



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
AGENDA - REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**

October 14, 2025, 3:00 p.m.  
Kootenay Learning Campus - Fernie

**Pages**

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

**1.2 Greeting**

Acknowledgement that we are gathered on the Homelands of the Ktunaxa People.

**1.3 Chairperson's Opening Remarks and Recognitions**

**1.4 Opening Round**

Members of the Board, District Management, District Staff and local Union Presidents share a reflection of gratitude.

**1.5 Consideration and Approval of Agenda**

**1.6 Approval of the Minutes**

5

Approval of the minutes from September 9, 2025.

**1.7 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings**

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**1.8 Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

**1.8.1 Amy Woodland Elementary Update**

**2. RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**3. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**RECOMMENDATION A:**

THAT a letter of support be written, inclusive of the 2023 Motion and the BCSTA letter to government, and that this letter also extend an invitation to collaborate on a joint motion with School District 71 (Comox Valley) and the subsequent BCSTA branches. A copy of this correspondence shall be forwarded to the Minister of Education and Child Care.

**RECOMMENDATION B:**

THAT a letter of support be written to School District No. 70 (Pacific Rim) regarding funding for housing accommodation in rural and remote communities.

**RECOMMENDATION C:**

THAT Policy 22 be sent out for stakeholder feedback.

## 3.2 BCSTA /Provincial Council

## 3.3 Communications Media Committee

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## 3.4 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee

## 3.5 Key City Theatre

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## 3.6 Legacy of Learning

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## 3.7 French Immersion Update

## 3.8 Traffic Safety Committee

## 3.9 Trustee Reports

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**4. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

Reporting on (finances/budget, capital projects, facilities, operations/maintenance/transportation)

**4.1 Updates**

## 4.1.1 Fernie Elementary School Update

## 4.1.2 Pinewood Elementary Irrigation System

**4.2 Recommendations****5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

**5.1 Updates**

**5.1.1 Child Care**

**5.1.2 Indigenous Education Council**

**5.1.3 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning**

**5.2 Recommendations**

**6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

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**6.1 Updates**

**6.1.1 Trustee Tour of Elk Valley Schools and Facilities**

**6.1.2 KBB Annual General Meeting Report**

**6.1.3 Remembrance Day Services**

**6.2 Recommendations**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 Community Donation Allocation**

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THAT the proposed community donation allocation, Option 3, for 2025 be accepted as presented.

**7.2 Review of All Committees Schedule (Time of Meetings)**

As documented in the minutes of September 29, the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) requested a review of the scheduled time of the All Committees public meeting. The DPAC has suggested that the time of the public meeting be moved to 3:00 p.m.

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

**8.1 October 24 Professional Development Day**

**8.2 October 27 Committee Meetings**

Co-Chairs Trina Ayling and Bev Bellina

**8.3 November 10 Board Meetings**

Monday, November 10 due to Remembrance Day on Tuesday, November 11

#### **8.4 November 11 Remembrance Day**

#### **9. QUESTION PERIOD**

#### **10. CLOSING ROUND**

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

What have we done at this meeting to help our students become more interested in school and to support them in their personal learning journey?



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
MINUTES - REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**

**September 9, 2025, 3:00 p.m.  
Cranbrook Board Office**

**Present:** Trustee Trina Ayling  
Trustee Bev Bellina (remotely)  
Trustee Irene Bischler  
Trustee Alysha Clarke  
Trustee Nicole Heckendorf  
Trustee Chris Johns  
Chairperson Doug McPhee  
Trustee Sarah Madsen (remotely)  
Trustee Wendy Turner

**Staff Present** Superintendent Viveka Johnson  
Secretary Treasurer Nick Taylor  
Director of Instruction Human Resources Brent Reimer  
Director of Student Learning and Indigenous Education Jason Tichauer  
Director of Instruction Curriculum and Assessment Michael Kelly  
Director of Operations Joe Tank  
District Principal Early Learning and Child Care Laura-Lee Phillips  
District Principal of Learning Services Kaley Wasylowich  
District Vice Principal Human Resources and Health & Safety Erin Boehm  
Executive Assistant to Secretary Treasurer and Superintendent (recorder) Jane Nixon

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Chair McPhee called the September 9, 2025, regular public meeting of the Board of Education to order at 3:10 p.m.

**1.2 Greeting**

Chair McPhee acknowledged that we have gathered here in the Homelands of the Ktunaxa People.

### **1.3 Chairperson's Opening Remarks and Recognitions**

Chairperson McPhee extended condolences to the families of Edith Rose and Maureen Dockendorf.

He acknowledged the dedicated work of the Operations and Maintenance Departments and the Accounting and Finance Department over the summer months. Chairperson McPhee also acknowledged the ongoing community advocacy.

### **1.4 Opening Round**

Members of the Board, District Management, District Staff and local Union Presidents shared a reflection of gratitude.

### **1.5 Consideration and Approval of Agenda**

Additions:

#### **MOTION R-25-111**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Bischler:

THAT the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of September 9, 2025, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

### **1.6 Approval of the Minutes**

#### **MOTION R-25-112**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Bellina:

THAT the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of June 10, 2025, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

### **1.7 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings**

#### **MOTION R-25-113**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Turner:

THAT the Board accept the closed records of the in-camera meetings of the Board of Education of June 10 and August 25, 2025.

**CARRIED**

## **1.8 Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

### **1.8.1 Amy Woodland Elementary Update**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor provided an update on the business case for Amy Woodland Elementary. A more formal update will be available at the All Committees meeting on September 29, 2025.

## **2. RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **2.1 Report on Select Standing Committee**

Trustee Johns presented information on the Select Standing Committee hearings held across the province. He reviewed the importance of the role of advocacy of school board trustees.

## **3. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

### **3.1 All Committees Public Meeting**

Co-Chair Trustee Johns reviewed the All Committees minutes of August 25, 2025.

#### **MOTION R-25-114**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Turner:

THAT the Board write a letter of support to the Board of Education for Peace River North.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-25-115**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Clarke:

THAT the Board propose a joint motion with the Board of Education Peace River North for the BCSTA AGM.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-25-116**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Bischler:

THAT Appendix B to Policy 3, Trustee Attendance, Participation and Professional Development be approved.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-25-117**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Bellina:

THAT the Annual Board Self-Evaluation, dated June 25, 2025, be approved.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-25-118**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the report of the All Committees be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3.2 BCSTA /Provincial Council**

**MOTION R-25-119**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Turner:

THAT the report of the BCSTA Provincial Council be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3.3 Communications Media Committee**

Nil

**MOTION R-25-120**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Johns:

THAT the report of the Communications Media Committee be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3.4 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee**

Trustee Johns provided an update on the meeting with MLA Peter Davis on a community plan to replace Mount Baker Secondary. Trustee Johns, Trustee Ayling and Chairperson McPhee attended the meeting.

