

**MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023**

Board:

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

District Staff:

T. Smillie, Superintendent
C. MacArthur, Secretary-Treasurer
B. Eaton, Director of Instruction – Innovative Learning
D. Holitzki, Director of Instruction – Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
C. Kerr, Director of Operations
F. Maika, Manager of Public Engagement (*via video conference*)
C. Makeiv, District Literacy Teacher Coordinator
S. Bruskowski, Executive Assistant

Student Trustees:

Riordan Fisher, L.V. Rogers
Daisy Lamoureux, J.V. Humphries
Micah Luchetta, J. V. Humphries
Angelia Thomson, L.V. Rogers

Guests:

Nil

Regrets:

C. Singh, Director of Human Resources

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

4. Adoption of Agenda

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

23/24-022

THAT the Agenda for this December 11, 2023 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. Receiving Presentations – Nil

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

7. Consent Package – Nil

8. Adoption of Minutes

Item 16.B of the minutes was corrected to reflect the former chair's report from the RDCK Recreation Commission 10 (Area E East) committee meeting.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 23/24-023

THAT the minutes from the November 14, 2023 Meeting of the Board held in public **BE ADOPTED**, as amended.

The motion carried unanimously.

9. Future and Action Item Tracking – Nil

10. Education – Reports from the Superintendent

A. Early Learners Continuous Learning Report

Director Holitzki and District Teacher Coordinator Makeiv presented the Early Learners Continuous Learning Report which is aligned to the Strategic Plan as well as federal and provincial initiatives for Early Learning. School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) is focusing on the areas of equity and learner achievement.

B. Child Care Provision

Director Holitzki highlighted the child care opportunities within the district that are provided by numerous child care providers. The district has an excellent relationship with these providers which offer a wide range of programs. Child care was transferred to Ministry of Education and Child Care in April 2022.

C. Graduation Ceremonies 2024

Superintendent Smillie presented the schedule for the 2024 graduation ceremonies. A typing error was corrected to Friday June 14th for Salmo Secondary School. Trustees will be assigned to schools at a later date.

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

A. Capital Operations Plan Update

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur reported that the Operations team has been very busy over the past months. Director Kerr presented the larger projects as outlined in App. 11A of the agenda package. Operations was recently informed by Interior Health that test results at Brent Kennedy Elementary were reviewed and water levels stabilized.

12. Governance and Policy – Nil

13. Human Resources

A. Recruitment and Retention Plan

Superintendent Smillie presented the Recruitment and Retention Plan which was prepared in alignment with provincial initiatives. School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) is working hard to hire

and retain employees. A framework was developed and is provided on website. It highlights four focus areas:

- Attract talent through desirable workplaces and rewarding careers,
- Create flexible and accessible training programs,
- Improve leaders' capabilities to retain and engage employees,
- Improve employee retention and engagement.

14. Other Items – Nil

15. Trustee Reports

A. Trustees

- Trustee Shunter reported from the BCSTA Academy in Vancouver where valuable presentations were provided. He attended a climate caucus.
- Trustee Trenaman attended the BCSTA academy and BCSTA bylaw committee as well as the Joint Safety Advisory Committee with Trustee Etheridge. She gave a shoutout to Jared Basil from Lower Kootenay Band (LKB) for the great interactions at the LKB dinner.
- Vice-Chair Bremner reported from Lower Kootenay Band's Education Council Dinner. She attended the French Advisory Committee meeting and enrolment for the French immersion program is starting soon.
- Trustee Nazaroff attended the Christmas concert at Brent Kennedy Elementary School. The work that was put into the performance of the students was inspiring. She thanked all the teachers in the district for their commitment.
- Trustee Etheridge attended the Merry Grinchmas performance at KRSS as well as the Canyon-Lister Elementary School holiday concert.
- Trustee Blackmore reported on the opening of the accessible park as well as the BCSTA Academy which provided a good learning experience.
- Trustee Chew attended the BCSTA Academy which provided a phenomenal program. She gave a shoutout to the province's commitment to education as well as to initiatives from this Board of Education that are being brought forward on a district, branch, and provincial level.

B. Chair

Chair Lang summarized her activities during the past month. She attended BCSTA Academy in Vancouver, a Branch meeting with 5 neighbouring districts and completed four webinars on inclusivity, respectful workplace, and Indigenous awareness.

C. BCSTA

Trustee Chew pointed out that the BCSTA Academy was well attended, and the program was very thoughtful. The Board is considering adding “motion building” as a standing item for meetings.

D. BCPSEA

Chair Lang reported that an initial bargaining session took place and updates will be shared as they become available.

E. RDCK – Nil

F. Other Committees

Trustee Chew attended the RDCK Recreation Committee Meeting. The number of programs keeps rising as communities come out of pandemic.

G. Student Trustees

- Student Trustee Angelia Thomson reported on a very successful fall season for LVR’s sports teams. The dance academy went on a productive and trip to Vancouver that included two successful auditions for the dance school in Vancouver. French immersion students are currently preparing for their dogwood exams. A variety show will be held on Friday. Everyone is looking forward to the Holiday season.
- J.V. Humphries Student Trustee Daisy Lamoureux reported on very successful fund raisers for food hampers to collect food for families in need over the holidays. Drama performances will be on Wednesday and Thursday.
- Student Trustee Micah Luchetta, also from J.V. Humphries, added a report from a grad parent meeting that was held in November. Thursday and Friday will be Christmas Spirit days.

16. Comments or Questions from the Public

Superintendent Smillie answered questions from the public:

- Union representatives can bring their questions to the labour management committee.

17. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

A. Board Meetings

The next Meeting of the Board held in the public is scheduled for January 09, 2024.

18. Adjournment of Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 PM.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer