



BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 6:00 pm

School Board Office

1040 Hollywood Road S

Kelowna, BC

Board of Education: Trustee L. Tiede, Chair
Trustee W. Broughton
Trustee C. Desrosiers
Trustee J. Fraser
Trustee A. Geistlinger
Trustee L. Guderyan
Trustee V. Johnson

Staff: Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Terry Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Yvonne Hildebrandt, Executive Assistant
Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Absent: Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO

Partner Groups: Teri Wishlow, CUPE President
Simon Adams, COPAC President
Nicola Baker, COPAC Vice-President
Jennifer Adamson, COPVPA Executive
Zach Johnson, DSC Co-President
Mehak Parihar, DSC Co-President

There was no representative from COTA.

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

AGENDA

Correction: Item 22.2 Board Standing Committee Meetings

Wednesday ~~March 15, 2023~~ April 19, 2023:

- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm

- Education and Student Services Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm

Main 23P-029

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The Agenda for the Public Board Meeting of March 8, 2023 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES

Public Board Meeting - February 22, 2023

Main 23P-030

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Geistlinger

THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of February 22, 2023 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS – "INSIDE 23"

Pedestrian Safety

In attendance: Rick Taylor, District Health and Safety Manager
Dan Glasscock, Regional Traffic Safety Officer

The Central Okanagan Public Schools Regional Traffic Safety Officer position is a collaborative position between the City of Kelowna, District of Lake Country (including Oyama), City of West Kelowna and District of Peachland. The main project between the five areas is the Safe Routes Program. Through this program, schools are requested to join in partnership to identify, prioritize and enhance infrastructure around the school. The goal is to make the roads and areas around schools safer and easier for students and staff to walk/bike to school. Also, through this collaboration a pedestrian safety video was created. The video can be viewed at:

<https://youtu.be/REuxjNyav6E>

6:23 pm: meeting recessed

6:27 pm: meeting resumed

DECLARATION

The Central Okanagan Board of Education acknowledged that International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8, 2023.

STATEMENT BY BOARD CHAIR

The Board of Education has a responsibility to provide a safe working environment at public Board meetings and to meet its obligations to provide a safe workspace free of harassment as per WorkSafe Regulation #G-P2-21(1)-3 Bullying and Harassment. Recently, during the second Public Question/Comment Period, several discriminatory and inflammatory comments were made along with inappropriate conduct which have made students and staff feel unsafe. It has also been reported that recording of these meetings and social media comments that demean or belittle members of the Board of Education and public have made them feel unsafe to conduct Board business. This current environment is compromising our ability to properly address the business of the Board of Education.

Therefore, on the advice of the Superintendent of Schools/CEO, it is recommended that the second Public Question/Comment Period at public Board meetings be suspended immediately for the following reasons:

- Violation of Policy 351 Respectful Workplace.*
- Creation of a workplace that is viewed as unsafe by staff and students.*

As well, the recording (on personal devices) during public Board meetings is banned and further, legislation and policy is to be enforced to ensure safe and appropriate operations of Board of Education public meetings. Trustees fully support this recommendation.

There are many options for the public to communicate questions, issues or concerns or to make a formal presentation, regarding public education with the Board of Education.

This information can be found on the District's website at sd23.bc.ca.

Once again, to ensure the Board of Education is providing a safe and productive working environment and to conduct the business of the Board of Education at public Board meetings, the suspension of the second Public Question/Comment Period will be as of tonight's public Board meeting (March 8, 2023) and all future public Board meeting agendas, until such time as Policy 135 School Board Operation is reviewed and revised by the Policy Committee, ensuring it is in compliance with WorkSafeBC.

STATEMENT BY DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

On behalf of Central Okanagan Public Schools Administrative Council, staff and students, I want to commend the Board of Education for taking decisive action to ensure a safe workplace. This decision aligns with our guiding principles of diversity and inclusion, our cultural values of respect and equity, and our purpose of educating students in a safe, inclusive, equitable, and inspirational learning environment. Bullying, discrimination, harassment and hate speech is not tolerated in our schools and workplaces, and we appreciate this effort to stop discriminatory behaviour at public board meetings. Thank-you, Trustees.

