



**MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022

Board:

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

District Staff:

T. Smillie, Superintendent
J. Glaudemans, Secretary-Treasurer
B. Eaton, District Director of Instruction – Innovative Learning
D. Holitzki, District Director of Instruction – Equity, Inclusion & Diversity
C. Kerr, Director of Operations (*via video conference*)
C. Singh, Director of Human Resources
S. Bruskowski, Executive Assistant

Student Trustees:

R. Fisher, L.V. Rogers
N. Holland, Mount Sentinel
S. Piller, Mount Sentinel
A. Stuart, Salmo Secondary

Guests:

LVR Students

Regrets:

1. Call to Order

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

The Chair invited each Trustee of the new Board to introduce themselves to the public and welcomed the Student Trustees.

2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory

3. Changes to the Proposed Agenda – Nil

4. Adoption of Agenda

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

22/23-017

THAT the Agenda for this December 13, 2022 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Receiving Presentations – Nil

6. Comments or Questions from the Public regarding items on this Agenda

The Board Chair addressed another question from the public and pointed out that Trustees, once elected, have the mandate to serve all students in the district, rather than supporting their constituency.

A former Trustee pointed out that two sentences were missing in the draft for Policy 160. The Superintendent, therefore, suggested that the draft would go back to the Policy Review Committee.

7. Consent Package

One Trustee asked why some areas in the “Transactions over 50k” section were redacted. The Superintendent explained that historically these sections of the report were redacted as to not provide contact information.

8. Adoption of Minutes

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 22/23-018

THAT the minutes from the November 08, 2022 Meeting of the Board held in public **BE ADOPTED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

9. Future and Action Item Tracking

10. Education

A. Fine Arts in Action Memo

Guests: LVR Students

The District Director of Instruction – Innovative Learning, B. Eden highlighted that SD8 has vibrant schools throughout the district that provide art programs within and outside the timetable, such as Art Academies or community programs like ArtStarts coming with an extensive list of opportunities. A small number of funds for repairs of music instruments is provided. School District 8 (Kootenay Lake) matches the grants it receives.

LVR Interim Principal Malloff introduced the LVR Band which performed a selection of jazzy Holiday tunes.

B. Strategic Plan Public Engagement

The Superintendent presented the Strategic Plan Public Engagement Process.

The BC School Act states the purpose of the British Columbia school system is to enable all learners to become literate, to develop their individual potential and to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to contribute to a healthy, democratic and pluralistic society and a prosperous and sustainable economy.

The Strategic Plan is redeveloped for 2024-2029. School District 8 (Kootenay Lake) is committed to public engagement where in each stage of the engagement process SD8 will keep partners informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how partner input influenced the Strategic Plan. The Engagement Schedule outlines how, starting December 14, 2022, senior staff and Student Voice Council will begin with the Strategic Plan Engagement Process. There will be an Engagement Platform the public can access through the SD8 website and social media that helps members from the public learn about the best ways to get involved in the process.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 22/23-019

THAT the Board **APPROVE** the Strategic Plan Public Engagement Process 2022-2023.

The motion carried unanimously.

C. Graduation Schedule Memo

The Chair invited Trustees to let her know which graduation ceremonies they would like to attend. Trustees will be provided with a Board statement for the graduation ceremonies.

D. Trustee Inquiry: Type 3 Alternate Programs and REACH

The District Director of Instruction – Equity, Inclusion & Diversity, D. Holitzki presented information on the alternate education Programs in School District 8 (Kootenay Lake).

Alternate Education Program provide support through differentiated instruction, specialized program delivery and enhanced counselling services based on students' needs. To enter an Alternate Education Program, a student must go through an intake process through district referral or self-referral. Every Program must have an annually reviewed learning plan for each student as well as an exit strategy to facilitate the student's transition back into the regular school system.

11. Operations and Finance

A. Capital Operations Plan Update Memo

The Director of Operations, C. Kerr provided information on projects that the district was able to complete despite challenges with cost pressure, shipping delays, and contractor availability. Extensive work has been done on the water system of Brent Kennedy. After testing of the water quality, a summary report will shortly go out to Interior Health to lift the do not drink order.

At Mount Sentinel a HVAC upgrade as well as a boiler replacement have been completed. The idea to install solar panels turned out to be financially not feasible.

Multiple projects were completed at Trafalgar Middle School: phase 1 of the new sprinkler system, a new unit ventilator, as well as a supply fan upgrade were completed.

At Wildflower School upgrades in the learning environment and the HVAC as well as a washroom expansion were completed.

B. Trustee Remuneration

The Secretary-Treasurer suggested that regular adjustments should occur based on the December-to-December Consumer Price Index (CPI) rate as to eliminate conflict and allow the district to estimate costs for future budgets.

One Trustee suggested a remuneration that matches the median Trustee remuneration in the province.

The amended resolution was duly moved and seconded

THAT Policy 131: Trustee Indemnity be updated to reflect that Trustee remuneration will be calculated for each July 1st based on the median Trustee remuneration in the province, BC CPI to the year prior **BE APPROVED.**

The amendment to the resolution was **defeated** with 7 opposed.

