



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

**May 9, 2023, 3:00 p.m.  
Kootenay Learning Campus - Fernie**

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 (remotely)

Staff Present: Superintendent Viveka Johnson  
Secretary Treasurer Nick Taylor  
Director of Instruction Human Resources Brent Reimer (remotely)  
Director of Student Learning and Aboriginal Education Jason Tichauer  
Director of Student Learning and Innovation Diane Casault  
Operations Manager Joe Tank  
District Principal Student Services Darcy Verbeurgt (remotely)  
District Principal of Transformative Learning Jennifer Roberts (remotely)  
Executive Assistant to Secretary Treasurer (recorder) Jane Nixon

**1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**1.1 Call to Order**

Chairperson McPhee called the May 9, 2023, regular public meeting of the Board of Education to order at 3:02 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 extended congratulations to District Principal Roberts on the announcement of her new role as Assistant Superintendent of School District No. 46

(Sunshine Coast). He also extended congratulations to Renee MacCormack on the continuing appointment as Principal of Frank J Mitchell Elementary School.

Sincerest condolences were extended to Shelley and John Balfour and the family of Paul Kershaw.

#### **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-23-075**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Johns:

THAT the agenda for the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of May 9, 2023, be approved as circulated.

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

Minutes of the Public meeting of the Board of Education of April 11, 2023.

##### **MOTION R-23-076**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Heckendorf:

THAT the minutes of the regular public meeting of the Board of Education of April 11, 2023, be approved as circulated.

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

##### **MOTION R-23-077**

Moved/Seconded by Bischler/Heckendorf:

THAT the Board accept the closed records of the in-camera meetings of the Board of Education of April 11, April 21 and April 25, 2023.

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

**1.8.1 Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network (CBEEN) and Wildsight**  
Trustee Johns and District Principal Roberts will meet virtually with the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) to review the letter sent to CBT from the Board of Education regarding important funding to Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network (CBEEN) and Wildsight. This virtual meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11, 2023, from 2:30-4:00 p.m.

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

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

**3.1 Advocacy/Education Committee**

Co-chair Trustee Clarke reviewed the minutes of the April 25, 2023, meeting of the Advocacy/Education Committee.

**MOTION R-23-078**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Ayling:

THAT the Board of Education advocate for the government to recognize daycares as early childcare learning centres.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION R-23-079**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Turner:

THAT the Board of Education write a letter to engage with the City of Cranbrook about the concerns with the area around the Knight's Hall on King Street.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**MOTION R-23-080**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Heckendorf:

THAT the Board accept the report of the Advocacy/Education Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.2 Policy Committee**

Co-chair Trustee Bellina reviewed the minutes of the April 25, 2023, meeting of the Policy Committee.

**MOTION R-23-081**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Bischler:

THAT the Board accept the report of the Policy Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.3 Student Services Committee**

Co-chair Trustee Clarke reviewed the minutes of the April 25, 2023, meeting of the Student Services Committee.

**MOTION R-23-082**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Johns:

THAT The Board of Education write a letter to the provincial government advocating for the inclusion of neuro-diverse training in the curriculum for teachers, education assistants and early childhood educators.

**MOTION R-23-083**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Madsen:

THAT the Board accept the report of the Student Services Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.4 Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee**

Co-chair Trustee Johns reviewed the minutes of the April 25, 2023, meeting of the Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee.

**MOTION R-23-084**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Bischler:

THAT the Board accept the report of the Finance/Operations/Personnel Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.5 BCSTA /Provincial Council**

Trustee Bellina provided a verbal update from the BCSTA Annual General Meeting.

**MOTION R-23-085**

Moved/Seconded by Bellina/Turner:

THAT the Board accept the report of the BCSTA/Provincial Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.6 Communications/Media Committee**

Trustee Ayling provided a written report.

**MOTION R-23-086**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Heckendorf:

THAT the Board accept the report of the Communications/Media Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.7 Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee**

**MOTION R-23-087**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the Board of Education extend a formal invitation to visit Mount Baker Secondary School to the President of the BCSTA and the Minister of Education.

**MOTION R-23-088**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Heckendorf:

THAT the Board accept the report of the Mount Baker Secondary School Replacement Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.8 Key City Theatre**

Trustee Ayling provided a written report.

**MOTION R-23-089**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Madsen:

THAT the Board accept the report of the Key City Theatre.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.9 Legacy of Learning**

Trustee Johns provided a verbal update from the Legacy of Learning.

**MOTION R-23-090**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Bischler:

THAT the Board accept the Legacy of Learning report.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.10 French Immersion Update**

Nil

**3.11 Traffic Safety Committee**

The next meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee is on May 24, 2023.

**MOTION R-23-091**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Bischler:

THAT the Board of Education accept the report of the Traffic Safety Committee.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3.12 Trustee Reports/Bouquets**

- Trustee Heckendorf recognized the project collaboration of a teacher at Fernie Secondary School and a teacher at Isabella Dicken Elementary School

- Trustee Johns recognized Chairperson McPhee's passion towards, and discussion on, conflicts of interest at the Annual General Meeting in Vancouver
- Trustee Turner, on behalf of DPAC, thanked Trustee Ayling for her dedication to writing advocacy letters
- Trustee Bellina extended warm appreciation to the trustees representing the Board of Education at the Annual General Meeting in Vancouver

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

##### **4.1 Updates**

##### **4.2 Student and Family Affordability Fund**

Secretary Treasurer Taylor advised the Board of Education of funds remaining in the Student and Family Affordability Fund that will be rolled forward and spent over the next year (2023-2024).

##### **4.3 Recommendations**

###### **MOTION R-23-092**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Heckendorf:

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

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **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 Child Care**

Superintendent Johnson reported that the District is still waiting to hear on funding for Child Care for 2023-2024.

###### **5.1.2 Community Engagement Nights**

Superintendent Johnson gave an update on the Community Engagement Nights across the District. She also extended a thank you to District Management for their support in these events.

##### **5.2 Recommendations**

###### **MOTION R-23-093**

Moved/Seconded by Turner/Heckendorf:

THAT the Superintendent's Report be presented as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

**6.1 Updates**

Nil

**6.2 Recommendations**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7.1 Business Arising from Delegations**

Nil

**7.2 Annual Budget Bylaw (First Reading)**

**MOTION R-23-094**

Moved/Seconded by Ayling/Bischler:

THAT the Board of Education read for a first time the 2023/24 Annual Budget in the amount of \$88,742,923 on May 9, 2023.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

**8.1 Letter from Christina Zacharuk - Underspending Indigenous Education Funding**

**8.2 Letter from Jennifer Whiteside**

**8.3 Letter from Rachna Singh**

**MOTION R-23-095**

Moved/Seconded by Johns/Ayling:

THAT the Board of Education refer letters 8.2 (dated December 6, 2022) and 8.3 (dated April 20, 2023) to Finance Operations Personnel meeting on May 29, 2023.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**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-23-096**

Moved/Seconded by Clarke/Heckendorf:

THAT the May 9, 2023 regular public meeting of the Board of Education adjourn at 3:51 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