, Safe Schools Manager and Javier Gonzalez, Coordinator for School Mental Health and Addictions have made themselves available to people.

The Covid-19 page consists of resources specific to Families and Students and Teachers and Staff.

Director Eaton shared that as of April 28, 2020 there have been 1223 views to the Covid-19 web page.

ii. Teacher Professional Learning during April 2020

District Principal Ross shared the professional learning numbers of virtual learning attendance through the spring of 2020. Ross explained that the district plans professional learning a year a head of time, and historically April is one of the busiest months for professional learning. This year due to Covid-19, the professional learning workshops were offered virtually.

The district has learned that offering professional learning virtually could be the new way of delivery. The district has also been able to record the professional learning opportunities and these recordings are now on the Innovative Learning website and are password protected.

District Principal Ross thanked the Board of Education for supporting Focus, Learn, Excel, as this has made getting the amazing speakers, we have had possible in our district.

Trustee Lang – Can you put the registration numbers into context?

District Principal Ross – There are approximately 600 teachers in the district. So, we have been able to open these offerings to many more people than usual.

Chair Trenaman – Are we offering to outside the district?

District Principal Ross – Yes, we are offering the professional development opportunities to our community and surround districts.

iii. Continuity of Learning Plan

District Principal Ross provided an overview of the Continuity of Learning Plan.

The Continuity of Learning Plan was created as a collaborative effort by the SD8 District Principals, Directors and Superintendent. The document was tailored to meet the needs of our community learners and staff. It's a tool for Principals, Vice-Principals, teachers and education assistants who are working with students. It provides insight into each position's roles and responsibilities in the pandemic scenario. The plan also provides a suggested learning framework, which is a guideline for learners.

Trustee Walsh – Commended the district on this document and noted that it wasn't easy to find on the website.

Superintendent Perkins – Noted that the Continuity of Learning Plan was emailed out to all SD8 families. The document was created thoroughly and was sent to PVP before spring break. Superintendent Perkins thanked the team for their work on the Continuity of Learning Plan as well as the Food Equity program.

iii. [Virtual Resources for Teachers and Families](#)

District Teachers Firkser and Finnie introduced themselves to the Board of Education. Firkser and Finnie reviewed the learning resources google document which they created for teachers as a resource. The learning resources document

includes vetted learning resources for SD8 teachers to utilize while teaching virtually.

District Teachers Firkser and Finnie provided some examples of the resources.

District Teacher Finnie showcased weekly exemplars which are a weekly suggested structure to help teachers. As well Finnie has been hosting collaborative share meetings with teachers weekly to encourage teachers to share their experiences and collaborate as well as provide a sense of community. Finnie noted that the teachers have been doing an amazing job considering the huge learning curve of learning to teach remotely.

iv. [Teacher Webpages on SD8 School Websites](#)

District Principal Ross shared that every teacher in SD8 has been set up with a personal teacher's webpage. Families can go to the school website to find their teachers website which will house resources and lesson plans.

Acting Principal Mackay – Thanked the district for getting the teacher resources organized, and for the collaboration opportunities.

District Principal Ross – Discussed that bringing teachers together has enhanced collaboration around the district. Ross noted that we are all working towards the same goal of supporting our learners and families.

Trustee Chew – Congratulated the team for the remarkable resource job. She noted that she was proud of the Covid-19 support that has been produced. Chew questioned if the district can think about a map for the website to help people find the resources they are looking for.

Superintendent Perkins – Shared that she has been attending all weekly PAC and DPAC meetings which have helped to improve communication.

Director Eaton – Noted that Javier Gonzalez has made himself available to families for support. He also shared that school PAC's are offering zoom opportunities for parents and are in the process of working with each PAC to support families. Eaton also noted that the Covid-19 page is another resource available to families.

Superintendent Perkins – Shared that parents have been giving great feedback to the district and DPAC with respect to the work that the district has done to support families around Covid-19.

Chair Trenaman – Shared that she is proud to be part of SD8 at this difficult time of pandemic.

**11. Celebration of Learning**

Acting Principal Mackay – shared that grade 4/5 teachers and Faye Brownlie have been collaborating together.

District Teacher Finnie – shared that there has been a lot of amazing learning taking place. She also shared that she held a virtual class of roots of empathy which went extremely well.

Chair Trenaman – Shared a story about a neighbor child who shared her globe - paper mache project and was able to explain to the Chair what tectonic plates were. She noted that the support in home and at the school has been exceptional.

Trustee Walsh – Asked how secondary students are doing?

Superintendent Perkins – Shared that the Salmo Secondary music teacher held a social distant music class recent. She also shared that L.V. Rogers and Trafalgar are working on a food hamper program, and Student Trustees are putting together a peer tutoring resource.

Director Eaton – Shared that he met with teachers and educational assistants at LVR, and everyone has been doing an incredible job with remote, virtual learning. Teachers have been engaging with students remotely and taking advantage of the situation and looking at it as an opportunity to learn. A real shift is taking place due to these unprecedented times.

Director Walsh – Asked if teachers are working from school or from home?

Superintendent Perkins – Shared that a mix of on site and at homework is taking place. Educational Assistants have been working hard over the past few weeks and have made great connections and putting documents together to share. All work is being done with health and safety protocols in place. Hume Elementary staff came together as a group this week and were happy to see one another. It was comforting to people to come back together. Vulnerable students are meeting with inclusion staff, and face to face meetings will begin to increase. Administration, clericals and custodians are all working at their school sites. Teachers are encouraged to come back to their school sites. All schools are currently open as ESW and OSS sites at this point. PVP are ensuring that student's needs are being met.

Acting Principal Mackay – Shared a story of her son who attends L.V. Rogers and is working on a metal work project which has become a family affair.

Trustee Lang – Noted that she has noticed that students are getting on her community Facebook page and a grade 5 student is becoming a bee ambassador, and a secondary student is offering to be a conduit of sharing plants in the community.

**12. Question Period: NIL**

**13. Meeting Schedule and Reminders**

The next meeting of the Education Committee of the Whole is scheduled for June 9, 2020 at 2:30 pm at the Nelson Board Office.

**14. Adjournment**

Adjournment at 3:54 pm.