After that, the Trustees voted on the previous version of the motion.

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

22/23-020

THAT Policy 131: Trustee Indemnity be updated to reflect that Trustee remuneration will be calculated for each July 1st based on the change between the most recent December 31, BC CPI published rate as compared to the December 31, BC CPI to the year prior **BE APPROVED.**

The motion carried with eight in favour and one opposed.

12. Governance and Policy

A. Policy 160: Policy Development

As proposed by the Superintendent, the approval of policy 160 was moved to the next Meeting of the Board Held in Public, because two sentences were missing as highlighted by a former Trustee.

B. BCSTA Climate Change Working Group

The Trustee who had brought the motion forward declared it was to show support for the work of the BCSTA Climate Change Working Group. Another Trustee added that the current Terms of Reference of the BCSTA Climate Change Working Group did not include an introduction of the topic into the BC curriculum. After a short discussion,

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

22/23-021

THAT sending the statement:

“The Board of Kootenay Lake SD8 strongly supports the continuation of the BCSTA Climate Change Working Group. Included in the terms of reference we would welcome the addition of 1) a pathway of advocacy for established timelines on the MoECC commitments to Education and Climate Literacy. We would also welcome inclusion of 2) a pathway of advocacy for the MoECC commitment to Climate Literacy to include Climate Action Curriculum creation and support in our Province and Districts.”

to the BCSTA Provincial Council **BE APPROVED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

13. Human Resources – Nil

14. Trustee Reports

A. Trustees

One Trustee reported from the six days of Trustee orientation filled with Board meetings, BCPSEA meetings, the BCSTA Academy, a KBB meeting, and Branch presidents meeting, as well as Committee Chair orientation.

Another Trustee thanked staff for the comprehensive training that was provided. Specialist Mike McKay provided an excellent introduction how to become an effective Board, Parliamentarian Lisa Zwarn trained the Trustees on Roberts Rules, and Legal Consultant Mike Hancock gave an overview over legal responsibilities.

B. Chair

The Chair attended the November ACE meeting as guest, which was very interesting and rewarding. The BCSTA Academy was very professional and allowed for a lot of networking and teambuilding.

On behalf of the Board of Education she showed her appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the educators and staff in School District 8 (Kootenay Lake).

- C. BCSTA
- D. BCPSEA
- E. RDCK
- F. Other Committees
- G. Student Trustees

Student Trustee Piller reported that the last month has been busy at Mount Sentinel. The dance of the middle years program with 103 students participating took place during the time of this Meeting of the Board. The Social Justice Program is organizing a food drive. The previous week School Spirit Days were held with a different theme each day.

Student Trustee Holland reported that the Green Team is trying to reactivate recycling program at Mount Sentinel. She expressed the hopes that were connected to the work to bring the solar panel project back to life. Detailed ideas will be presented to the Board of Education.

Student Trustee Fisher reported from the Legacy Project as well as the Lunch Project. Volleyball and Basketball season started, and the teams are very successful.

15. Comments or Questions from the Public

ATLAS Program

- A 2016 ATLAS alumnus came to raise concern to the changes in the outdoor program. The alumni questioned the reason provided for the change in policy as provided by the district and pointed out that the ATLAS instructor is a member of the avalanche association. She stated that the new program would be entirely inequivalent to the previous ATLAS program in regard to the experience and the training received. The alumnus stated that avalanche awareness is key to risk assessment which is considered more important than risk mitigation. As an alumnus she urged the district to go into an open discussion with the community. She asked what experts and community members were consulted before making changes in the Field Trip Policy and the ATLAS program. A petition was started asking the district to reconsider the changes three days prior to the Board Meeting and had 1,500 signers and 60 comments at the time of the meeting.

The Superintendent expressed her appreciation for the alumnus to take the time and effort to come and speak. She outlined that Field Trip Forms are standard across the province. SD8 as an organization – not individual instructors – would have to be in compliance with WorkSafeBC regulations which have been in place since 2011. Highly qualified instructors developed an amazing program.
- A guest expressed his concern that the aspect of safety training would be watered down with the changes in the ATLAS program.

The Superintendent clarified that the changes were necessary to be in compliance with WorkSafeBC. While the district is not working towards to a reduced training, it needs to comply with WorkSafeBC regulations.

Other Items

- A CUPE representative inquired whether members had to provide identifying information when participating in surveys. The Superintendent reassured that an opportunity for anonymous feedback will be provided.
- A CUPE member asked whether the names of Trustees voting for the raise will be publicized. The Chair responded that only the numbers are provided in the minutes, not the names.
- Another guest asked why there was no recycling program at schools. The Superintendent replied that public information went out recently. The guest was invited to contact Superintendent directly.

16. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

A. Board Meetings

The next Meeting of the Board held in the public is scheduled for January 10, 2023.

17. Adjournment of Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.


Board Chair


Secretary-Treasurer