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-TREASURER/CFO

Similar to the Board of Education, staff consistently make themselves available to hear from members of the public, and we look forward to constructive and respectful feedback through the many available communication channels. As the parliamentarian to the Board of Education, and as the Secretary Treasurer/CFO, I am accountable for ensuring the business of the Board is respectfully and successfully carried out at each Board meeting. The action taken this evening will ensure the business of the Board can be completed professionally and efficiently. Thank you.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public questions/comments.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

Trustee Fraser wanted to respond to comments directed at Trustee Broughton regarding his opinions on SOGI123 resources. Trustee Broughton's opinions were clearly about acceptance and understanding, and Trustee Fraser wholeheartedly endorses them. Trustee Fraser advised that SOGI123 was implemented unanimously by the Board 6 years ago and the response from students, parents and staff has been overwhelmingly positive. While she respects that each person has their own opinion, she will always base her decisions on what is best for students.

Trustee Geistlinger queried the budget survey and how many responses were received. *The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO advised that staff are still tabulating the results.*

Trustee Geistlinger also asked about how the budget survey link was communicated to parents. *The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO advised that it was emailed to parents via School Messenger, then linked on various district websites and communicated at multiple board and committee meetings.*

Trustee Broughton thanked Trustee Fraser for her comments and wanted to reinforce his support of the suspension of the second Public Question/Comment Period on the Agenda. Hearing that

teachers, students and staff are feeling unsafe means that we have a duty to provide a safe working environment for them. Trustee Broughton shared that it was frustrating to repeatedly hear false accusations about what is being taught in our schools. Trustee Broughton hopes that partner groups are supportive of this measure. It is important to have sexual health education that is diverse and inclusive for all students, and to provide a safe space that will provide support and let students be free to be themselves.

Trustee Geistlinger wanted to remind any students who feel unsafe, that they should have opportunities to share their feelings and concerns without fear of reprisal, criticism or judgment.

ACTION ITEMS

2022/2023 Amended Capital Plan Bylaw No. CPSD23-02

Main 23P-031

MOVED by Trustee Johnson

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give first reading to Amended Capital Bylaw No. 2022/2023-CPSD23-02.

CARRIED

Main 23P-032

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers

SECONDED by Trustee Johnson

THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give second reading to Amended Capital Bylaw No. 2022/2023-CPSD23-02.

CARRIED

Main 23P-033

MOVED by Trustee Johnson

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give all three readings to Amended Capital Bylaw No. 2022/2203-CPSD23-02 at the March 8, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

Main 23P-034

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The Board of Education of School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) give third reading and adopt Amended Capital Bylaw No. 2022/2023-CPSD23-02.

CARRIED

Review of Transportation Fees for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year

Recommendation from the Finance and Audit Committee – February 15, 2023.

Main 23P-035

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education set the transportation fee to \$400/year for each bus rider for the period effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

CARRIED

Trustee Geistlinger queried when the next review of item #28 of the Regulations of Policy 470 (Transportation Assistance Payments) was scheduled. This will be referred to the Policy Committee to review. Trustee Fraser commented that hopefully this increase in fees is not defeating the purpose if it results in the District receiving additional financial hardship requests. The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO will take into consideration.

Mount Boucherie Secondary - Golf Academy Fee Increase

Recommendation from the Education and Student Services Committee – February 15, 2023.

Main 23P-036

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase (from \$150-\$375) to a fixed fee of \$465 with a golf membership or \$545 without a golf membership for the Golf Academy (Mount Boucherie Secondary School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 8, 2023 Public Board meeting.

CARRIED

Hockey Canada Skills Academy Fee Increase (Canyon Falls Middle School, École KLO Middle School, Mount Boucherie Secondary School, École OKM Secondary School, Rutland Senior Secondary School)

Recommendation from the Education and Student Services Committee – February 15, 2023.

Main 23P-037

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase of \$200 (from \$1,100 to \$1,300/student) for the Hockey Canada Skills Academy (Canyon Falls Middle School, École KLO Middle School, and École OKM Secondary School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 8, 2023 Public Board meeting.

CARRIED

Main 23P-038

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger
SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase of \$170 (from \$1,000 to \$1,170/student) for the Hockey Canada Skills Academy (Rutland Senior Secondary School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 8, 2023 Public Board meeting.

CARRIED

Main 23P-039

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger
SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Board of Education approve the proposed fee increase of \$115 (from \$850 to \$965/student) for the Hockey Canada Skills Academy (Mount Boucherie Secondary School), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 8, 2023 Public Board meeting.

CARRIED

Affirmation of Policy 150 - Education and Student Services Committee

Recommendation from the Education and Student Services Committee – February 15, 2023.

Main 23P-040

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger
SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Board of Education affirm Policy 150 - Education and Student Services Committee, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the March 8, 2023 Public Board meeting.

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Emergent Issues

None.

Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary – 2022/2023

The Board reviewed the information.

General Statement – February 22, 2023

The Board reviewed the information.

2023/2024 School Fees Summary

The Board reviewed the information. Trustee Geistlinger confirmed with the Secretary-Treasurer/CFO that student fees had remained unchanged.

Student and Family Affordability Fund Update at December 31, 2022

The Board reviewed the information.

BOARD/DISTRICT COMMITTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Trustee Desrosiers shared that the Indigenous Education Council supported the preliminary Indigenous Education Program budget for 2023/2024 and that it is being forwarded to the Board for approval.

Trustee Fraser spoke of the BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch conference hosted by the District on March 3 and 4, 2023. There was a Pro-D learning session on best practices for new privacy legislation, a "Journey Through Deep Learning" tour of Canyon Falls Middle School, a dinner at the Capri Hotel where students from École Kelowna Secondary School played music for Trustees; and an exciting coding/robotics demonstration and competition led by District staff. At the business meeting the next day a resolution was submitted for the AGM in April regarding the "expansion of resources, skills development and awareness of mental health, wellness and psycho-social services for pre-kindergarten to grade 8 students". Trustee Fraser also gave thanks to District staff for their support in making the event such a success.

Trustee Johnson attended the Public Education Awareness Committee meeting where the Committee went over some changes to the Terms of Reference. She reported that there was great conversation with DSC, COPVPA and COTA.

Trustee Broughton gave an update on the BCSTA Provincial council meeting he attended in Vancouver on February 24 and 25, 2023. A motion regarding the continuance of the Student and Family Affordability Fund was submitted. The motion was amended to also include a request that the fund be less restrictive, that it be allowed to be used for transportation, that it cover the cost of administration of the fund, and that it be available for use prior to the start of the school year.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Sent:

- 2023-02-22: Letter to Hon. R. Singh advocating for ongoing funding of Student and Family Affordability Fund
- 2023-03-01: Letter to Hon. R. Singh advocating for additional Annual Facility Grant Funding

Received:

- 2023-02-22 Email from B. Gotte re: zoom meeting
- 2023-02-28 Email from S. Kootnekoff re: Child hit by bus

Main 23P-041

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: at the March 8, 2023 Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.

CARRIED

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

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

- Attendance at various events including Proud for Prom, the North Glenmore Elementary School Community Student Learning Plan Conversation, and the BCSTA Regional Branch Meeting.
- The Central Okanagan Retired Teachers' Association assisting Central School and Programs to transition the Heritage Room to a Learning Commons. Local museums will be archiving artifacts from the Heritage classroom and an auction is being planned to sell some of the remaining school resources and furniture.
- The Mount Boucherie Bears Robotics Team placed 2nd in the FIRST Robotics Pacific Regional Competition in Victoria, BC on February 28th to March 4th, 2023.
- On March 2nd and March 3rd, 2023, Local Indigenous Elders, educators, community partners, and researchers, from across Canada, came together to attend Working the Ideas SSHRC Forum – Roundtable Conversations to hear how educators are decolonizing learning environments in schools and classrooms as well as indigenizing the curriculum. Over twenty-five sessions focused on participant-led sense-making experiences.
- On March 6th, 2023, the Horizon Leadership Conference took place at Rutland Senior Secondary School with students and staff hosting a multi-school conference to inspire students to leadership while learning conference design in preparation for hosting the BC Student Leadership Conference in October 2023. RSS students garnered experience in facilitating leadership sessions with over 200 middle/secondary school students from Districts in our region.
- The District's theme for this year is Building Caring Communities and this year the District has focused on ways to help each other along. Local Elders from Westbank First Nation have helped by sharing a Nsyilxcən saying that means "we are walking hand in hand with our relatives" which underlines the District's motto of "Together We Learn". The heroic parent who comforted the student who was recently injured at the community transit stop and the other parents who jumped into action are a good example of this theme.

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

BCSTA AGM

April 27-30, 2023, Vancouver

BOARD MEETINGS WITH PARTNER AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Joint Board/District of Peachland Meeting: March 30, 2023

Joint Board/Westbank First Nations Meeting: April 24, 2023

Joint Board/City of West Kelowna Meeting: May 4, 2023

Joint Board/MPs Meeting: May 23, 2023

Joint Board/District of Lake Country Meeting: May 30, 2023

FUTURE MEETINGS

Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

Board Standing Committee Meetings

Wednesday April 5, 2023

- Finance and Audit Committee, 4:00 pm

- Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm

Wednesday April 19, 2023

- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm

- Education and Student Services Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

None

MEDIA QUESTIONS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer/CFO