



MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD IN PUBLIC
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Board:

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

Student Trustees:

L. Catherall, KRSS (*via video conference*)
I. Hamilton, CBES (*via video conference*)
K. Keyes, MSSS (*via video conference*)
G. Klassen, KRSS (*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
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

4. Consent Package Questions – Nil

5. Adoption of Agenda

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-061

THAT the Agenda for this June 9, 2026 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

In response to questions from a member of the public regarding her son's EA support time, Superintendent Smillie reviewed the process for bringing forward requests or concerns under SD8's communication protocol and advised that the parent continue working with school staff.

8. Adoption of Minutes

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-062

THAT the minutes from the May 12, 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. Enhancing Student Learning Report and School Learning Plans 2026

Superintendent Smillie presented the 2025-2026 Enhancing Student Learning Report and School Learning Plans for Board approval. She reported on district progress toward improving student outcomes in literacy, numeracy, belonging, safety, graduation, and career development, with a continued focus on equity for Indigenous students, children and youth in care, and students with diverse abilities. She highlighted areas of growth, key strategic adjustments, and the alignment of school and district plans with the Board's 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, and recommended approval of the 2025-2026 Enhancing Student Learning Report and School Learning Plans.

Trustees expressed gratitude for the learning gained through the School Learning Tours and for the opportunity to experience the energy and activities taking place in schools.

UPON a motion duly made and seconded it was **RESOLVED:** 25/26-063

THAT the 2025-2026 Enhancing Student Learning Report and School Learning Plans be **APPROVED**.

The motion carried unanimously.

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

A. Climate Action and Sustainability Annual Report

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur, Director Eaton, and Director Kerr presented the Climate Action and Sustainability Annual Report and provided an update on the implementation of Policy 173: Climate Action and Sustainability. She reported on district actions undertaken to advance sustainability through education, stewardship, and organizational culture, including energy efficiency projects, sustainability education initiatives, waste reduction efforts, and the expansion of electric transportation infrastructure. It was noted that the report fulfilled annual climate accountability reporting requirements and outlined ongoing actions to reduce environmental impacts and strengthen sustainability across the district.

Trustees expressed appreciation for the efforts to advance climate action and to embed Policy 173: Climate Action and Sustainability in curriculum and operational initiatives throughout the district.

B. Quarterly Capital Update

Director Kerr presented the quarterly Capital Operations Plan update and reported on the status of capital projects across the district. He highlighted progress on facility upgrades, infrastructure improvements, FireSmart initiatives, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure funded through various capital programs as outlined in the memo.

Trustees commended the significant progress reflected in the extensive list of ongoing and completed projects.

C. Long-Range Facilities Plan Update 2026

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur the 2026 Long-Range Facilities Plan update and reported on progress made since the adoption of the 2021 Long-Range Facilities Plan. She reviewed facility improvements, modernization projects, infrastructure upgrades, and property decisions completed across the district's six Families of Schools and noted that the district's facilities planning and capital investments continued to align with the priorities and direction established in the 2021 plan.

Trustees recognized the dedication of district and operations staff in supporting the safe and efficient operation of schools and transportation services.

D. Video Surveillance

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the annual review of video surveillance within the district as required under Policy 840 and the School Act. She reported on the use of video surveillance at designated district schools, outlined retention and storage practices for recorded footage, and noted that access to video recordings remained restricted to authorized personnel on an as-needed basis as outlined in the memo. The district plans to install video cameras at selected locations of Mount Sentinel Secondary School in the summer.

12. Governance and Policy

A. Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) June 2026 Report

Secretary-Treasurer MacArthur presented the annual Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) report and reviewed the district's obligations under the legislation to receive, investigate, and report disclosures of serious wrongdoing while protecting employees from reprisal. She reported that no PIDA disclosures were received by School District No. 8 during the 2025-2026 reporting period.

B. Approve Policy 171: Sexual Orientation Gender Identity

Superintendent Smillie presented revised Policy 171: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and recommended the policy for approval. She reported that the revisions reflected current language, and had been reviewed by the Policy, Operations and

Finance Partner Advisory Committee, and were circulated for public field testing. She noted that no public feedback was received during the field-testing period.

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

25/26-064

THAT policy 171 **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 Lucien Catherall, representing Kootenay River Secondary School, reported on recent student activities and engagement, including a successful spring dance, the French class's educational trip to Quebec, and the Edison Electric Go Kart Team's participation in a regional competition. He highlighted student involvement in school leadership through the student council presidential election and noted excitement surrounding the release of student schedules for the 2026-2027 school year, reflecting anticipation for upcoming opportunities and experiences.

- **MSSS (Student Trustee Keyes)** *(via video conference)*

Student Trustee Keyes, representing Mount Sentinel Secondary School, reported on recent student activities and upcoming year-end events, including a successful community fundraiser, preparations for the annual Athletics Day, and continued participation in extracurricular programs. He highlighted student engagement in athletics, performing arts, and outdoor learning opportunities, as well as strong community involvement through school events and celebrations. He also noted several upcoming milestones, including drama and band performances, the Grad Dinner Dance, and an optional school-wide trip to Battle Snake Canyon. As the school year draws to a close, students continued to demonstrate school spirit and participation across a variety of academic, cultural, and recreational activities.

- **CBESS (Student Trustee Hamilton)** *(via video conference)*

Student Trustee Hamilton, representing CBESS, reported on recent school activities as graduation preparations neared completion, noting that graduates had finished fundraising efforts, including a successful silent auction that exceeded expectations. She highlighted student learning and community engagement through a collaborative Indigenous arts mural, a community science fair, a field trip exploring local history, and an upcoming outdoor education camping trip, as well as staff recognition initiatives and the completion of the school's first-ever yearbook.

Trustees celebrated the Student Trustees for stepping into their roles and for providing reports to the Board.

B. Trustees

- Trustee Trenaman reported attending JSAC and PVP Pool interviews, as well as retirement celebrations recognizing staff members' longstanding commitment to student success. She also noted that the School Learning Tours highlighted the exemplary work taking place in schools throughout the district.
- Trustee Blackmore congratulated graduating students, thanked the Senior Leadership Team for their work, and acknowledged the value of the School Learning Tours.
- Vice Chair Bremner congratulated graduates and reported attending IEC meetings, Welcome to Kindergarten events, and retirement celebrations. She thanked SD8 staff for their work throughout the year and wished everyone a happy summer.
- Trustee Nazaroff reported attending retirement celebrations and acknowledged the district's efforts to recognize the contributions of staff.
- Trustee Lang reported attending School Learning Tours and retirement celebrations and recognized staff for organizing these events and showcasing student and staff achievements.

C. Chair

Chair Chew echoed the comments of fellow Trustees and recognized the contributions of Senior Leaders through their reports and ongoing efforts to support public education. She acknowledged the work of the Student Trustees, thanked fellow Trustees for their commitment, and recognized Superintendent Smillie and her team for their dedication and leadership throughout the district.

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

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

Trustee Gribbin informed the Board of the upcoming BCPSEA AGM on Monday.

F. District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC)

Vice Chair Bremner advised the Board that the June DPAC meeting was postponed to September.

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 8, 2026.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM.



Board Chair



Secretary-Treasurer