School District 8
Kootenay Lake

MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

Board:	S. Chew, Chair J. Bremner, Vice Chair M. J. Blackmore *(via video conference)* K. Etheridge *(via video conference)* A. Gribbin *(via video conference)* D. Lang *(via video conference)* S. Nazaroff M. Shunter L. Trenaman
Student Trustees:	M. Andersen, LVR *(via video conference)* L. Catherall, KRSS *(via video conference)* L. Chevalier, MSSS *(via video conference)* I. Hamilton, CBES *(via video conference)* L. Kinnear, 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 C. Singh, Director of Human Resources S. Bruskowski, Executive Assistant
Regrets:	Nil

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
   Item 10B: *AP2200: Learning Resources: Selection, Challenge and Reconsideration* was added to the agenda.
4. **Consent Package Questions** – Nil
5. **Adoption of Agenda**

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-048
THAT the Agenda for this May 12, 2026 meeting **BE ADOPTED**, as circulated.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Receiving Public Presentations

A. Nelson and Area Active Transportation Presentation

Selena Davis

Selena Davis shared information with the Board and the public regarding the Nelson and Area Active Transportation initiative, outlining opportunities to support active transportation in Nelson and the surrounding area. She reported on the RDCK ReDi Grant objectives, implementation considerations for schools and communities, and next steps that included reapplying for the grant, implementing the plan, and pursuing a $10,000 School Streets grant. She requested district-level support through direct connection with the Superintendent and consideration of funding to improve safety at school sites. She responded to questions from Trustees regarding staff volunteer engagement and potential expansion of the initiative to other communities.

B. Sand Ananda – *Debbie Laurin*

This agenda item was removed due to the absence of the presenter.

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:** 25/26-049

THAT the minutes from the April 14, 2026 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 2025-2026

District Principal Malloff provided an overview of the 2025-2026 Career Development Continuous Learning Report, including student participation, graduation pathways, career education, and post-secondary transition trends across SD8. She outlined ongoing efforts to expand career exploration, dual credit and trades training opportunities, financial literacy, and supports for priority learners, and noted continued work to strengthen individualized graduation planning, regional partnerships, and experiential learning opportunities.

Trustees expressed appreciation for the initiative, and discussion addressed dual credit program participation and funding, online career learning opportunities, equity of access for students, and the use of student and provincial survey data to gather feedback on dual credit programming.

B. AP 2200: Learning Resources: Selection, Challenge and Reconsideration

One Trustee suggested a reference to the SD8 Strategic Priorities in section 2.3 of the AP.

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

A. Approve 2026-2027 Annual Budget

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the final version of the 2026-2027 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.

Trustees expressed their gratitude for the Secretary-Treasurer's detailed work on the budget.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-050

THAT the Board allow questions in regard to the budget at this point in time.

The motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Smillie and Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur responded to questions and comments from the public regarding targeted Indigenous funding and supports for students and families. It was clarified that targeted Indigenous funds were tracked and used only for their intended purposes and noted that concerns brought forward would be reviewed with the Indigenous Education Council. Public comments were also received regarding staffing changes, student supports, Indigenous support teacher positions, and requests for increased consultation and transparency.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-051

THAT the Board unanimously agrees to give the Annual Budget Bylaw 2026/2027 all three readings at this meeting of May 12, 2026.

The motion carried unanimously.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-052

THAT the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2026-2027 **BE APPROVED** as read a first time;

THAT the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2026-2027 **BE APPROVED** as read a second time;

THAT the School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) Annual Budget Bylaw 2026-2027 **BE ADOPTED** as read a third time.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Approve Major Capital Plan Submission

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the draft Major 2027/28 Capital Plan as provided in the memo to expand the Salmo Secondary School to include classrooms for eight additional classrooms to accommodate Grades K-7 for the Board's approval prior to submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-053

THAT the Board of Education conclude three readings at this meeting for the approval of the submission of the Major 2027/28 Capital Plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-054

THAT the Major 2027/28 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 12th DAY OF MAY 2026;
READ A SECOND TIME THE 12th DAY OF MAY 2026;
READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED THE 12th DAY OF MAY 2026.

The motion carried unanimously.

12. Governance and Policy

A. Appointment of the Chief Election Officer 2026

Superintendent Smillie reported to the Board on the appointment of the Chief Election Officer for the 2026 School Trustee Elections. She outlined the legislative responsibilities of the role, the coordination required with local governments, and key election dates for the 2026 municipal election process. She recommended that the Board appoint Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur as Chief Election Officer for the 2026 School Trustee Elections.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-055

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 8 (Kootenay Lake) appoint Secretary-Treasurer Cathy MacArthur as Chief Election Officer for the 2026 School Trustee Elections.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Approve 2026-2027 Board Meeting Calendar and 2026-2027 Governance Framework and Learning Plan

Superintendent Smillie presented the 2025-2026 Board Meeting Calendar and 2026-2027 Governance Framework and Learning Plan as provided in the memo.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-056

THAT the 2026-2027 Board Meeting Calendar and 2026-2027 Governance Framework and Learning Plan **BE APPROVED.**

The motion carried unanimously.

