

Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council Meeting

November 20, 2025

6:30pm-8:00pm (PST)

Video Conferencing via Zoom

Minutes

1. Call to Order, 6:42PM (meeting scheduled for after the AGM)

2. Land Acknowledgement

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 #8.

3. PAC Meeting Code of Conduct:

- At general meetings, members will not discuss individual personnel, students, parents, or other members of the school community
- Council will refrain from partisan political action or other activities that do not serve the interests of the school or the public school system
- Open discussion is encouraged with orderly conduct & respect for alternative points of view.
- Maintain a democratic process
- Respect all confidential information
- Work to ensure that the well-being of students is the primary focus of all decisions.

4. Welcome and Introductions - Quorum has been established

Michelle Harris - DPAC Chair; Chase Leushner - outgoing DPAC Treasurer/DESK DPAC Rep/DPAC F&O Rep; Taryn Stokes - outgoing DPAC Secretary/DPAC EdCom Rep; Natalia Nazaroff - DPAC Rep MSSS/DPAC EdCom Rep; Danica Weager - DPAC Rep for Rosemont; Christina - BK DPAC Rep; Lorien Quattrocchi - DPAC Vice-Chair/DPAC Rep for TF/LVR; Lisa O'Conner - DPAC Rep for South Nelson; Mathilde Armour Piccirilli - DPAC Rep KRSS; Nadia Wallis - Parent/Co-DPAC Rep for Rosemont Elementary; Deanna Holitzki - Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Tamara Malloff - District Principal Innovative Learning; Lenora Trenamen - Board Trustee for North/East Shore; Julie Bremner - Board Trustee Vice-Chair

5. Adoption of the Agenda - Michelle motions, Chase seconds, All in Favour

6. Approval of Minutes - Michelle motions, Chase seconds, All in Favour

7. Numeracy Report (Assistant Superintendent Deanna Holitzki & District Principal Tamara Malloff

- More details on the numeracy presentation that was presented to the school board this past meeting (November) and is on the website. (starting on page 44)
<https://www.sd8.bc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/2025-10/2025.11.04%20-%204%20Public%20Agenda.pdf>
- Numeracy goal is to improve numeracy proficiency for ALL learners

- Numeracy is the ability to use math in real-life situations and mathematics is the study of numbers, patterns and shapes.
- Snapshots shown on proficiency descriptors for different grades.
- K-3 focus is on foundational skills like number sense, Grades 4-6 is focused on computational fluency, solving math problems with flexible strategies, Grades 7-9 builds on the foundation to encourage problem solving, Grades 10-12 is focused on applying math in program pathways and solving real-life problems.
- Data is collected with Early Years Numeracy Profile, Intermediate Numeracy Assessments, FSAs, the Middle Years Numeracy Assessment that is under development, and finally the Graduation Numeracy Assessment in Grade 10.
- 10 strategies for three year Numeracy Action Plan - Page 50 of the board agenda.
- Teachers are supported with District Numeracy Teacher Coordinators, demonstration classrooms, school learning plan grants, etc
- Examples like math fairs and math games
- Family Numeracy Resources in the school bulletin - ideas on how to support math at home without adding to your plate. Like asking why or how the student came up with an answer.

8. Superintendent's Report by Superintendent Trish Smillie

- Indigenous Veterans Day, Remembrance Day ceremonies
- Enrollment overall is about 90FTE lower than prior year which is similar to the decline and the trend is predicted to continue
- Online learning school enrollment has been increasing
- Elementary schools have concluded their Foundation Skills Assessments. Data is used by schools and the district to inform teaching and priorities.
- Communications celebration - received award
- November Indigenous focus - Rock Your Moc and Metis History and Culture
- The Superintendent's Report includes school highlights.
- Low engagement in family engagement sessions. Several are scheduled and will continue as normal (French Immersion, Scholarships). Others will be done as requested by PACs, the DPAC and families.
- Email communications - agenda and minutes are now posted on the SD8 website as well as the DPAC site. Can add the DPAC meetings and zoom links into the weekly bulletin.
- December 4 is the scholarship information overview night. Next one is January 8 for French Immersion.
- Question about events on the district site - it looks like this has now been resolved.
- Broken link - meetings/minutes - Education Partner Advisory

9. Treasurer's Report

- Gaming grant has been received (\$2,500). \$20,261.11 in regular/ \$2,525.97 in gaming
- Still some uncashed cheques or cheques needing reissue. BCCPAC reimbursement cheques have not been issued yet but Chase will start.

10. Correspondence/Read only items:

- a) BC toxic drug crisis online webinar on December 10 - Michelle will forward out

11. Ongoing Previous Business

- Constitution & Bylaws and Policy committees renamed “Governance Oversight Committee”. Priority to be given to the creation of a Fiscal policy. Plan for 2025-2026
- Collection of PAC DPAC reps from schools for this year - ongoing

12. New Business

- Joshua Nicol from KRSS about highway changes - would like to generate more support and awareness of the issue.
- Highway 3 realignment proposal will relocate traffic away from the downtown and reroute near the new fire hall. This will reduce the size of the soccer fields and restrict the ability to play baseball and soccer simultaneously. The relocation impacts safety students. There are 88 students scheduled for PE related classes at any point in time and the PE spaces are limited. SD8 has already reached out to the Ministry of Transportation.
- There are attachments in the November Board Meeting agenda (link attached above with the numeracy report, Page 26) related to this topic as well.

13. Committee Reports

- Governance, Policy and Finance has not yet occurred.
- Education Partners Committee meeting was a more in-depth exploration of numeracy. Participated in doing some of the questions from the Grade 4 FSA and SNAP assessment, and some numeracy demonstrations that could be used in the classroom. Example - 53 - how can this be drawn, shown as an addition, shown as a subtraction, etc.
- Also update on BCCPAC Parent Education conference - presentations on ageism and different breakout sessions. These will be posted on the website soon.

14. School Reports & Discussion

- BK - finished off fall fundraisers, playground is well loved and used, investing in new soccer nets that are portable, concerts coming up in December
- DESK - AGM but two execs will be leaving, low PAC attendance
- WF - sorting out green space on the field, thankful to have principal on his second year,
- MSSS - coffee fundraiser, gaming fund distributions, dance night upcoming at The Dam to support the breakfast program, questions from the PAC - would the DPAC host a parent night on sexual health education for parents on how to talk to their children, wondering what other schools are doing about vaping outside of school grounds on breaks - LVR has a smoke pit behind the school off campus - admin checks in and chats with students, one thing that can be done is to consider bringing public health into the school for appointments, Foundry also spoke at the LVR PAC meeting and can be a resource to students

- TF - busy and happy school, sports teams all over, band and theatre going great, new gaga ball pit. Looking at establishing a new subcommittee on inclusivity to bring a real focus into anti-racism at the school, winter market fundraiser is planned
- LVR - enjoying new principal, busy with various activities, accessibility is being looked at at the school with grant applications, Chair is familiar with the granting process

15. Next Meeting - January 15, 2026 @ 1800/1900MST.

16. Adjourn - 7:48PM