



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

**April 14, 2026, 3:00 p.m.  
Cranbrook Board Office**

**Present:** Chairperson Doug McPhee  
Trustee Trina Ayling  
Trustee Irene Bischler  
Trustee Alysha Clarke  
Trustee Nicole Heckendorf  
Trustee Chris Johns  
Trustee Wendy Turner

**Regrets:** Trustee Bev Bellina  
Trustee Sarah Madsen

**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  
District Principal of Learning Services Kaley Wasylowich  
District Vice Principal Human Resources and Health & Safety Erin Boehm  
Manager of Board Office & Executive Services (recorder) Jane Nixon

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Chairperson McPhee called the April 14, 2026, regular public meeting of the Board of Education to order at 3:07 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 expressed condolences to the families of Mike Patterson, Roger Kitson, and Steven Pearson, and extended best wishes for a speedy recovery to Colleen Dureski.

**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-26-058**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Clarke:

THAT the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of April 14, 2026, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**1.6 Approval of the Minutes**

**MOTION R-26-059**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Johns:

THAT the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of March 10, 2026, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**1.7 Receipt of Records of Closed Meetings**

**MOTION R-26-060**

Moved/Seconded by Turner/Heckendorf:

THAT the Board accept the closed records of the in-camera meeting of the Board of Education of March 10, 2026.

**CARRIED**

**1.8 Business Arising from Previous Minutes**

**1.8.1 Amy Woodland Elementary Update**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor provided an update on the Project Definition Report/business case submitted to the Ministry of Infrastructure and advised that the submission outlining the three options for Amy Woodland Elementary will be forwarded to the Treasury Branch for review and approval once finalized.

**2. RECEIVING OF DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

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

**3.1 All Committees Public Meeting**

**3.2 BCSTA /Provincial Council**

**MOTION R-26-061**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Ayling:

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

**CARRIED**

**3.3 Communications Media Committee**

Trustee Ayling provided a report on the motions presented at the BCSTA Annual General Meeting.

**MOTION R-26-062**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Bischler:

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

**CARRIED**

**3.4 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee**

Trustee Johns reported on the 75th birthday of Mount Baker Secondary School.

**MOTION R-26-063**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Turner:

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

**CARRIED**

**3.5 Key City Theatre**

**MOTION R-26-064**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Clarke:

THAT the report of the Key City Theatre Committee 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-26-065**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Bischler:

THAT the Board accept the Legacy of Learning report.

**CARRIED**

**3.7 French Immersion Update**

Trustee Heckendorf provided a report.

**MOTION R-26-066**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Clarke:

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

**CARRIED**

**3.8 Traffic Safety Committee**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor will provide a report following a debrief with the selection committee regarding the District's Vision Zero application.

**MOTION R-26-067**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Bischler:

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 and Child Care**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor reported that updated tender documents and associated Schedule A costing were received at the end of the previous week and have been submitted to the Ministry of Infrastructure with a request to proceed with the tender process.

He further advised that the project team will be submitting a building permit application in the coming week.

Ongoing environmental work, including the remediation of test wells, continues. The final statement of work for these wrap-up activities remains in progress.

The project team is scheduled to meet with Yaqit ʔa·knuqʔit (Tobacco Plains) on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, to continue Indigenous consultation.

Future meetings related to school catchments and programming have not yet been scheduled. Trustees will be invited to attend once meeting dates are confirmed.

#### **4.1.2 Mountain View Facility Update**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor provided an update on the Mountain View facility. Discussions are ongoing regarding future use of the building, including potential partnerships and opportunities to support community needs.

### **4.2 Recommendations**

#### **MOTION R-26-068**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Heckendorf:

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**

Director Kelly provided an update on the community of practice work related to school growth plans and the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. He also reported on his attendance at the Canadian Assessment Conference in Vancouver.

Superintendent Johnson discussed the importance of student attendance and requested that Principal Hay provide a verbal report regarding actions taken at Sparwood Secondary.

### **5.2 Updates**

#### **5.2.1 Child Care**

District Principal Phillips provided an update on Child Care included in the agenda package. She also answered questions on the Métis Nation of British Columbia Child Care facility at the Amy Woodland Elementary School site.

#### **5.2.2 Indigenous Education Council**

Superintendent Johnson provided an update from the Indigenous Education Council. She advised that a meeting is scheduled for May and that collaborative planning for District Indigenous Day is ongoing.

### **5.2.3 Inclusion Calendar Update**

District Principal Wasylowich reviewed the report included in the agenda package.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

#### **MOTION R-26-069**

Moved/Seconded by Turner/Ayling:

THAT the Superintendent's Report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

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

### **6.1 Updates**

Chairperson McPhee discussed the upcoming election in October 2026 and the scheduled policy review on April 23, 2026.

### **6.2 Recommendations**

#### **MOTION R-26-070**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Clarke:

THAT the Chairperson's report be accepted as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Capital Budget Bylaw**

#### **MOTION R-26-071**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Clarke:

THAT permission be granted for all three readings of Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27 CPSD05-01 of the Board for the 2026/27 Capital Plan to be passed at the April 14, 2026, public meeting of the Board of Education of School District No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay).

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION R-26-072**

Moved/Seconded by Heckendorf/Turner:

THAT the Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27 CPSD05-01 of the Board for the 2026/27 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported capital project(s) specified in the letter addressed to the Secretary Treasurer and Superintendent, dated *March 27, 2026*, is read the first time.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-26-073**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Johns:

THAT the Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27 CPSD05-01 of the Board for the 2026/27 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported capital project(s) specified in the letter addressed to the Secretary Treasurer and Superintendent, dated *March 27, 2026*, is read the second time.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION R-26-074**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Clarke:

THAT the Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27 CPSD05-01 of the Board for the 2026/27 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported capital project(s) specified in the letter addressed to the Secretary Treasurer and Superintendent, dated *March 27, 2026*, is read the third and final time.

**CARRIED**

**7.2 Indigenous Student Outcome Summary**

Superintendent Johnson reviewed the Indigenous Student Outcome Summary included in the agenda package. This will be further discussed at the April 28 All Committees Meeting.

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

- 8.1 Ready Set Learn Events**
- 8.2 April 17 - School Break**
- 8.3 April 27 - RSA Day (Professional Development)**
- 8.4 April 28 - All Committees Meeting**
- 8.5 May 12 - Board Meeting (KLC Fernie)**

**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-26-075**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Johns:

THAT the April 14, 2026, regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 4:15 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