C. Approve Policy 115: Superintendent of Schools/CEO Roles and Responsibilities

Superintendent Smillie presented revised draft Policy 115: Superintendent of Schools/CEO Roles and Responsibilities, which reflected updated language and provided further clarity.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-057

THAT policy 115 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

D. Approve Policy 116: Superintendent of Schools/CEO Evaluation

Superintendent Smillie presented revised draft Policy 116: Superintendent of Schools/CEO Evaluation, which reflected updated language and provided further clarity.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-058

THAT policy 116 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

E. Approve Policy 129: Conflict of Interest and Trustee Recusal

Superintendent Smillie presented the draft for the new Policy 129: Conflict of Interest and Trustee Recusal.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-059

THAT policy 129 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

F. Approve Policy 490: Permanent School Building Closure

Superintendent Smillie presented revised draft Policy 490: Permanent School Building Closure, which reflected updated information and provided further clarity.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-060

THAT policy 490 **BE APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

13. Human Resources – Nil

14. Trustee Verbal Reports

A. Student Trustees

- **KRSS (Student Trustee Catherall)** *(via video conference)*
  Student Trustee Catherall, representing Kootenay River Secondary School, reported on a busy spring term marked by strong student participation in wellness, athletics, and extracurricular activities as students completed the third quarter and received midterm report cards. She highlighted Mental Health Awareness Month initiatives, including student council engagement activities and screen-free library lunches, alongside growing involvement in esports, soccer, track and field, and the new outdoor adventures club, while also noting enthusiasm surrounding upcoming student council elections.
- **L. Chevalier, MSSS** *(via video conference)*
  Student Trustee Chevalier, representing Mount Sentinel Secondary School, reported on recent student activities and upcoming events, including graduation fundraising initiatives such as the annual Show and Shine community event and preparations for the Academy Production and Media program's presentation of Love and Information at the Capitol Theatre. She highlighted student engagement in athletics and the arts through golf tournaments, film festival recognition for student productions, and scholarship presentations supporting post-secondary pursuits.
- **LVR (Student Trustee Andersen)** *(via video conference)*
  Student Trustee Andersen, representing L.V. Rogers Secondary School, reported on recent student activities including the Jazz Band earning gold at the BC Interior Jazz Festival and the dance program's successful flower fundraiser in support of school initiatives. She highlighted strong student engagement in athletics, noting the rugby teams' early-season competitions and results, and also acknowledged the

upcoming departure of Vice Principal Mr. Wyllie as he transitions to a principal role at Salmo Elementary School.

- **JVH (Student Trustee Kinnear)** *(via video conference)*
  Student Trustee Kinnear, representing J.V. Humphries School, reported on recent student leadership and extracurricular activities, including preparations by student parliament to welcome incoming Grade 7 students through planned school tours and question-and-answer sessions focused on the transition to high school. She highlighted student engagement in outdoor education and the arts, noting preparations for an upcoming canoe trip along Slocan Lake as well as strong participation in the Langham Theatre production of *Sparks in the Park*, which sold out opening night performances.

B. Trustees

- Trustee Trenaman attended the BCSTA AGM and the RDCK Rec10 adjudication.
- Trustee Shunter was looking forward to the Board meeting in Creston in June to receive the annual sustainability report and do relationship building with the IEC.

C. Chair

Chair Chew attended the technical advisory committee on the election process with Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur.

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

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

F. District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Vice Chair Bremner gave a shoutout to dedicated hard working parent volunteers engaged in DPAC work.

G. Other – Nil

15. Comments or Questions from the Public

In response to comments and questions from the public, Superintendent Smillie stated that SD8 takes Human Rights matters seriously and continues to follow legislation, curriculum, policies, and administrative procedures. Chair Chew confirmed that the Board reviews all correspondence received. Questions were also addressed regarding the process used to determine membership on the Indigenous Education Council, including reference to the legislative requirements under Bill 40, and a request was made for the Board to review and publish information related to IEC membership.

16. Meeting Schedule and Reminders

A. Board Meetings

The next Meeting of the Board held in Public is scheduled for June 9, 2026 in Creston.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.

[redacted]

Board Chair　　　　　　　　　　Secretary-Treasurer