

**Mount Baker  
Secondary  
School**



**MBSS PAC Minutes**

**May 2, 2023 7:00 pm**

- **Welcome & Introductions.** In attendance: Liz, Chris J., Dave Hill, Lori N., Lies S., Carmen W., John McD., Jen M.
  
- **Minutes from the last meeting are posted on the MBSS website**
- **Additions to the agenda - Canadian Parents for French, Funding request for prom**
- **School Board Trustee report – Chris Johns (see attached)**
  - **MBSS replacement got a boost from MLA Tom Shypitka during a speech in the BC Legislature on April 6, 2023 on the 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday of the school's opening.**
- **Principal's report – Dave Hill**
  - **Grease the Musical opens soon. Special matinee for the middle schools on May 10<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Field sports are in full swing – soccer, rugby etc. Looking at starting up badminton but short a coach to run it**
  - **Art show is at the Art Gallery over next few weeks**
  - **Awards night for scholarship recipients is on May 30<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Convocation is June 29<sup>th</sup>, Prom to follow on June 30<sup>th</sup>**
- **DPAC Report – Lies Salvador**
  - **Very successful series of presentations to parents by Scott Rothermel – well received. He has offered to do a free session on the topic of cutting and self harm – likely in the fall**
  - **One person from our district will be attending the BCCPAC conference**
- **Treasurer's report – Christina Hall**
  - **We have \$6900 in the account**

- **New Business:**
  - **Request for Funding: \$2000 to the Athletics Department to help cover the costs associated with teams attending provincial tournaments. Motion: That PAC provides \$2000 to the athletic department to help teams cover the cost of attending provincials (Motion Liz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Carmen) PASSED**
  - **Request from Prom committee to provide some additional funds to help cover the costs of Prom. Prom planning started quite late this year and it has been difficult to raise funds to support the prom. PAC has already allocated \$3500 to prom, but last year provided additional funds to cover costs. Motion: That PAC provides an additional \$1500 to the Prom committee to help cover costs (Motion Liz, 2<sup>nd</sup> John) PASSED**
- **Canadian Parents for French – Jen is still looking for more parent involvement. Suggestion to send out a broadcast email with information through the District and DPAC.**

**Next Meeting: October 2023 TBA**

**Attachments:**

SUMMARY OF BOARD MOTIONS CARRIED  
April 11, 2023

## **Motions Carried**

### **Advocacy**

THAT the Board of Education write a letter to MLA Tom Shypitka expressing appreciation for his support for the replacement of Mount Baker Secondary School in the BC Legislature on April 6, 2023.

Contact: [Chairperson Doug McPhee, 250-489-9622](mailto:doug.mcphee@bc.edu)

THAT the Board research and write a letter in support of CBEEN/Wildsight's endeavours to restore and enhance the Columbia Basin Trust funding for environmental education for 2024 to 2034.

Contact: [Chairperson Doug McPhee, 250-489-9622](mailto:doug.mcphee@bc.edu)

*If you require a comment on any of the above motions, please feel free to contact the person listed below the motion. As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions :)*

Cheers,  
Trina Ayling  
250-421-3863



# 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

Hon. Adrian Dix, Minister of Health & Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs  
Room 337 Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Carolyn Broady, President, BCSTA  
300-2889 East 12th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5M 4T5

Dear Ministers Singh and Dix and Ms. Broady,

RE: Speech Language Pathologist Deficit

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 to the provincial authorities and BCPSEA expressing concerns about the deficit of Speech Language Pathologists in rural areas.*

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) are needed throughout Canada (including BC) and according to Statistics Canada, "the labour shortage conditions seen in recent years is expected to persist into the 2022-2031 period".

While this shortage impacts all of BC, employers outside of the Lower Mainland and southern Vancouver Island regions have greater difficulties finding staff than employers on the west coast.

Our Board appreciates that government has offered loan forgiveness to speech-language pathology graduates who commit to work in underserved regions of the province, and while this is a positive step toward recruiting and retaining SLP

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



# 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

Hon. Katrine Conroy, Minister of Finance  
Room 153 Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Hon. Ministers Singh & Conroy,

RE: Funding Resource Response Letter to the BCSTA

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 to the Minister of Education and Child Care and the Minister of Finance in support of the letters written by School District 83 on January 26, 2023, and School District 52 on September 28, 2023. This letter will address funding constraints districts are facing in the upcoming year. The letter will also address the response letter to the BCSTA from Minister Singh of February 10, 2023.*

Our Board will not reiterate the concerns outlined in the school district letters – although we do share them. Rather, we wish to extend our support for the request made by School District No. 83 (SD83), North Okanagan-Shuswap, for government to increase the per student funding rates for the 2023/24 school year.

We also wish to extend our support for the request made by School District No. 52 (SD52), Prince Rupert, that the Ministry fund the increases to exempt staff pay grids, including those costs incurred when staff move to a higher step within the grid.

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



# 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

Samantha Gambling, Provincial Coordinator  
The Coalition for Healthy School Food, BC Chapter  
c/o Coalition for Healthy School Food  
At Food Secure Canada  
4067 Saint-Laurent, Suite 305  
Montreal, QC, H2W 1Y7

Dear Minister Singh and Ms. Gambling,

RE: Healthy School Food Program

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 responding to the Coalition for Healthy School Food, BC Chapter letter of February 16, 2023, supporting their efforts to advocate for a universal, cost-shared healthy school food program. The response to the Coalition will include a copy of the letter written last month to the Ministry of Education and Child Care inquiring as to what stage of the process the Ministry is at with a Universal Food Program. A copy of the letter requesting support from the Coalition for Healthy Schools will be forwarded to the Minister of Education and Child Care.*

Our Board would like to confirm our support for the *Coalition for Healthy School Food, BC Chapter's* advocacy for a universal, cost-shared healthy school food program. To this end, we have attached a copy of the Board's letter written last month to the Ministry of Education and Child Care inquiring as to what stage of the process the Ministry is at with a Universal Food Program.

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





# SCHOOL DISTRICT 5

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

February 22, 2023

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

Dear Minister Singh,

RE: Universal Food Program

School District 5 (SD5), Southeast Kootenay Board of Education reviewed the letter of November 3, 2022 (Ref #281515) from previous Minister of Education and Child Care, (MoECC) the Hon. Jennifer Whiteside, to Caroline Broady, President of the British Columbia School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) in response to Ms. Broady's letter of May 31, 2022, regarding funding for universal food programs at all public schools in British Columbia. Upon review of this letter, the Board carried the following motion at its February 14, 2023 public Board meeting:

*That the Board write a letter to the Ministry of Education and Child Care in response to their letter of November 3, 2022, to the BCSTA, to inquire at what stage of the process the Ministry is at, addressing the Universal Food Program.*

We understand from Hon. Whiteside's letter that in November 2020 the Minister was mandated to commit to work with BC school districts to create more local school programs and to increase local food sourcing. Hon. Whiteside also indicated that Ministry staff are analyzing school and district-based data and engaging with community organizations to better understand needs.

As I am sure you are aware, BC has one of the highest child poverty rates in the country and demand for food banks in BC has worsened since Covid and the recent food pricing spikes, with an increased usage of Food Banks of 25 per cent from 2021 and 2022.

This rise in food insecurity is concerning, especially as it affects our students. Early life growth and development, general health, academic outcomes and social skills risk compromise compared to children who do not experience food

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



# 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