There was also discussion of the importance of advocating for a replacement of Amy Woodland Elementary on its current site.

**MOTION R-25-121**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the report of the Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3.5 Key City Theatre**



**MOTION R-25-122**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Turner:

THAT the report of the Key City Theatre Committee included in the agenda package be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3.6 Legacy of Learning**

Trustee Johns reviewed the Legacy of Learning report included in the agenda package.

**MOTION R-25-123**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Madsen:

THAT the Board accept the Legacy of Learning report.

**CARRIED**

**3.7 French Immersion Update**

Nil

**MOTION R-25-124**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Turner:

THAT the report of the French Immersion Committee be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3.8 Traffic Safety Committee**

The Pinewood Elementary speed reader information included in the agenda package was reviewed and discussed.

Director Tank is seeking to engage a traffic engineer to prepare a traffic proposal for the District.

Trustee Johns anticipates that there will be two Vision Zero Grant applications submitted this fall.

**MOTION R-25-125**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the report of the Traffic Safety Committee be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

### **3.9 Trustee Reports**

Trustees reported on their activities for the month. Trustees also shared how they have helped students become more interested in school and how they will support them in their personal learning journeys.

## **4. SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

### **4.1 Updates**

#### **4.1.1 Fernie Elementary School Update**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor reported that the environmental work on the Fernie Elementary site is ongoing.

#### **4.1.2 Steeples Child Care**

Director Tank provided a construction update on the Steeples Elementary Child Care.

#### **4.1.3 Pinewood Irrigation System**

Director Tank provided an update on the Pinewood Elementary irrigation system.

### **4.2 Recommendations**

#### **4.2.1 Audited Financial Statements**

##### **MOTION R-25-126**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Turner:

THAT the Board of Education accept and approve the Audited Financial Statements for the period ended June 30, 2025, and authorize Secretary Treasurer Taylor to submit to the Ministry as required.

**CARRIED**

##### **MOTION R-25-127**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Clarke:

THAT the Secretary Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

The Framework for Enhancing Student Learning report can be found on the School District's website at [www.sd5.bc.ca](http://www.sd5.bc.ca).

### **5.1 Updates**

#### **5.1.1 Indigenous Education Council (IEC)**

Director Tichauer provided a brief update on the Indigenous Education Council. The IEC will be meeting within the next few weeks.

#### **5.1.2 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning**

Superintendent Johnson discussed the submission of the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. The Framework will be approved at a special in-camera meeting of the Board of Education on September 29, 2025.

Once approved, the report will be submitted to the Ministry and posted on the website.

#### **5.1.3 Child Care**

##### **5.1.3.1 Fernie Elementary Child Care Update**

District Principal Phillips reported on the recent funding received on 37 child care spaces (for 0 to 5 year olds) at the new Fernie Elementary School.

### **5.2 Recommendations**

#### **MOTION R-25-128**

Moved/Seconded by Turner/Heckendorf:

THAT the Superintendent's Report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

### **6.1 Updates**

The welcome back breakfast will be in Fernie on September 11 and will be followed by Elk Valley school and facility tours. The Cranbrook breakfast will be held on September 12 at 8:00 a.m.

Chairperson McPhee summarized the recent meeting with Minister Lisa Beare. The provincial government has no intention of removing elected school boards in the province.

Chairperson McPhee emphasized the importance of advocating for the value of public education boards. He highlighted the need to find individuals willing to serve in these roles and to support the issues that will arise in the upcoming elections.

## **6.2 Recommendations**

### **MOTION R-25-129**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Ayling:

THAT the Chairperson's report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

Nil

## **8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

- 8.1 Thank You Letter to Rick and Marg Jensen Family Foundation**
- 8.2 Office of the Ombudsperson Report**
- 8.3 September 19 Professional Development Day (District Indigenous Pro-D)**
- 8.4 September 26-27 Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM (Invermere)**
- 8.5 September 29 Committee Meetings**
- 8.6 September 29 1701 Data Collection**
- 8.7 September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

## **9. QUESTION PERIOD**

Nil

## **10. CLOSING ROUND**

Trustees, District Management and local Union Presidents were offered an opportunity to share a final comment on the meeting.

Superintendent Johnson took the opportunity to acknowledge the generous donation from Finning Cranbrook. Finning donated 50 backpacks to students in the District.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

### **MOTION R-25-130**

Moved/Seconded by Lastname/Lastname:

THAT the September 9, 2025, regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 4:22 p.m.

*What have we done at this meeting to help our students become more interested in school and to support them in their personal learning journey?*

DRAFT



## **1.7. RECEIPT OF RECORDS OF CLOSED MEETINGS**

### **In-camera Meetings:**

#### **September 9, 2025**

- Secretary Treasurer's Report
  - Personnel
  - Land
  - Legal
  - Matters if in the opinion of the Board the public interest requires consideration in camera

#### **September 29, 2025**

- Secretary Treasurer's Report
  - Personnel
  - Land
  - Legal
  - Matters if in the opinion of the Board the public interest requires consideration in camera

#### **September 29, 2025 (Special)**

- Matters if in the opinion of the Board the public interest requires consideration in camera

Nick Taylor  
Secretary Treasurer



**The Board of Education of  
School District No.5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
MINUTES - ALL COMMITTEES (PUBLIC)**

**September 29, 2025, 12:00 p.m.  
Cranbrook Board Office**

Committee Members in Attendance:

Trustee Trina Ayling  
Trustee Bev Bellina (remotely)  
Trustee Irene Bischler  
Trustee Alysha Clarke (Co-Chair)  
Trustee Nicole Heckendorf  
Trustee Chris Johns (Co-Chair)  
Chairperson Doug McPhee  
Trustee Sarah Madsen  
Trustee Wendy Turner

Board/District Staff in Attendance:

Superintendent Viveka Johnson  
Secretary Treasurer Nick Taylor  
Director of Instruction Human Resources Brent Reimer  
Director of Student Learning and Indigenous Education Jason Tichauer  
Director of Instruction Curriculum and Assessment Michael Kelly  
Director of Operations Joe Tank  
District Principal Early Learning and Child Care Laura-Lee Phillips  
District Principal of Learning Services Kaley Wasylowich  
District Vice Principal Human Resources and Health & Safety Erin Boehm  
Office Manager, Board Office & Executive Services (recorder) Jane Nixon

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Co-Chair Trustee Johns called the public All Committees meeting of September 29, 2025, to order at 12:08 p.m.

