



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

**February 10, 2026, 3:00 p.m.**

**Cranbrook Board Office**

Present: Chairperson Doug McPhee  
Trustee Trina Ayling  
Trustee Bev Bellina (remotely)  
Trustee Irene Bischler  
Trustee Alysha Clarke  
Trustee Nicole Heckendorf  
Trustee Chris Johns  
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 Instruction Systems Leadership and Safe Schools 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  
Manager of Board Office & Executive Services (recorder) Jane Nixon

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Chairperson McPhee called the February 10, 2026, regular public meeting of the Board of Education to order at 3:01 p.m.

**1.2 Greeting**

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

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

Chairperson McPhee acknowledged the organization of the Steeples StrongStart and Child Care Facility grand opening.

He expressed condolences to the families of Daphne Hayden, Vicky Ann McDonald, Don Moore and Joanna Popoff.

**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**

**MOTION R-26-015**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Bischler:

THAT the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of February 10, 2026, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**1.6 Approval of the Minutes**

**MOTION R-26-016**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Heckendorf:

THAT the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of January 13, 2026, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**1.7 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings**

**MOTION R-26-017**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Clarke:

THAT the Board accept the closed records of the in-camera meeting of the Board of Education of January 13 and January 26, 2026.

**CARRIED**

**1.8 Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

**1.8.1 Amy Woodland Elementary Update**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor will meet with the Ministry of Infrastructure, Berry Architecture and the project manager, Turner and Townsend, on February 11, 2026, to finalize the Business Case.

**2. RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

### 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS/TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

#### 3.1 All Committees Public Meeting

Co-Chair Trustee Clarke reviewed the All Committees minutes of January 26, 2026.

##### **MOTION R-26-018**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Bischler:

THAT the Board of Education authorize travel of a Mount Baker Secondary student to Oregon. This trip is not a school-sponsored event.

**CARRIED**

##### **MOTION R-26-019**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Bellina:

THAT the Board Authority/Authorized Course - Strength, Conditioning, Leadership & Performance 10 be approved.

**CARRIED**

##### **MOTION R-26-020**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Madsen:

THAT the Board Authority/Authorized Course - Teen Development and Caregiving 12 be approved.

**CARRIED**

##### **MOTION R-26-021**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Turner:

THAT a letter of support be written to School District 60 regarding the request to include educational assistants in the Canada Student Loan Forgiveness Program.

**CARRIED**

##### **MOTION R-26-022**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Ayling:

THAT the Draft 2026-2027 School District Calendar be submitted for public consultation.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-26-023**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Bischler:

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

**CARRIED**

**3.2 BCSTA/Provincial Council**

Trustee Bellina provided a verbal report.

**MOTION R-26-024**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Heckendorf:

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

**CARRIED**

**3.3 Communications Media Committee**

Trustee Ayling provided the report included in the agenda package.

**MOTION R-26-025**

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 reported that a future meeting and tour of Mount Baker Secondary will be arranged with MLA Pete Davis.

**MOTION R-26-026**

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**

Trustee Ayling provided the report included in the agenda package.

**MOTION R-26-027**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Turner:

THAT the report of the Key City Theatre Committee be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3.6 Legacy of Learning**

Trustee Johns reviewed the report included in the agenda package.

**MOTION R-26-028**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Clarke:

THAT the Board accept the Legacy of Learning report.

**CARRIED**

**3.7 French Immersion Update**

Trustee Heckendorf requested that Director Kelly provide an update from the meeting on February 5, 2026.

**MOTION R-26-029**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Clarke:

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

**CARRIED**

**3.8 Traffic Safety Committee**

Trustee Johns and Secretary Treasurer Taylor provided an update from the Vision Zero grant application.

**MOTION R-26-030**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Bellina:

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.

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

##### **4.1 Updates**

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

Secretary Treasurer Taylor reported that the Ministry of Environment is nearing completion of the environmental review. He advised that a meeting with Berry Architecture, Turner and Townsend and the Ministry of Infrastructure is scheduled for February 11, 2026.

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

Secretary Treasurer Taylor provided an update on the grand opening of the Steeples StrongStart and Child Care facility.

###### **4.1.3 Jaffray Elementary Junior Secondary Child Care**

Director Tank gave an update on the Jaffray Elementary Junior Secondary Child Care project.

###### **4.1.4 Mountain View Facility**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor provided an update on the recent meeting with the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer of the District of Sparwood regarding the Mountain View facility.

##### **4.2 Recommendations**

###### **MOTION R-26-031**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Madsen:

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 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning**

Superintendent Johnson reported that the District is awaiting the Ministry's feedback and reporting on the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. She advised that the How Are We Doing (HAWD) report has not yet been received.

Superintendent Johnson also provided updates on the ongoing Acadience training, the Student Learning Survey, Youth Development Instrument (YDI) and the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI).

**5.2 Updates**

**5.2.1 Indigenous Education Council**

Superintendent Johnson and Secretary Treasurer Taylor met with the Indigenous Education Council (IEC) regarding the 2026/27 budget. Ongoing budget meetings with the IEC will continue to determine the use of Targeted Funds.

**5.2.2 Child Care**

District Principal Phillips provided an Early Learning and Child Care report.

**5.3 Recommendations**

**MOTION R-26-032**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Madsen:

THAT the Superintendent's Report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**6.1 Updates**

Chairperson McPhee reminded the public and the Board of the importance of budget planning and related meetings for the 2026/27 school year.

**6.2 Recommendations**

**MOTION R-26-033**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Clarke:

THAT the Chairperson's report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 Amended Budget Bylaw**

**MOTION R-26-034**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Bischler:

THAT permission be granted for all three readings of the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw to be passed at the February 10, 2026, public meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay).

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-26-035**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) adopt the amended annual budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2025/2026 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

The Bylaw read a first time the 10 day of February, 2026.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-26-036**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Heckendorf:

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) adopt the amended annual budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2025/2026 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

The Bylaw read a second time the 10 day of February, 2026.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-26-037**

Moved/Seconded by Turner/Bellina:

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay) adopt the amended annual budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2025/2026 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

The Bylaw read a third time, passed and adopted, the 10 day of February, 2026.

**CARRIED**

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

- 8.1 February 13 Yellow Friday**
- 8.2 February 16 Family Day**
- 8.3 February 19 Board Working Session Budget 2026/27**
- 8.4 February 23 Committee Meetings**
- 8.5 February 27 Pro-D**
- 8.6 March 10 Board Meetings (KLC Fernie)**
- 8.7 March 16-27 Spring Break**

**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.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION R-26-038**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Johns:

THAT the February 10, 2026, regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 4:03 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?*

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Doug McPhee, Chairperson

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Nick Taylor, Secretary Treasurer