



**Central Okanagan  
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 28, 2026, 6:00 pm**

**School Board Office**

**1040 Hollywood Road S**

**Kelowna, BC**

- Board of Education: Trustee V. Johnson, Board Chair  
Trustee W. Broughton  
Trustee C. Desrosiers  
Trustee J. Fraser  
Trustee L. Guderyan  
Trustee A. Geistlinger (*by telephone*)  
Trustee L. Tiede
- Staff: Jon Rever, Superintendent of Schools  
Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO  
Mona Essler, Executive Assistant  
Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
- Partner Groups: Nicola Baker, COPAC President and Leslie Atwell, COPAC Vice-President  
Jasmine Lemon, COPVPA Executive  
Alex Domowicz, DSC Representative  
Teri Wishlow, CUPE President and George York, Vice-President (*by Zoom*)  
Susan Bauhart, COTA President (*by Zoom*)

**The Central Okanagan Board of Education acknowledged that this meeting was being held  
on the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People.**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

## **AGENDA**

**THAT: The Agenda for the Public Board Meeting of January 28, 2026 be adopted (as amended, if appropriate).**

**APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

## **MINUTES**

### **Public Board Meeting - December 10, 2025**

**THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of December 10, 2025 be adopted as presented.**

**APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

Trustee Fraser objected to the approval by unanimous consent and queried if the Board could use the new process of “approved by unanimous consent” (used for routine motions such as adoption of the agenda or approval of the minutes) if a Trustee was absent from the meeting, or if they had to abstain from approving the minutes. The Board Chair advised she would seek clarification on this matter.

## **CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS – "INSIDE 23"**

### **Making Our Voices Heard On A Global Stage: COP30 in Belém, Brazil**

Presenters:

- Jordan Kleckner, Director of Instruction – Learning & Innovation
- Marnie Birkeland, Teacher, AP Passion to Action, École George Elliot Secondary School
- Carter Mochinski, Grade 12, École George Elliot Secondary School
- Liberty Sanderson, Grade 11, École George Elliot Secondary School (*not in attendance*)

Carter highlighted how being a part of AP Passion to Action in collaboration with The Centre for Global Education and #Decarbonize enabled him and Liberty to go to Brazil to represent Canadian Youth at COP30 (The United Nations Climate Conference). Carter shared how they took on roles at the conference which included being the Head Global Reporter, interviewing youth, world leaders, and others at COP, being interviewed at a press junket, co-hosting a Live From COP event for elementary students across the world, presenting their ideas during live panels, and networking with people involved in Climate Action across the world, among others. Carter also shared which competencies he grew while in Brazil, how he has been forever changed by this experience, how the experience has impacted his thinking about his potential future, and why we should support future students in the Central Okanagan to take their learning to the global stage. Finally, Carter expressed what he and Liberty plan to do with their learning now that they have returned to Lake Country and how they hope to impact others around Climate Action.

## **INTRODUCTIONS**

The Board of Education welcomed Colline Johnson to her new role as District Principal – Inclusion, in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

The Board of Education congratulated the following staff on their new roles:

- Scott Parker, District Principal – Inclusion
- Grant Hughes, Manager of Learning and Business Technology Services
- Crystal Shearer, Executive Assistant – Human Resources

## **MEETING RECESS**

The meeting recessed at 6:53 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 6:59 pm.

## **DECLARATIONS**

### **Family Literacy Week - January 25 to February 1, 2026**

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared the week of January 25 to February 1, 2026 as Family Literacy Week in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

### **Human Rights Month**

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared the month of February, 2026 as Human Rights Month in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

### **Inclusive Education Month**

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared the month of February, 2026 as Inclusive Education Month in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

### **Black Excellence Day**

The Central Okanagan Board of Education acknowledged that Black Excellence Day was celebrated on January 15, 2026.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public questions/comments.

## **TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS**

None.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw**

*Recommendation from the Finance and Planning Committee Meeting – January 21, 2026:*

**Main 26P-105**

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

**THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give first reading to the School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$386,023,000.**

**CARRIED**

**Main 26P-106**

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

**THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give second reading to the School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$386,023,000.**

**CARRIED**

**Main 26P-107**

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

**THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give all three readings to the School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$386,023,000.**

**CARRIED**

**Main 26P-108**

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

**THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give third reading and adopt the School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$386,023,000 on the 28th day of January 2026.**

**CARRIED**

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## **Digital Platforms - School District No. 23**

*Referred by Trustee Broughton to the Coordinating Committee.*

Trustee Broughton shared the rationale for his motion regarding the District's digital platforms and revised the original motion that was in the Agenda. Trustee Broughton advised that recent news reports highlight that some social media platforms, particularly X, have recently changed their policy allowing some users to create and post AI-generated sexualized images of women and children, with the content remaining online. As an organization serving children, Trustee Broughton considers it essential that the District avoids aligning with platforms who have policies that permit this to occur.

### **Main 26P-109**

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

**THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent to ensure that the choice of digital platforms on which the District has an official account is restricted to those that align with District and Board values, and in particular those that are committed to protecting the privacy and security of children in content that appears on their platform.**

In discussion of the motion, it was noted that while student protection is important, the platform is widely used by all levels of government. Some Trustees viewed the matter as operational and best handled by the Learning Technology Department staff. It was clarified that the motion applies only to the District's social media accounts, not to staff or Trustees. Questions were raised about the potential loss of community engagement and which platforms the District currently uses (*Facebook, Instagram, X and LinkedIn*). The Superintendent of Schools confirmed that the District's Communications Advisor is knowledgeable in this area.

The COPAC President indicated support of the motion, and referenced the earlier comment from Carter Mochinski at the Inside 23 presentation about being '*willing to take professional risks*'. The District Student Council representative emphasized the importance of safety and security for students and urged the Board to prioritize safety over politics.

Additional comments from Trustees suggested this could also be a provincial advocacy opportunity, and that the intention is not to direct staff operationally, but to take a moral stand on platform policies.

**Amendment 26P-110:**

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

**THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent to ensure that the choice of digital platforms on which the District has an official account is restricted to those whose policies ~~that~~ align with District and Board values, and in particular those that are committed to protecting the privacy and security of children in content that appears on their platform.**

**CARRIED**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Tiede, Trustee Fraser**

**Motion 26P-109 as Amended by Amendment 26P-110**

**THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent to ensure that the choice of digital platforms on which the District has an official account is restricted to those whose policies align with District and Board values, and in particular those that are committed to protecting the privacy and security of children in content that appears on their platform.**

**CARRIED**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Tiede, Trustee Fraser, Trustee Geistlinger**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Superintendent's Emergent Issues**

None

**Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summaries - 2025/2026 and 2026/2027**

The Board reviewed the information.

**General Statement – December 10, 2025**

The Board reviewed the information.

**General Statement - December 16, 2025**

The Board reviewed the information.

**General Statement - January 8, 2026**

The Board reviewed the information.

**Financial Update – December 31, 2025**

Trustee Fraser gave a brief recap of the Financial Update that was presented at the January 21, 2026 Finance and Planning Committee meeting.

### **2026/2027 Budget Survey Questions**

Trustees and the Secretary-Treasurer/CFO reviewed the 2026/2027 Budget Survey questions and after a query from Trustee Geistlinger, compared them to previous years' questions.

### **2025/2026 Ministry of Education and Child Care Funding Recalculation**

Trustee Fraser gave a brief recap of the updated tables provided by the Ministry of Education and Child Care presented at the January 21, 2026 Finance and Planning Committee meeting.

### **New Procedure – Board Correspondence**

The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO gave a recap of the new board correspondence procedure. Individuals seeking to submit correspondence relevant to the Board of Education's governance responsibilities, statutory obligations, or established policies may now do so through the District [website](#).

The COPAC President requested that the new procedure be shared at the upcoming COPAC meeting.

### **2026 Long-Range Facilities Plan Review**

The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO provided information for Trustees on the review of the Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP). The LRFP supports capital requests through the annual Five-Year Capital Plan and must be regularly reviewed to stay relevant and aligned with strategic priorities.

In answer to Trustee Guderyan's query on whether this review should involve Trustees, the Secretary-Treasurer/CFO advised that the review is to assist staff in the development of the Five-Year Capital Plan, which would then come forward to Trustees.

## **BOARD/DISTRICT COMMITTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

Trustee Fraser and Trustee Guderyan recently attended the Indigenous Education Council meeting where there was a presentation by students from Black Mountain Elementary School regarding the Indigenous-focused learning taking place at their school. Trustee Guderyan also noted the valuable information shared on restorative justice by holding "talking circles".

Trustee Guderyan attended the District Student Council meeting and was impressed by the students' engagement and their commitment to holding a second online meeting each month.

The Board Chair attended the January COPAC meeting where she provided a District update.

## **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Received:**

- 2025-12-09: Email from D. Daniluck re: A move to public transit/disagree

### **Sent:**

- None

### **Main 26P-011**

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

**THAT: At the January 28, 2026 Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.**

**CARRIED**

## **ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION**

The Board Chair, Trustees and the Superintendent of Schools, spoke of the following:

- Attendance at various meetings and events throughout the District, including the 2026 Gateway Graduation (a partnership between Okanagan College and Central Okanagan Public Schools), the Strategic Plan Public Engagement Sessions and school visits with the Superintendent of Schools.
- The public presentation explaining how the District's budget is established will take place at the Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council (COPAC) meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 6:30 pm by Zoom. All those interested in learning more about School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan)'s 2026/2027 budget and how to provide input are encouraged to participate in this information meeting.
- The Primary Winter Gathering, a cultural event, has been taking place at the Learning Centre over the past 3 days, involving over 300 Indigenous students.
- A reminder that the initial enrollment application dates for the 2026/2027 school year have been set as Monday, February 2, 2026 at 7:00 am through to Friday, March 13, 2026. The closing date of enrollment applications, to apply the Board's enrollment priorities as established in Regulations 405R – Student Placement (Regulations), is set as Thursday, September 3, 2026 at 3:30 pm.
- On Friday, February 13th, 2026 CUPE and COTA will be hosting their professional development days and therefore school will not be in session. Members of the Central Okanagan Principals and Vice-Principals Association will also be participating in a Leadership Symposium.

- Schools will additionally not be in session on Monday, February 16, 2026 in honour of Family Day.
- The Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council (COPAC) recently hosted at various schools presentations by Paul Davis who is a leading expert on digital safety and youth wellbeing.
- COPAC will be hosting their 2026 COPAC Parent Conference on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, at the Learning Centre - 1040 Hollywood Road South. The conference is open to parents and caregivers of students in Central Okanagan Public Schools who are interested in learning how to better support their students. Registration is required. Further information will be available on the COPAC website.

## **UPCOMING PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS**

### **Public Strategic Plan Engagement Sessions**

#### **Mount Boucherie Secondary School**

Thursday, February 5, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

#### **École Kelowna Secondary School**

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

#### **École Okanagan Mission Secondary School**

Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

### **George Pringle Secondary School/Westside Parent Information Evenings**

#### **Constable Neil Bruce Middle School**

Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 6:00-8:00 pm

#### **École Glenrosa Middle School**

Thursday, May 7, 2026, 6:00-8:00 pm

## **BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION**

### **BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch**

February 20-21, 2026

Oliver, BC

**BCSTA Provincial Council**

Friday, February 20, 2026  
9:00-12:00 (Zoom)

**BCSTA AGM**

April 9-11, 2026  
Hyatt Regency, Vancouver

**BOARD MEETINGS WITH PARTNER AND COMMUNITY GROUPS**

**Joint Board/COPAC Meeting**

Wednesday, February 25, 2026  
4:00-5:30 pm  
Main Board Room

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

**Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings**

- Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

**Board Standing Committee Meetings**

Education and Student Services Committee  
- Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 4:00 pm

Finance and Planning Committee  
- Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 4:00 pm

Policy Committee  
- Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 4:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:22 pm.

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer/CFO