**1.2 Acknowledgement of Ktunaxa Territory**

Acknowledgement that we have gathered on the Homelands of the Ktunaxa People.

Co-Chair Trustee Johns acknowledged that we have gathered on the Homelands of the Ktunaxa People.

### **1.3 Approval of the Agenda**

Additions:

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Turner:

THAT the All Committees public agenda of September 29, 2025, be approved as circulated.

### **1.4 Approval of the Minutes**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Heckendorf:

THAT the minutes of the public All Committees meeting of August 25, 2025, be approved as circulated.

## **2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **2.1 Amy Woodland Elementary Update**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor provided an update on the business case for Amy Woodland Elementary School.

### **2.2 Science Centre Cranbrook**

Superintendent Johnson reported on the recent Science Centre Society meeting. Additional information and updates will be shared as they become available.

## **3. PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

## **4. REPORTS**

### **4.1 Secretary Treasurer**

#### **4.1.1 Mountainview Sparwood**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor reported on meetings with Elk Valley Resources (EVR) and Treehouse Daycare.

The EVR lease is scheduled to expire at the end of December 2025. Secretary Treasurer Taylor is engaged in ongoing discussions with EVR regarding renovations to the Mountainview building. These renovations are intended to return the facility to its original condition, making it suitable for child care and community recreational use.



#### **4.1.2 Fernie Elementary School**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor reported on the \$7.9 million New Spaces Funding received for child care at Fernie Elementary School. There will be a meeting with stakeholders to review the updated elementary school and child care space design.

Secretary Treasurer Taylor expects that the environmental remediation work will be submitted in the near future.

### **4.2 Superintendent**

#### **4.2.1 Indigenous Education Council (IEC)**

Superintendent Johnson provided an update on the draft IEC Terms of Reference, which has been submitted to the Ministry. She also reported that she will now be overseeing Indigenous Education in the District and will be working in collaboration with the IEC.

#### **4.2.2 Child Care**

District Principal Phillips reviewed the report on Early Learning and Child Care included in the agenda package.

#### **4.2.3 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning**

Superintendent Johnson provided a brief update on the draft Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. This document is due to the Ministry of Education and Child Care on October 1, 2025.

#### **4.2.4 Parkland Grade 8 & 9 Trip to Toronto**

A recommendation was included in the agenda package. It was determined that this was not required as the trip is within Canada and falls under the approval of the Superintendent.

## **5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

### **5.1 Advocacy Education**

#### **5.1.1 DSAC Report**

The next DSAC meeting is Monday, October 6, 2025 at the Cranbrook Board Office.

#### **5.1.2 DPAC Report**

Trustee Turner provided a DPAC report. She reported on a request at the recent DPAC meeting for the public All Committees meeting time to be changed to 3:00 p.m.

### **5.1.3 Advocacy Letters Received**

#### **5.1.3.1 Letter from Comox Valley - Gender Based Violence Action Plan**

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Turner:

THAT a letter of support be written, inclusive of the 2023 Motion and the BCSTA letter to government, and that this letter also extend an invitation to collaborate on a joint motion with School District 71 (Comox Valley) and the subsequent BCSTA branches. A copy of this correspondence shall be forwarded to the Minister of Education and Child Care.

#### **5.1.3.2 Letter from Gold Trail - PC Responsibilities and Reporting**

Received and filed

#### **5.1.3.3 Letter from Gold Trail - Defeated Resolution Regarding IEAC Representation**

Received and filed

#### **5.1.3.4 Letter from School District 46 - Non-Voting Student Delegates**

Received and filed

#### **5.1.3.5 Letter from Pacific Rim - Funding for Housing Accommodation**

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Clarke:

THAT a letter of support be written to School District No. 70 (Pacific Rim) regarding funding for housing accommodation in rural and remote communities.

## **5.2 Learning Services**

### **5.2.1 Update on Learning Services Student Allocations**

District Principal Wasylowich provided a report on Learning Services initiatives. This report was emailed to trustees following the meeting.

Trustee Truner requested that staff across the District be informed of the successful initiatives in Learning Services. This will be done through social media and in the upcoming Superintendent's "Learning Together" newsletter.

### **5.3 Policy**

#### **5.3.1 Policy 22 Update**

Policy 22 Update

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Turner:

THAT Policy 22 be updated and sent out for stakeholder feedback.

#### **5.3.2 Revised Administrative Procedures (Information Only)**

[AP 132 - Emergent School Closures](#)

[AP 167 - Defibrillators](#)

[AP 251 - Learning Resources](#)

[AP 260 - Curricular Field Studies and Extra-Curricular School Trips](#)

[AP 350 - Code of Conduct](#)

[AP 551 - Use of School Board Property by Licensed Child Care Providers](#)

### **5.4 Finance Operations Personnel**

Nil

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

Nil

## **7. ACTION ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Nil

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **8.1 District Occupational Health and Safety Committee Minutes**

The next meeting is October 23, 2025

### **8.2 Finance and Capital Analysis Report**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor reviewed the report included in the agenda package.

### **8.3 Trustee Professional Development**

Nil

#### **8.4 Staff Travel Summary**

### **9. QUESTION PERIOD**

Nil

### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Clarke:

THAT the September 29, 2025, public All Committees meeting adjourn at 1:12 p.m.

*What services and resources did we provide to which students at what cost and resulting in what benefits?*

## 21. Action to Address Misogyny & Sexism

### Category: Educational Programs

<b>Motion #:</b>	21 : A202521	<b>Sponsor:</b>	Comox Valley
<b>Meeting:</b>	AGM 2025	<b>Action:</b>	<i>not specified</i>
<b>Category:</b>		<b>Outcome:</b>	<i>not specified</i>
<b>Disposition:</b>	Carried		

#### Motion as Adopted:

##### BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA advocate to the Ministry of Education and Child Care to work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity to develop, promote, implement and fund a K-12 Action Plan to address misogyny & sexism and to include strategies for educators and students to identify and respond to gender-based biases and sexual harassment.

#### Motion as Presented:

##### BE IT RESOLVED:

That BCSTA advocate to the Ministry of Education and Child Care to work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity to develop, promote, implement and fund a K-12 Action Plan to address misogyny & sexism and to include strategies for educators and students to identify and respond to gender-based biases and sexual harassment.

#### Rationale:

This motion is rooted in the recognition that acts of gender based violence, from sexual harassment to sexual assault, exists on a continuum and should not be considered as isolated incidents. Rather each act should be recognized as taking place within in a larger social and cultural context of misogyny and sexism, which requires systemic response that is multi-faceted, intentional and ongoing. This motion seeks to address yet another facet of this ubiquitous problem.

The McCreary Centre's BC Adolescent Health Survey is conducted every 5 years and is described by the McCreary Centre Society as "the most reliable, comprehensive survey of youth aged 12-19 in British Columbia". In 2023, over 38,000 students in 59 of BC's 60 school districts completed the survey.

That survey revealed that 51% of female students aged 12 to 19 in BC reported they had experienced verbal sexual harassment in the previous year and 32% had experienced physical sexual harassment. Non-binary youth in BC reported experiences of physical and verbal sexual harassment at even higher rates (58% verbal and 40% physical sexual harassment).

Similar rates were cited in a 2017 study conducted by Harvard University's Graduate School of Education. Its report, entitled "The Talk: How Adults Can Promote Young People's Healthy Relationships and Prevent Misogyny and Sexual Harassment", included among its key findings that misogyny and sexual harassment are so pervasive among young people that young people are increasingly desensitized to it and that peer sexual harassment "largely flies under our [adult] radar," with "large numbers of parents, educators, and other adults appear to be either unaware of the seriousness of the problem or don't know how to deal with it."

This motion seeks to further the education of educators adults in the education system and students about the seriousness of the problem and how to deal with it. It is supported by and consistent with the province's multi-year

Gender-Based Violence Action Plan, released in December 2023, which specifically included among its planned actions increasing prevention education and improving systemic response to victims/survivors of sexual violence in British Columbia, as well as province's recent declaration (January 2025) that gender-based violence is an epidemic.

**Reference(s):**

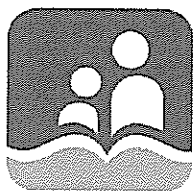
BC Adolescent Health Survey, McCreary Centre Society (2023) [https://mcs.bc.ca/pdf/2023\\_bcahs\\_the\\_big\\_picture.pdf](https://mcs.bc.ca/pdf/2023_bcahs_the_big_picture.pdf)

"The Talk: How Adults Can Promote Young People's Healthy Relationships and Prevent Misogyny and Sexual Harassment" (2017, Harvard University Graduate School of Education)

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b7c56e255b02c683659fe43/t/5bd51a0324a69425bd079b59/1723734772299/mcc\\_the\\_](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b7c56e255b02c683659fe43/t/5bd51a0324a69425bd079b59/1723734772299/mcc_the_)

Safe and Supported - British Columbia's Gender-Based Violence Action Plan (December 2023)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/services-policies-for-government/gender-equity/safe-and-supported-gender-based-violence-action-plan-december-2023.pdf>



# SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

October 21, 2024

Carolyn Broady, President  
British Columbia School Trustees' Association  
1580 W Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V6J 5K9

Dear Ms. Broady,

RE: AGM 2024 Advocacy Letters

At the School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay public Board Meeting of October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Board carried the following motion:

*THAT a letter be written from the Board of Education to thank the BCSTA for their work through the recent advocacy letters.*

Our Board would like to extend its thanks and gratitude the work of the BCSTA in composing and correlating the letter packages for government of late August/early September 2024, in response to the motions which were carried at the April 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM), and for copying that information to boards.

Our Board does not recall receiving such correspondence in the past even when we had requested follow-up information on specific motions that had been carried.

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke  
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

We sincerely hope that you will continue to provide boards with copies of your correspondence with government following successful AGM motions, going forward. As you are aware, motion building is a time consuming and thoughtful process for boards. Receiving copies of BCSTA's work following these motions demonstrates respect for, and commitment to, not only boards of education but to public education in BC.

We sincerely thank you,

Doug McPhee, Board Chair

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke  
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

940 Industrial Road #1, Cranbrook BC, V1C 4C6 • Tel: 250.417.2055 • Fax: 250.489.5460 • [www.sd5.bc.ca](http://www.sd5.bc.ca)



## Gender-based Violence Education

14.

### Category: Educational Programs

<b>Motion #:</b>	14 : A202414	<b>Sponsor:</b>	Kootenay Boundary Branch and Southeast Kootenay
<b>Meeting:</b>	AGM 2024	<b>Action:</b>	<i>not specified</i>
<b>Category:</b>		<b>Outcome:</b>	<i>not specified</i>
<b>Disposition:</b>	<i>not specified</i>		

#### Motion as Adopted:

##### BE IT RESOLVED:

That the BCSTA requests the Provincial Government, the Ministry of Education and Child Care and the Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity to, develop and fully fund, evidence-based curriculum on gender-based violence including resources and professional development.

#### Motion as Presented:

##### BE IT RESOLVED:

**That the BCSTA requests the Provincial Government, the Ministry of Education and Child Care and the Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity to, develop and fully fund, evidence-based curriculum on gender-based violence including resources and professional development.**

#### Rationale:

At present, the BC curriculum provides age-appropriate grade markers that help to build a strong foundation for exploration and meaningful discussion around sexual health to encouraging students to develop healthy and respectful relationships for grades K – 10. It fails to provide educators with the training or resources needed to support the emotional, pedagogical, and socially sensitive needs of students in grades eleven (11) and twelve (12)-- the student population most likely to experience --or perpetrate-- Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

The World Health Organization (WHO) describes GBV as:

- a major public and clinical health problem
- a violation of women's human rights
- rooted in and perpetuating gender inequalities

In 2022, the Provincial Government took the step of engaging a panel to inform *BC's Action Plan on Gender Based Violence*. There are a number of key insights in the Summary Report which is on the right track. The *Roundtable on Prevention and Awareness* identifies some root environmental causes, but fails to acknowledge that GBV is rooted first and foremost in sexual inequality, toxic masculinity and rape culture as exemplified by culturally rooted social attitudes that continue to stereotype male expectations and normalize or trivialize sexual assault and abuse, negatively impacting all of society.

The Report does recognize that GBV disproportionately affects:

- women and girls
- women with disabilities
- Indigenous women
- racialized women
- trans and non-binary people
- women who are homeless or underhoused,

but fails to identify GBV as inclusive of the following activities/incidents:

- domestic violence
- honour killings
- missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls
- the École Polytechnique massacre
- violent acts against men and boys with (real or perceived) non-cis-gender identities, behaviours or sexual partners, and
- other gender-related crimes

The Roundtable identifies the need to educate children, youth and young adults and, while discussion included ideas around how to reach young adults who do not attend post-secondary education institutions, the importance of engaging secondary school students --both male and female-- in fulsome and thoughtful conversation, carefully navigated by trained educators, was missed. This oversight, given the statistics below, as provided by various institutions and organizations in Canada regarding sexual offences:

- Sexual offences were the most reported crimes among girls aged 12–17
- Police-reported violence against females in Canada peaked at age 15
- Women are five (5) times more likely than men to experience sexual assault.
- Approximately 4.7 million women fifteen (15) years of age and older report having experienced sexual assault at least once
- There is a crisis of sexualized violence at post-secondary institutions

While it is imperative that this work be undertaken in classrooms by trained educators who can provide safe and inclusive environments while supporting honest and thoughtful conversations between all genders and gender identities, teachers cannot --and should not be expected to-- provide students with what *Teaching and Teacher Education, Volume 116, August 2022 (Vanner, Holloway, Almansori)* describes as **“difficult knowledge” that is “complicated and nuanced, constituting an act of bravery and involving increased emotional and intellectual labour”** without the resources evidence-based GBV programs such as The Fourth R (relationships), Safe Dates, Shifting Boundaries or other proven-effective programs and resources can provide. It is also imperative that these programs and resources be fully funded and distributed provincially to ensure student learning is consistent and free from individual or regional biases.



Until gender inequality is addressed, the good work in which we are presently engaged toward Truth and Reconciliation, SOGI, anti-racism, anti-bullying and other forms of discrimination or intimidation will be less effective for cisgendered women and trans-gendered women and men than for cisgendered males, and GBV will continue to adversely affect these cis and trans-gendered female populations.

**Reference(s):**

Quick stats -- [Gender-based Violence \(GBV\) in Canada: A Snapshot - Women and Gender Equality Canada](#)

Quick facts -- [Gender Based Violence in Canada | Learn the Facts \(canadianwomen.org\)](#)

Post secondary letter -- [Open Letter to BC Government on Sexualized and Gender-Based Violence in Post-Secondary — Alliance of BC Students](#)

GBV is a human rights violation -- [Violence Against Women: 6 ways women's human rights are violated around the world - CanWaCH](#)

Why curriculum is needed -- [Teaching and learning with power and privilege: Student and teacher identity in education about gender-based violence - ScienceDirect](#)

Federal Government Action Plan -- [https://femmes-egalite-genres.canada.ca/en/gender-based-violence/intergovernmental-collaboration/national-action-plan-end-gender-based-violence.html](#)

BC's Action Plan on Gender Based Violence --[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/services-policies-for-government/gender-equity/summary-of-engagement.pdf](#)

The Fourth R --[https://youthrelationships.org/](#)

Safe Dates --[https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/ratedprograms/142](#)

Shifting Boundaries --[https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/ratedprograms/226](#)





November 29, 2023

Ref: 294051

Doug McPhee, Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
**Email: c/o Jane.Nixon@sd5.bc.ca**

Dear Doug McPhee:

Thank you for your subsequent letter of October 11, 2023, clarifying your request regarding educational programs and resources for gender-based violence (GBV) education within School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) and School Districts across British Columbia.

The ministry agrees that gender-based violence is an important topic and that education can play an important role in reducing its prevalence and impact in our society. That is why in November of 2022, important updates were made to the elaborations in BC's Physical and Health Education (PHE) K-10 curriculum and supplemental supporting documents such as the *Supporting Student Health Guide* to include learning about a variety of topics in sexual health such as consent, harassment, healthy relationships, and gender-based violence.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care does not mandate specific resources. Different communities are using a variety of resources and strategies to teach a variety of topics, including topics related to consent and gender-based violence. School districts are free to use specific programs or resources they believe are most suited for teaching the learning standards of the curriculum. Many districts are already using different resources and programs and the Ministry would not want to disrupt any district initiatives that are currently working well by setting Ministry mandates. School districts are also best placed to determine the specific needs of their teachers for any training and professional development related to gender-based violence.

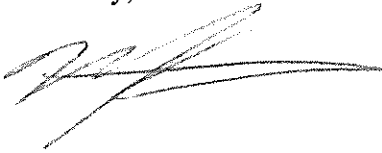
A standardized approach to educational materials and instructional approaches would not recognize the diversity of needs in communities and schools around the province. Students in different schools and districts will be coming to these topics with different background knowledge and experiences. Educators at the local level are best placed to make these determinations about student needs and which programs are best suited to meet those needs.

.../2

I do want to assure you though, that the work towards ending gender-based violence is a priority of not only the Ministry of Education and Child Care, but the entire provincial government. As the province continues to move forward in their work towards a comprehensive Gender-Based Violence Action Plan, our Ministry will continue to seek opportunities for furthering GBV education in the K-12 system and will update resources like the *Supporting Student Health Guides* to align with this important initiative. More details about these updates will be announced once the final Gender-Based Violence Action Plan is released.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanie Stewart', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melanie Stewart  
Associate Deputy Minister



August 4, 2023

Ref: 290162

Doug McPhee, Chair  
Board of Education  
School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay)  
**Email: c/o Jane.Nixon@sd5.bc.ca**

Dear Doug McPhee:

Thank you for your letter of March 29, 2023, regarding educational resources for gender-based violence (GBV) education in School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay). Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding.

For the 2023/24 school year, the Ministry of Education and Child Care will be providing \$77.6 million in operating grants to School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay), a \$7.1 million increase compared to 2022/23. As part of the District's supplementary funding, the Curriculum and Learning Support Fund continues to be provided for the upcoming school year, which can be leveraged with other operating funding to support the development of gender-based violence educational resources.

School districts are able to use a variety of approaches to meet the needs of their students, such as bringing in outside experts or working with school staff to integrate these topics into existing Grade 11 and 12 subject areas. Strategies that are currently used to provide physical education and health content for Grade 9 and 10 PHE courses could also be expanded to include Grade 11 and Grade 12 students.

The Ministry has also worked with BC teachers to develop the Supporting Student Health guides for elementary and secondary teachers. These guides provide background information and teaching suggestions to help teachers feel more confident and comfortable addressing sensitive health topics with their students. These guides are available on the Ministry's website at:

- [https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/pdf/subject/phe/Supporting\\_Student\\_Health\\_Elementary.pdf](https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/pdf/subject/phe/Supporting_Student_Health_Elementary.pdf)
- [https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/pdf/subject/phe/Supporting\\_Student\\_Health\\_Secondary.pdf](https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/sites/curriculum.gov.bc.ca/files/pdf/subject/phe/Supporting_Student_Health_Secondary.pdf)

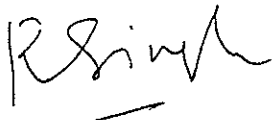
The erase website was also recently updated to enhance information and resources on gender-based violence, for educators, students and families.

.../2

While education is a powerful tool in generating and creating change, we recognize that gender-based violence remains prevalent in communities throughout BC, and that there is more work to do. Through the Gender Equity Office, the Province has committed to develop an action plan to prevent, address and respond to gender based violence.

Please connect with Melanie Stewart, Assistant Deputy Minister – Learning and Education Programs, by email at [melanie.j.stewart@gov.bc.ca](mailto:melanie.j.stewart@gov.bc.ca), should you wish to discuss learning supports further. Thank you again for writing.

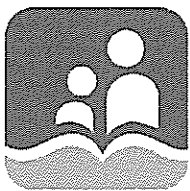
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Singh', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Rachna Singh  
Minister

pc: Melanie Stewart, Assistant Deputy Minister, Learning and Education Programs





# SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

## S O U T H E A S T K O O T E N A Y

March 29, 2023

Hon. Rachna Singh, Minister of Education and Child Care  
Room 124 Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Singh,

RE: Educational Resources for Gender Based Violence (GBV) Education

At the School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay public Board Meeting of March 14, 2023, the Board carried the following motion:

*That the Board write a letter requesting funding from the Ministry of Education and Child Care to cover the costs of resources required to educate grade 11 and 12 students on gender-based violence as requested by the Ministry.*

Our Board applauds the efforts of the Ministry of Education and Child Care in developing the *Supporting Student Health Guide* resources for elementary and secondary grade level students to support educators in teaching about sexual health using an age-appropriate and non-discriminatory approach in the classroom.

The Guide provides a thoughtful K – Grade ten (10) overview of “suggested topics” that explore healthy relationships, gender and sexual diversity, sexual and physical development, sexual decision making, contraception and sexually transmitted infections. These resources provide age-appropriate grade markers and this guide provides a strong foundation for exploration and meaningful discussion around Gender Based Violence (GBV) as students move into grades eleven (11) and twelve (12).

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke  
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

Unfortunately, while it is vital that educators support the emotional, pedagogical, and social sensitivity of students from all sexual, racial and socio-economic backgrounds when exploring GBV topics with students, educators have not been provided with the resources to do so for these senior grades.

GBV-based issues such as sexual assault, domestic violence, GBV against men and boys, historical incidents of GBV (ie: missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, the École Polytechnique massacre, honour killings etc.) and the contributing, culturally-rooted causes of GBV such as rape culture and toxic masculinity, while difficult to address, are necessary topics for exploration that require thoughtful, careful navigation by educators.

*Teaching and Teacher Education, Volume 116, August 2022 (Vanner, Holloway, Almanssori)* describes GBV as “difficult knowledge” that is “complicated and nuanced, constituting an act of bravery and involving increased emotional and intellectual labour”.

The World Health Organization (WHO) website describes GBV as “a major public and clinical health problem and a violation of women's human rights [that] is rooted in and perpetuates gender inequalities”. GBV disproportionately affects women and girls, women with disabilities, Indigenous women, racialized women, trans and non-binary people, and women who are homeless or underhoused.

In 2017, police-reported violence against females in Canada peaked at age 15 and sexual offences were the most reported crimes among girls aged 12–17 (Conroy, 2018). In 2021, Statistics Canada identified women as being five (5) times more likely than men to experience sexual assault.

In 2022, the Canadian Women's Foundation estimated that approximately **4.7 million women** fifteen (15) years of age and older report having **experienced sexual assault at least once**.

And in February of this year (2023), the *Alliance of BC Students* wrote an open letter to Premier David Eby, calling for the provincial government to “take urgent action to address the **crisis of sexualized violence** at post-secondary institutions.”

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke  
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

GBV will continue to occur until the roots of gender inequality, abuses of power and harmful norms that currently exist in our society are exposed, discussed and understood. This journey of understanding begins with our youth.

Teachers cannot –and should not be expected to—provide students with this “difficult, complicated and nuanced knowledge” without resources that can support them in facilitating evidence-based GBV programs such as The Fourth R (relationships), Safe Dates, Shifting Boundaries or other programs that show significant evidence of their effectiveness. It is also important that these proven-effective resources be developed/distributed provincially to ensure student learning is consistent and free from individual or regional biases.

We ask that the Ministry fully fund these critically-needed resources and look forward to your thoughtful consideration of –and timely response to—our request for funding of these vitally important resources.

Sincerely,

Doug McPhee, Board Chair

Cc\*: Hon. David Eby, Premier, Province of BC  
Kevin Falcon, Leader, BC Liberal Party  
Sonia Furstenuau, Leader, BC Green Party  
Tom Shypitka, MLA Kootenay East BC  
Elenor Sturko, Critic for Education, BC Liberal Party  
Karin Kirkpatrick, Critic for Child and Family Development & Childcare, BC Liberal Party  
Hon. Katrine Conroy, Minister of Finance  
Chris Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management Division  
Carolyn Broady, President, BCSTA  
BCSTA for distribution to member Boards of Education  
Clint Johnston, President BC Teachers' Federation  
Chris Schultz-Lorentzen, President, BCCPAC  
Shelley Balfour & Adrienne Demers, CFTA Co-Chairs  
SD5 CUPE President  
Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke  
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

Lies Salvador, DPAC Chair  
Aaron Thorn, President, SD5 Administrators' Association  
Chris Walker/Corey Bullock, CBC Radio  
Dennis Walker, 107.5 Today FM Radio  
Wylie Henerson, Rewind Radio 102.9  
Jeff Johnson, Wild B104 Radio  
Josiah Spyker/Ryley McCormack, 107.5 Today FM  
Barry Coulter/Trevor Crawley, Cranbrook Daily Townsman  
Ian Cobb, e-know Online News  
Joshua Fischlin, Fernie Free Press

\*This correspondence is public and transparent. Please feel free to share and/or respond with comment.

Doug McPhee (Chair) • Trina Ayling • Bev Bellina • Irene Bischler • Alysha Clarke  
• Nicole Heckendorf • Chris Johns • Sarah Madsen • Wendy Turner

940 Industrial Road #1, Cranbrook BC, V1C 4C6 • Tel: 250.417.2055 • Fax: 250.489.5460 • [www.sd5.bc.ca](http://www.sd5.bc.ca)

## PROVISION OF CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance with respect to how the Board will promote the use of Board property for the provision of child care programs by either the Board or third party licensees.

The use of Board property by licensed child care providers must not disrupt or otherwise interfere with the provision of educational activities including early learning programs and extracurricular school activities.

### Definitions

In this Policy, the terms “Board property,” “business day,” “child care program,” “educational activities” and “licensee” have the meanings given to those terms in the School Act.

Direct and indirect costs shall be determined by the Secretary Treasurer, however, must include the following:

- Utilities;
- Maintenance and repair;
- An allowance for the cost of providing custodial services;
- An allowance for time school district administrators and other staff spend on matters relating to the use of Board property by licensed child care providers.

### Specifically

1. The Board Chair in consultation with the Superintendent shall establish advisory (fact finding/information gathering) sub-committees in each of the following five communities: Cranbrook, Fernie, Elkford, Jaffray, and Sparwood in order to assess the need for before and after school child care programs, services and delivery. The sub-committees shall make recommendations to the Standing Finance and Operations Committee. The Standing Finance and Operations Committee shall make recommendations to the Board. The Superintendent shall designate individuals/groups to be consulted and the District resource staff required to facilitate the recommendations to the Standing committee.

2. If child care programs are to be provided on Board property, the Board will consider, on an ongoing basis, whether those programs are best provided by licensees other than the Board, the Board, or a combination of both.
3. Child care programs, if operated by the Board, will be operated for a fee no greater than the direct costs the Board incurs in providing the child care program.
4. Fees for the use of Board property by licensees other than the Board will not exceed the direct and indirect costs the Board incurs in making Board property available for the child care program.
5. If child care programs are operated by a licensee other than the Board, the Board will require the licensee to agree to comply with this Policy.
6. In selecting licensees other than the Board to operate a child care program, the Board will give special consideration to the candidates' proposals to:
  - 6.1 provide inclusive child care; and
  - 6.2 foster Indigenous reconciliation in child care.
7. If the Board decides to operate a child care program, the Board will ensure that it is operated in a manner that:
  - 7.1. Fosters Indigenous reconciliation in child care. In particular, the child care program will be operated consistently with the following principles of the British Columbia Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act:
    - 7.1.1. Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including in the area of education; and
    - 7.1.2. "Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education"; and
  - 7.2. Is inclusive and consistent with the principles of non-discrimination set out in the British Columbia Human Rights Code.
8. Any contract with a licensee other than the Board, to provide a child care program on Board property must be in writing and subject to review no less than every five years. The contract must contain:
  - 8.1. A description of the direct and indirect costs for which the licensee is responsible;
  - 8.2. An agreement by the licensee to comply with this policy and all other applicable policies;
  - 8.3. A provision describing how the agreement can be terminated by the Board or the licensee;

- 8.4. An allocation of responsibility to ensure adequate insurance is in place to protect the interests of the Board;
  - 8.5. A statement that the agreement can only be amended in writing, signed by the Board and the licensee;
  - 8.6. A requirement for the licensee to maintain appropriate standards of performance; and
  - 8.7. A requirement that the licensee must at all times maintain the required license to operate a child care facility.
9. Prior to entering into or renewing a contract with a licensee other than the Board to provide a child care program on Board property, the Board will consider:
    - 9.1. Whether it is preferable for the Board to become a licensee and operate a child care program directly;
    - 9.2. The availability of school district staff to provide before and after school care;
    - 9.3. Whether, with respect to a licensee seeking renewal or extension of a contract, the licensee has performed its obligations under this Policy and its contract with the Board, with specific regard to performance in respect of providing an inclusive child care program and one that promotes indigenous reconciliation in child care.

Legal References: British Columbia *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*  
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act  
School Act Sections 85.1, 85.2, 85.3, 85.4  
Ministerial Order M326, the Child Care Order  
*Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*  
British Columbia *Human Rights Code*.

October 14, 2025

## **Summary for October 14, 2025 Board Meeting**

### **Trustee Media Report**

A letter of support was sent to the Board of Education for Peace River North (SD60), along with an invitation to write a joint motion for the 2026 BCSTA AGM re: the Federal Government's commitment to approve their proposed changes to extend eligibility to teachers and early childhood educators working in designated underserved rural or remote communities, to receive up to \$30,000 and \$15,000 respectively in loan forgiveness over five years.



## **Summary for October 14, 2025 Board Meeting**

### **Key City Theatre Society (KCTS) Report**

- Elevator installation is on schedule. Official opening ceremony is tentatively scheduled for mid-November
- AGM scheduled for Monday October 20; Notice will be sent out digitally on October 6. However, may need to move the date back depending on when our financials will be finished. (Changing to new ticketing system has created some accounting challenges).
- Timely request was sent by Galen on behalf of the KCTS Board, to our Board Chair requesting “SD5’s urgent support regarding the Province’s recent pause of \$1.3M in partnership funding for Artists in Education and Artists in the Classroom. These funds, historically delivered through ArtStarts, are essential for curriculum-based arts learning in our schools.”

## Legacy of Learning October 2025 Report

- Scanned Sandberg staff photos = Central, Muriel Baxter, 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Steeples  
Schools 3 hours @ \$25/hr = \$75 \$ 75
- Prep work for 'Name That Teacher' – 6 hours @ \$25 = \$150 [subsidy from BCRTA]  
\$150
- Scanned Anne Sandberg teacher history material – volunteer donation time –  
4 hours @ \$17.85 = \$71.00 \$ 71
- Designed and installed new Board Room exhibit 'The Continuing Legend of Amy Woodand School'
- planning, selecting images, writing text,. Coordinating production –  
30 hours @ \$25 = \$750  
\$750- -production costs  
\$420
- installation and finetuning – 2 people for 3 hours + 6 hrs @ \$25/hr  
\$150
- volunteer work associated with exhibit – donated 18 hrs @ \$17.85/hr \$321
- 'Name That Teacher' project supported in part by B.C. Retired Teachers' Association and Cranbrook Retired Teachers' Association, a project to identify past district teachers and add to data base, meshing with the 'Building Families' app so students can include favourite/inspiring teachers
- Planning, and preparation – 14 hours @ \$25 = \$350 [BCRTA]  
\$350
- first 4 workshops - 17 teachers, 2 hours each of donated work =  
34 hrs @ \$17.85 = \$607 \$607
- development work on digital displays for 4 locations – 16 hours \$ 25/hr = \$400 \$400
- Archives room & collection, including attempts to secure Science Fair trophies  
4 hours @ \$25 = \$100  
\$100
- continued development work on 'Building Families' app – 18 hours @25 =  
\$450

Value of work for October – **Total \$3,844**

Paid by SD#5	\$2,345
Other Sources	\$ 500
Volunteer 56 hours	\$ 999

## Trustee Report – Bev Bellina

September 9<sup>th</sup> - Board of Education Meeting

September 11<sup>th</sup> - Board school tours

September 15<sup>th</sup> - FJMES PAC meeting

September 17<sup>th</sup> - SSS PAC Meeting

September 23<sup>rd</sup> - ECE Community of Practice

September 29<sup>th</sup> - Board of Education All Committees Meeting Orange Shirt Day

September 30<sup>th</sup> - Indigenous Learning Across the Seasons

October 6<sup>th</sup> -DSAC all day meeting at the Board office (7:30 am - 4:30 pm)

October 6<sup>th</sup> -Ktunaxa Level 2 Language Course (7:00 pm - 9:00 pm)

## Summary for October 14, 2025 Board Meeting

### TRUSTEE REPORT

Sept 9	Board meetings
Sept 10	FESL meeting with Viveka and Jane
Sept 10	CDTA exec. mtg
Sept 11	Elk Valley school tours
Sept 15	Childcare Teams mtg
Sept 16	Pinewood PAC mtg
Sept 19	Indigenous Day Keynote presentations
Sept 25	Key City Theatre Board mtg
Sept 26-27	Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM
Sept 29	Committee Day
Oct 01	BCPSEA sector call
Oct 01	CDTA exec. mtg
Oct 06	BCPSEA Webinar

# Trustee Report September 11, 2025

From the Province (CBC Lite as reported on the BCSTA website)

"In the 2001-02 budget, public school districts received 15.49 per cent of the provincial budget, while this year they received only 7.97 per cent of it, according to the BCSTA's 2026 budget submission to the province.

Tracy Loffler, president of BCSTA, an umbrella organization made up of B.C.'s 60 public boards of education, said it's a complex problem involving increased inflationary costs, increased benefit costs and inadequate capital funding.

"Districts from every corner of the province are experiencing some very significant budget challenges in ways that we haven't seen for years," said Loffler, who is also a Mission School District trustee.

"While we acknowledge and appreciate the increased investments in public education, it's simply just not enough."

From School District 5

It is important to note that despite the difficulties experienced by other districts:

The Kamloops, B.C., school district faced an estimated 5.79-million budget shortfall for the 2025-26 school year - the equivalent of 80 staff positions.

B.C.'s biggest school district, Surrey, an estimated 16 million shortfall;

School District 5 passed a balanced budget, a three-year projected budget and successfully completed the yearly audit procedures. This is not to indicate our deliberations on a tighter financial belt were a comfortable process. As district, we actively advocate for quality education, equitable funding, early intervention and support for students with diverse needs and the replacement of aging facilities. We also recognize that "doing more with less" is a practical impossibility.

The successful opening to the 2025-26 school year was made possible and our continued gratitude to: the dedication of the Accounting Department for their diligence and dedication, District Management ensuring that the needs of all schools are equitably addressed, District Maintenance for the hard work of summer repairs and custodial cleaning and School-based staff for the organization and planning it takes to create a welcoming space for students, to my fellow trustees for their compassion and vision.

Looking ahead:

Sep 11th - Trustee tour of the Elk Valley schools and breakfast meeting with Maintenance and Transportation staff in Fernie

Sep 12th - Breakfast meeting with the Maintenance, Transportation and District Staff in Cranbrook.

September! PAC Meetings, DPAC Meetings and impromptu drop-in school engagements

Sep 19th - Professional Opportunity to share growth in Indigenous Education

Sep 26-27 - Kootenay Boundary Meeting of the BCSTA in Invermere

Sep 29th - Committee Day

Sep 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

With respect,

Doug McPhee

**Chairperson**

**Board of Education**

**School District 5**

**(Southeast Kootenay)**

250-489-9622

250-426-5494

[Doug.McPhee@sd5.bc.ca](mailto:Doug.McPhee@sd5.bc.ca)

SD5 October 14, 2025 Agenda  
Proposed Community Donation Allocation

	FTE (09/30/2023)	FTE (09/30/2024)	FTE (09/30/2025)	19/20 Donation (1)	20/21 Donation	21/22 Donation	22/23 Donation	23/24 Donation	24/25 Proposed Donation (See Note 2 for Discussion of Options)
Cranbrook	3,476.88	3,417.25	3,323.70	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 3,320.00	\$ 3,390.00
Jaffray	222.63	208.75	221.00	150.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Fernie	1,054.13	1,090.75	1,143.67	300.00	950.00	1,010.00	1,070.00	1,060.00	1,170.00
Sparwood	701.50	691.25	669.00	300.00	600.00	660.00	680.00	670.00	680.00
Elkford	510.69	483.50	473.88	300.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00
	5,965.81	5,891.50	5,831.25	\$ 2,550.00	\$ 5,450.00	\$ 5,720.00	\$ 5,950.00	\$ 5,950.00	\$ 6,140.00
				\$/FTE	\$ 0.914	\$ 0.971	\$ 1.011	\$ 0.997	\$ 1.042

(1) - \$150 per school to Cranbrook Salvation Army or Fernie Salvation Army applied in 2019/2020 fiscal year.  
(2) - In the prior year we moved to a pro-rated FTE approach to determine the donation allocation. The following 3 options have been updated for current FTE as at 09/30/2025:

Area	Option 1 \$300/School	Option 2 FTE (rounded to \$10)	Option 3 Higher of Option 1 & 2
Cranbrook Salvation Army	\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,390.00	\$ 3,390.00
South Country Food Bank	300.00	\$ 230.00	300.00
Fernie Salvation Army	600.00	\$ 1,170.00	1,170.00
Sparwood Food Bank	600.00	\$ 680.00	680.00
Elkford Food Bank	600.00	\$ 480.00	600.00
	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 5,950.00	\$ 6,140.00
	% Change in donation year-over-year		3.19%

**Conclusion:** Propose we apply Option 3, simliar to the previous fiscal years. Taking the higher of both options reflects a 3.19% increase in donations which is in line with a general inflationary adjustment.