

**MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025**

Board:

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

Student Trustees:

M. Gretchen, MSSS *(via video conference)*
D. Lamoureux, JVH *(via video conference)*
E. Lecompte, KRSS *(via video conference)*
R. Metcalf, MSSS *(via video conference)*
E. Zuk, JVH *(via video conference)*

District Staff:

T. Smillie, Superintendent
C. MacArthur, Secretary-Treasurer
L. Carriere, Director of Aboriginal Education
B. Eaton, Director of Instruction - Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
D. Holitzki, Assistant Superintendent
C. Kerr, Director of Operations
T. Malloff, District Principal - Innovative Learning
C. Singh, Director of Human Resources
S. Bruskowski, Executive Assistant

Guests:

Nil

Regrets:

S. Chew

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:**

24/25-055

THAT the Agenda for this May 13, 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

8. Adoption of Minutes

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-056

THAT the minutes from the April 8, 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. Career Development Continuous Learning Report

Superintendent Smillie welcomed District Principal Malloff, who presented the 2024–2025 Career Development Continuous Learning Report and related action items. Career development is a shared goal of schools, families, and communities in BC, aimed at preparing students for life after graduation. SD8 prioritizes actions that support all learners in developing strong career-life goals and core competencies.

District Principal Malloff responded to Trustees' questions on equity, trades training, and climate action, emphasizing efforts to ensure Creston students have equal opportunities through local partnerships and collaborations. She also noted the district's focus on expanding trades access for priority students.

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

A. Approve 2025-2026 Annual Budget

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the final version of the 2025-2026 draft budget in consideration of feedback received from Trustees, partners, and the public. In the development process, staffing and services and supplies are determined based on enrolment projections, student composition, and aligned to the strategic plan and reflects its strategic priorities. In compliance with the BC School Act, the Board was presented with a balanced draft budget.

Superintendent Smillie and Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur answered questions related to staffing, operating surplus, and special purpose funds.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-057

THAT the Board unanimously agrees to give the Annual Budget Bylaw 2025/2026

all three readings at this meeting of May 13, 2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-058

THAT the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2025-2026 **BE**

APPROVED as read a first time;

THAT the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2025-2026 **BE**

APPROVED as read a second time;

THAT the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2025-2026 **BE**

ADOPTED as read a third time.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Approve Major Capital Plan Submission

Director Kerr presented the draft Major 2026/27 Capital Plan as provided in the memo for the Board's approval prior to submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

In response to a Trustee's questions, Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur and Director Kerr clarified that the dollar amount is calculated using the provincial portal and provided information on the Facility Condition Index (FCI) of Salmo Elementary. Discussion took place on ways to raise the priority placed on this project by the Ministry of Infrastructure.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-059

THAT the Board of Education conclude three readings at this meeting for the approval of the submission of the Major 2026/27 Capital Plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-060

THAT the Major 2026/27 Capital Plan Submission Summary totaling \$18,702,875 be approved for submission to the Minister of Education and Child Care.

READ A FIRST TIME THE 13th DAY OF MAY 2025;

READ A SECOND TIME THE 13th DAY OF MAY 2025;

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED THE 13th DAY OF MAY 2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

12. Governance and Policy

A. Approve 2025-2026 Board Meeting Calendar and 2025-2026 Governance Framework and Learning Plan

Superintendent Smillie presented the 2025-2026 Board Meeting Calendar and 2025-2026 Governance Framework and Learning Plan as provided in the memo.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-061

THAT the 2025-2026 Board Meeting Calendar and 2025-2026 Governance Framework and Learning Plan **BE APPROVED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

13. Human Resources – Nil

14. Trustee Verbal Reports

A. Student Trustees

- KRSS (Student Trustee Lecompte)

In the previous week, KRSS hosted the UBC medical career fair with interactive stations on healthcare careers. Mental Health Week included daily videos on the 5 C's, a school-wide walk, and ice cream for all students. The senior careers class organized "Senior Splash," a water-tag game starting May 20th, played off school grounds to avoid disruptions.

Student council raised concerns about limited privacy in the change rooms, requesting the board address the issue.

- JVH (Student Trustees Lamoureux and Zuk)

JVH has had an eventful month filled with student-led activities and community engagement. On May 5, students from K–12 participated in a climate hike organized with the West Kootenay Climate Hub. The Student Parliament created a K–12 yearbook, now submitted with strong interest and many orders, and is also organizing a high school field day on May 23 with athletic and fun events. This Thursday, the graduating class will host a talent show fundraiser with a bake sale, open to the entire community. Everyone in Kaslo is encouraged to attend for a night of laughter and talent. Other recent highlights include a school-wide square dance on May 9 and an upcoming Outdoor Education canoe trip to the Sunshine Coast.

- MSSS (Student Trustee Gretchen)

Mount Sentinel was selected to participate in the international PISA assessment on May 14, helping evaluate 15-year-olds' skills in science, math, reading, and digital learning. On May 15, the school will mark Moose Hide Campaign Day with a student-led assembly, workshops on gender-based violence, and symbolic sunflower planting. An interactive Highway of Tears Walk will also take place to promote awareness and hope. On May 16, a group of students will attend the annual Student Pow-Wow in Creston, as part of their Indigenous education learning.

B. Trustees

- Trustee Trenaman attended the BCSTA AGM and the Bylaw Review Committee prior to the AGM. She highlighted a powerful student trustee presentation from the Sea to Sky district and also participated in a meeting of the Board with Minister of Education Beare last Thursday.
- Vice Chair Bremner also attended the meeting with the Minister and applauded the Superintendent and Chair for bringing well-prepared agenda items to the meeting. She noted that DPAC is now preparing for the upcoming BCCPAC conference.
- Trustee Blackmore returned from the BCSTA AGM energized by the collaboration with other Boards across the province. She found the meeting with Minister Beare inspiring and reaffirming of the Board's role as an advocate for public education.
- Trustee Shunter echoed Trustee Trenaman's comments and emphasized the need for more action on climate education in B.C. He also commended district staff for organizing the upcoming Student Pow-Wow.
- Trustee Nazaroff gave a shoutout to the Student Trustees for inspiring her to speak. She was impressed at the AGM by how widely Trustee Trenaman's contributions to the Bylaw Committee are recognized.

C. Chair

Chair Lang actively participated in a range of meetings and engagements over the past month. She attended the Policy Review Committee, multiple Board meetings, the Operations & Finance Committee meeting, and the Public Budget Webinar. Alongside Trustees Nazaroff and Chew, she took part in the Principal/Vice Principal pool selection

process. Chair Lang also represented the Board at the BCSTA Annual General Meeting in Vancouver, the Kootenay Boundary Branch meeting, and held discussions with local partners including the Village of Salmo and the RDCK. She participated in a meeting with the Minister of Education and Child Care, Lisa Beare, and MLA Brittney Anderson to advocate for the district's priorities in serving local communities through public education. Chair Lang extended her thanks to Superintendent Smillie for providing strong support and well-researched preparation for that meeting and expressed appreciation to Trustee Trenaman for attending a related meeting with Minister of Infrastructure Ma.

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

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

Chair Lang attended various BCPSEA meetings. In an effort to find budget efficiencies, two conferences will be held virtually.

F. District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Vice Chair Bremner – see above

G. Other – Nil

15. Comments or Questions from the Public – Nil

16. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

A. Board Meetings


The next Meeting of the Board held in Public is scheduled for June 10, 2025 in **Creston**.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 PM.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer