

MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

Board:

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

Student Trustees:

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
S. Bruskowski, Executive Assistant

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 – Nil

4. Consent Package Questions – Nil

5. Adoption of Agenda

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

24/25-062

THAT the Agenda for this June 10, 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 – Nil

8. Adoption of Minutes

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-063
THAT the minutes from the May 13, 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. Enhancing Student Learning Report and School Learning Plans 2025

Superintendent Smillie presented the 2024–2025 Enhancing Student Learning Report, highlighting School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake)’s continued commitment to improving student outcomes and advancing equity, in accordance with provincial policy. The report is aligned with the District’s 2024–2029 Strategic Plan and includes key indicators of intellectual, social, and career development, supported by individual school learning plans. Acknowledging the collaborative efforts of staff, educational partners, and community members in pursuing these objectives, the Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the 2024–2025 Enhancing Student Learning Report.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 24/25-064
THAT the 2024-2025 Enhancing Student Learning Report and School Learning Plans
be **APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

A. Video Surveillance

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the Video Surveillance Report. The 2024–2025 annual review confirms that video surveillance is in operation at several School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) schools and district facilities, in compliance with Policy 840 and the requirements of the School Act. The report also notes that recorded footage is routinely overwritten, and access to video data is restricted to authorized personnel only.

B. Quarterly Capital Update

Director Kerr provided a quarterly capital update as outlined in the accompanying memo. The report detailed ongoing progress on School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) facility projects funded through the Minor Capital Operations Program, the Annual Facility Grant, and the Food Infrastructure Program.

In response to Trustees’ questions, Director Kerr addressed topics including the implementation of mitigation measures for high classroom temperatures, the performance and ease of maintenance of fully electric buses, and the fact that all available school buses are manufactured in the United States.

C. Amended Capital Budget Bylaw 2025-2026

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur informed the Board that following its resolution to approve the minor capital projects for 2025–2026, the Ministry has authorized funding for five

READ A SECOND TIME THE 10th DAY OF June 2025;

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED THE 10th DAY OF June 2025.

The motion carried unanimously.

D. Long-Range Facilities Plan Update 2025

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the Board with an update on the Long-Range Facilities Plan, originally developed in 2021 and updated annually. The presentation included updates on current and planned projects at each site.

In response to Trustees' questions, Director Kerr and Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur noted that the district is planning a full transition to LED lighting. The Board also discussed the merits of upgrading versus replacing Salmo Elementary School.

E. Climate Action and Sustainability Annual Report

Superintendent Smillie presented the Climate Action and Sustainability Annual Report / PSO Climate Change Accountability Report for School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake), which highlights the district's first year of implementing its Climate Action and Sustainability Policy. The policy was developed through a broad public engagement process and shaped by a diverse advisory group including students, educators, Indigenous partners, and community representatives. Following its approval, district leaders collaborated with climate experts to develop an implementation plan, which was outlined in the annual report included in the agenda package. Superintendent Smillie and Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur also presented key initiatives and challenges, such as the expansion of the district's recycling program.

In response to Trustees' questions, Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur and Director Kerr discussed emission offsets, the financial implications of sustainability measures, and opportunities to incorporate the district's climate efforts into educational programming. The presentation concluded with the screening of a climate action and sustainability video produced by the Mount Sentinel Secondary School Film Academy.

12. Governance and Policy

A. Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) 2025 Report

Superintendent Smillie presented the 2025 Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) report. No disclosures meeting the criteria outlined in the Act were received during the reporting period.

13. Human Resources - Nil

14. Trustee Verbal Reports

A. Student Trustees

• JVH (Student Trustee Zuk)

J.V. Humphries (JVH) has had a busy month of student-led and community events. Yearbooks arrived and were eagerly shared among students. The high school drama class staged Beauty and the Beast Jr., drawing strong community support, and the intermediate drama club is set to perform its first play since 2019. During Kaslo's May Days, primary students performed the Maypole dance in the parade, and grads

took part in the festivities. This Thursday, Grade 7 students will shadow high school students in preparation for September.

Chair Lang expressed the Board of Education's gratitude to the Student Trustees and extended best wishes to the graduating members as they move on to future endeavors.

B. Trustees

- Trustee Trenaman attended the Joint Safety Advisory Committee (JSAC) and acknowledged Manager Rothermel for his leadership in making the committee more effective and inclusive. She participated in all school learning tours, commended principals, staff, and district leadership, and highlighted a student-led fundraiser at Crawford Bay. She looks forward to attending upcoming graduation ceremonies.
- Trustee Nazaroff also attended JSAC and shared that the school learning tours were a valuable way to observe each school's unique approach. She attended retirement celebrations in Creston and Nelson and was invited by a Mount Sentinel student to be a "baba" for a classroom project—an experience that offered insight into student collaboration and classroom culture.
- Vice Chair Bremner reflected on the school learning tours, expressing appreciation for the pride students and staff have in their schools.
- Trustee Blackmore expressed gratitude for a successful year. In her third year as a trustee, she observed the strategic plan come to life and noted the Board's professional growth.

C. Chair

Chair Lang reported on recent activities, including attendance at the Pow Wow in Creston, the JVH drama production Beauty and the Beast, and the BCSTA Board Chairs' meeting. She also participated in several Board of Education and BCPSEA meetings, as well as SD8 retirement events, expressing it was an honour to celebrate the contributions of retiring staff. As part of the School Learning Tour, she visited South Nelson School, WE Graham, ARES, and JVH, and expressed gratitude for the principals' presentations highlighting the efforts of staff in supporting students. Chair Lang also looks forward to joining Jewett School on June 29 for the opening of a 25-year-old time capsule.

D. British Columbia School Trustee Association (BCSTA)

Trustee Chew informed the Board of the newly elected BCSTA Board of Directors, noting that two of the five members are returning, though in different roles. She highlighted BCSTA's strong presence on social media as a valuable source of information for Boards and the public. Trustee Chew also shared that she will attend the Salmo graduation ceremony and extended her congratulations to all on a successful year.

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

Chair Lang noted that communication to Trustees continues to be delivered through the established process.

F. District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Vice Chair Bremner attempted to attend the DPAC meeting; however, it appeared that the meeting time had been changed.

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 September 9, 2025.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 PM.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer