

**MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC - MINUTES  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022**

In person: School Board Office – 811 Stanley Street, Nelson, BC  
and via video conference

**Board:**

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

**District Staff:**

T. Smillie, Superintendent  
M. McLellan, Secretary-Treasurer  
T. Stoneman, Interim Secretary-Treasurer  
N. Howald, Director of Information Technology *(via video conference)*  
D. Holitzki, Director of Inclusive Education *(via video conference)*  
C. Singh, Director of Human Resources *(via video conference)*  
B. Eaton, Director of Innovative Learning *(via video conference)*  
C. Kerr, Director of Operations *(via video conference)*  
N. Ross, District Principal of Innovative Learning *(via video conference)*  
G. Higginbottom, District Principal of Aboriginal Education *(via video conference)*  
H. Kerr, Executive Assistant *(via video conference)*  
N. Lynn, Learning Innovator *(via video conference)*

**Student Trustees:**

R. Klassen, Kootenay River Secondary School *(via video conference)*  
M. Darby, Kootenay River Secondary School *(via video conference)*  
N. Holland, Mount Sentinel Secondary School *(via video conference)*  
S. Piller, Mount Sentinel Secondary School *(via video conference)*  
Z. Lamoureux, J.V. Humphries Secondary School *(via video conference)*  
A. Troback, J.V. Humphries Secondary School *(via video conference)*  
S. Kitch, L.V. Rogers Secondary School *(via video conference)*  
S. Van Donselaar, L.V. Rogers Secondary School *(via video conference)*

**Partners:**

K. Walgren, KLTF *(via video conference)*  
R. Sherman, KLPVPA *(via video conference)*  
A. Early, CUPE *(via video conference)*  
R. Bens, CUPE *(via video conference)*  
M. Bennett, CUPE *(via video conference)*

**Guests:**

J. McMurray *(via video conference)*  
S. McGregor *(via video conference)*  
T. Harper *(via video conference)*

J. Smith (via video conference)  
C. Esposto (via video conference)  
P. Wedman (via video conference)  
L. Lewis (via video conference)  
S. Malloff (via video conference)  
S. Kitch (via video conference)  
Leeann E. (via video conference)  
Lynn (via video conference)

**Regrets:**

S. Chew, Trustee  
L. McKone, Student Trustee, Salmo Secondary School  
R. Drescher, Student Trustee, Salmo Secondary School

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

**2. Acknowledgement of Aboriginal Territory**

*We acknowledge, respect and honour 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.*

The Chair reported that this is the final meeting of Secretary-Treasurer McLellan and she congratulated him on his future professional opportunities. The Chair shared that he has been an amazing asset to the Board of Education and will be missed.

The Superintendent shared that Secretary-Treasurer McLellan has been an important part of the District team over the last four years and has been instrumental in moving the district forward. The Superintendent wished him the very best in the future.

The Interim Secretary-Treasurer, Teri Stoneman, was introduced and welcomed.

**3. Changes to the Proposed Agenda - Nil**

**4. Adoption of Agenda**

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 21/22-020

**THAT** the Agenda for this January 18, 2022 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

**5. Receiving Presentations – Nil**

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

**7. Consent Package**

**8. Adoption of Minutes**

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 21/22-021

**THAT** the minutes from the December 7, 2021 Meeting of the Board held in public  
**BE ADOPTED.**

**9. Future and Action Item Tracking - Nil**

**10. Education**

**A. COVID-19 Update**

The Superintendent reported that:

- District communicable disease plans have been revised based on Ministry updates.
- Enhanced Covid-19 measures have been implemented in schools to build on what has been in place, including health checks, distancing, wearing masks and washing hands.
- FAQs have been added to the Covid-19 page on the district website.
- Omicron is affecting schools as there have been many absences.
- The Ministry has directed us to monitor staff and student attendance. Potential Signal Letters are to be sent to families after specific indicators have been met such as 10% lower than normal attendance. The functional closure of a school will happen should the thresholds be met. Interior Health will be working with us through this process.
- Rapid Antigen tests will be available to all staff in the coming weeks, with each District staff member being provided with two tests.

**B. Aboriginal Education Report**

The District Principal of Aboriginal Education shared a presentation outlining the Aboriginal Education Annual Report, including:

- 879 self identified students in School District 8
- Goals of the Aboriginal Education department
- Key Actions being followed by the Aboriginal Education Department for system accountability, growing staff capacity and knowledge, local education agreement development, provide scholarships and other initiatives.

The Superintendent shared that the District is beginning to work on accountability reports, is working with partner groups and working groups to take the data we have and analyze it and use indicators to improve strategies and actions to improve student learning.

**C. Kindergarten Registration**

The District Principal of Innovative Learning, Primary and Intermediate – shared a verbal report regarding kindergarten registration for 2022/2023, including:

- Registration is now open.
- Extensive advertising is underway.
- Each elementary school will host a 'Welcome to Kindergarten' event.
- Each new kindergarten student will receive a welcome to School District 8 tote bag which containing kindergarten supplies.



**D. Provincial Online Learning School**

The Secretary-Treasurer, Director of Innovative Learning and District Principal of Data and Analytics provided a report regarding the Provincial Online Learning School Expression of Interest, including:

- An Online Learning school with an agreement with the Minister which is administered by a board of education.
- The enrolment policy allows the schools to cross-enrol and enrol out-of-district students from anywhere in the province.
- The method of instructions will primarily be via the internet between students and teachers.
- Key Changes:
  - Consolidation of Online Learning Policy with a separate Online Learning Procedures Guide.
  - New Provincial Online Learning Schools quality assurance process.
  - All districts can run their own online school serving their own students.
  - Provincial learning management system will be available for all school types.
  - A common set of courses and resources will be developed and shared by Provincial Online Learning schools to supplement school resources.
- The timeline for the District to implement an Online Learning School would be approximately two years.
- No significant funding changes.
- At this stage projected enrollment is unknown. The current online schooling status would stay the same, but this opportunity would allow the District to provide educational opportunities around the province.

The Superintendent shared that due to the online nature of the Provincial Online School, the District would be able to hire staff for the school from all around the province.

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

21/22-022

**THAT**, if selected by the Ministry of Education to operate a Provincial Online Learning School, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and a three-year agreement with the Minister of Education to operate the school, **BE APPROVED**.

**11. Operations and Finance**

**A. 2022-2023 Budget Development Process & Schedule**

21/22-023

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the revised 'Budget Development Process & Schedule', which was circulated with the agenda package. Proposed revisions were made due to the fact that the current Secretary-Treasurer will be departing and the Manager of Finance will soon be going on maternity leave, to improve the points of contact with each Partner Group and Trustees, as well as to align the development schedule with internal senior staff and school leaders meetings.

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

**THAT** the Board of Education adopt the 2022/2023 Budget Development Process as circulated in the January 18, 2022 agenda.

**B. 2021-2022 Budget Update**

The Secretary Treasurer provided a 2021-2022 Financial Update presentation which included:

- Actual Student Enrollment as compared to budget and the prior year
- Revenues, including new revenues and comparisons to budget and the prior year
- Expenses year-to-date as compared to budget and the prior year
- Total current and expected Tangible Capital Asset purchases for the year

Overall, a slight deficit is projected, approximately \$200,000, which is a smaller deficit than indicated in the Fall, 2021.

A proposed 2021-2022 Amended Budget will be presented to the Board of Education for the meetings of the Operations & Finance Committee and Board on February 15, 2022.

**12. Governance and Policy**

**A. Election of BCPSEA Alternative Representatives**

The Chair called for nominations from the floor for the position of BCPSEA Alternative Representative.

A Trustee nominated Trustee Walsh.

The Chair called for further nominations two additional times and hearing no further nominations, declared nominations closed.

Trustee Walsh accepted the nomination and was acclaimed as BCPSEA Alternative Representative.

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

*There were no ballots [or electronic votes] to destroy.*

**13. Human Resources - Nil**

**14. Trustee Reports**

**A. Trustees**

Trustee Lang reported that she attended several BCPSEA Meetings, Labour Management Meetings, CUPE bargaining preparation meetings.

Trustee Coons reported that she attended the Anti-Racism Committee Meeting and a BCPSEA preparation meeting for the AGM.

Trustee Walsh shared that she attended the Anti-Racism Committee Meeting, French Immersion Information nights and PAC meetings.

B. Chair

Chair Trenaman recognized District staff who worked over the holiday season, and saluted staff at all levels in the district and the good work that is being conducted. The Chair provided an overview of various meetings attended including Ministry Chair, BCPSEA Chair, observations of the Anti-Racism committee.

C. BCSTA - Nil

D. BCPSEA - Nil

E. RDCK - Nil

F. Other Committees

G. Student Trustees

Student Trustee Kitch from L.V. Rogers (LVR) provided an update, including:

- Students are getting back into the flow of school after the break.
- Staff have been extremely supportive of student.
- Everyone is supporting one another.

Student Trustee Troback from J.V. Humphries (JVH) provided an update, including:

- Three JVH students have been requested for interviews with United World Colleges.
- Breakfast club has started preparing breakfast snacks for students when they enter school in the morning.
- A Student Leadership suggestion box has been started.

Student Trustee Klassen from Kootenay River Secondary School (KRSS) provided an update, including:

- Lots of school spirit at KRSS after the winter break.
- Everyone is adapting to the current covid protocols.
- Staff have been very supportive of students.
- Many great programs available to student currently.

Student Trustee Piller from Mount Sentinel Secondary School (MSSS) provided an update, including:

- MSSS is welcoming many international students, more than at any time before.
- Academy PM is hosting a fund raiser, selling Volleyball Provincial photos to schools who participated in provincials at the school.

**15. Comments or Questions from the Public**

The Chair made the following statement:

These meetings are meetings of the Board in the public. These are not meetings for the public of the Board. The purpose of the meetings is business. To conduct the business of the Board.



For the Board members to be informed by our staff in regard to the decisions that we are here to make. We conduct our meetings now by webinar, which basically puts the people in the room that sit at our table for discussions, our Trustees, our Student Trustees and our staff that we rely on for our information.

The Board and staff responded to comments and questions from the video conference chat including:

- Currently public may post questions to the Board of Education via the chat in the meeting webinar, or to send letters to the Board of Education.
- School District 8 has a focus on mental health support. All students are cared for and receive resources and support when needed.
- The Board of Education's mandate is to serve students in the district. The Board receives all kinds of information and is well informed by staff. The Board of Education follows public health guidance, and cares very much about the health of our school communities.

## **16. Meeting Schedule and Reminders**

### **A. Board Meetings**

The next Open meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2022.

## **17. Adjournment of Meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

  
Board Chair

  
Interim Secretary-Treasurer