



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**
Together We Learn

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, October 15, 2025, 6:00 pm
School Board Office
1040 Hollywood Road S
Kelowna, BC**

Board of Education: Trustee J. Fraser
Trustee W. Broughton
Trustee C. Desrosiers
Trustee A. Geistlinger
Trustee L. Guderyan
Trustee V. Johnson
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
Jared Birkeland, COPVPA Executive Member
Tait Catton and Harrison Long, District Student Council reps
Susan Bauhart, COTA President (*by Zoom, joined at 6:08 pm*)
Teri Wishlow, CUPE President (*by Zoom, joined at 6:08 pm*)

**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 6:04 pm

AGENDA

Amended by:

- *Add the following items to Item 18 - Board Correspondence:*

Received:

- 2025-10-03 Email from K. Miller re: letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application
- 2025-10-08 Email from L. Sanbrooks re: letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application

Sent:

- 2025-09-23 Email from A. Geistlinger to District of Lake Country re letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application
- 2025-10-08 Email from A. Geistlinger to District of Lake Country re letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application

- *Add to Item 21.2 BCSTA Provincial Council: 'Discuss Post-AGM questions'*

Main 25P-81

MOVED by Trustee Tiede

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Agenda for the Public Board Meeting of October 15, 2025 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES

Public Board Meeting - September 24, 2025

Amend fourth bullet point in Items of Special Mention to read: "Trustees also spoke about the opportunity to liase with the University of British Columbia Okanagan and attend high school soccer games."

Main 25P-082

MOVED by Trustee Tiede

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of September 24, 2025 be adopted as amended.

6:08 pm: The COTA President and the CUPE President joined the meeting by zoom.

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS – "INSIDE 23"

Designing Rich Numeracy Experiences Through Co-Developed Draft District Numeracy Assessments

In attendance: Cory Aitken, Teacher, École Dr. Knox Middle School
Stefani Oakes, Teacher, South Kelowna Elementary School
Jenn Davis, Learning & Innovation Team
Kevin Dent, Learning & Innovation Team
Robbi Martens, Learning & Innovation Team
Troy White, District Principal: Learning & Innovation
Jordan Kleckner, Director of Instruction: Learning & Innovation

Stefani Oakes and Cory Aitken shared how they contributed to the co-creation of Central Okanagan Public Schools' K-9 Numeracy Assessments (i.e., the K-2 Early Numeracy Profile and the Grades 3-9 Numeracy Assessment Toolkit) and how these tools are helping educators design rich numeracy experiences that strengthen students' competencies as numerate citizens.

INTRODUCTION

Anita Deng - Payroll Manager

The Board of Education welcomed Anita Deng to Central Okanagan Public Schools as the new Payroll Manager.

RECOGNITION

Prime Minister's Award - Teaching Excellence

In attendance: Helen Park, award recipient and teacher at École Casorso Elementary School
Jared Birkeland, Principal of École Casorso Elementary School
Amy Johnston-Loss, Parent at École Casorso Elementary School

The Board of Education recognized Helen Park, a Primary teacher at École Casorso Elementary School, for receiving a Prime Minister's Award – Teaching Excellence. Ms. Park was nominated by the parents of students in her classroom for her exceptional inclusive teaching philosophy and innovative and impactful practices.

MEETING RECESS

The meeting recessed at 6:58 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 7:06 pm.

DECLARATIONS

School Bus Safety Awareness Week - October 20-24, 2025

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared October 20 to 24, 2025 as 'School Bus Safety Awareness Week' in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

Foster Family Awareness Month – October

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared the month of October as 'Foster Family Awareness Month' in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public questions/comments.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

As the next board meeting will be the AGM, Trustees took the opportunity to express gratitude and optimism while reflecting on a year of significant change. Trustees noted the recruitment and hiring of a new Superintendent of Schools as one of the year's highlights and accomplishments, and emphasized the upcoming work on the Board's Strategic Plan and policy review.

ACTION ITEMS

Review and Revision of the Current Policy Manual

Main 25P-083

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education intends to review and revise the Policy Manual beginning with a Board audit of the current Policy Manual;

AND THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent of Schools to develop a plan to work with the Board of Education to conduct the review.

Amendment 25P-084

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

Add the following to the second paragraph: "**, to be presented at the November 5, 2025 Policy Committee Meeting.**".

CARRIED

Main 25P-083 as amended by Amendment 25P-084

THAT: The Board of Education intends to review and revise the Policy Manual beginning with a Board audit of the current Policy Manual;

AND THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent of Schools to develop a plan to work with the Board of Education to conduct the review, to be presented at the November 5, 2025 Policy Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

Letter in Support - District of Lake Country Grant Application

Main 25P-085

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger

SECONDED by Trustee Broughton

THAT: The Board of Education send a letter to support the District of Lake Country in their grant application to the Safe and Active School Routes program by or on October 16, 2025.

CARRIED

Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools Framework and Anti-Racism Strategy

Main 25P-086

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers

SECONDED by Trustee Johnson

THAT: The Board of Education approve and support the Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools Framework and Anti-Racism Strategy, as attached to the Agenda and as presented at the October 15, 2025 Public Board Meeting;

AND THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent of Schools to develop a collaborative process for staff to consult with partner groups to develop a plan to implement the Framework.

Main 25P-087

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

THAT: The Board of Education defer the motion until more information or evidence proving the need for this revised Framework is provided.

DEFEATED

OPPOSED: Trustee Desrosiers, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Guderyan, Trustee Broughton, Trustee Fraser

7:50 pm: the District Student Council reps left the meeting.

8:10 pm: Trustee Guderyan left the meeting.

The question was called on Main 25P-086

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Guderyan

ABSTAINED: Trustee Tiede, Trustee Geistlinger

8:16 pm Trustee Guderyan rejoined the meeting via Zoom.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Emergent Issues

None.

Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary - 2025/2026

The Board reviewed the information.

General Statement – September 24, 2025

The Board reviewed the information.

2025/2026 Enrolment Pressures Overview

The Board reviewed the information. The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO answered queries from Trustee Broughton and Trustee Geistlinger regarding mitigation measures, and confirmed that a small portion of the 2024/2025 unrestricted surplus was also allocated to the 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget to help address the shortfall.

Trustees discussed the various reasons for the decline in enrolment, and the new format of the report provided to Trustees each fall.

8:29 pm: Trustee Broughton left the meeting, and invited Trustees to email him directly regarding the BCSTA Provincial Council agenda item.

ADVOCACY

Update: Board Chairs' Call with Minister Lisa Beare

The Board Chair reviewed highlights of the virtual meeting Board Chairs had with Minister of Education and Child Care, Lisa Beare. Included in the discussion was an advance briefing on the announcement by the Provincial Government on the tabling of Bill 19, which, if passed, will amend the School Act by permitting school districts to operate school age care on non-instructional days, provide birth to five-year-old care, and recover reasonable costs incurred for the purpose of providing a child care program on board property.

The Board Chair also referenced a letter received by The Honourable Bowinn Ma, regarding Bill 27 and the Statutes Amendment Act.

BOARD/DISTRICT COMMITTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS AND REPORTS

The Board Chair advised that she had attended the October COPAC meeting and shared that one of the highlights was hearing from guest speakers Jenn Paquette from BGC Okanagan and Christina Harper from the Youth Restorative Justice Program regarding the restorative justice alternative for youth who might otherwise enter the court system.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Received:

- 2025-09-23 Email from COTA president S. Bauhart re Surrey surplus accumulation
- 2025-09-25 Email from S. Trist regarding Changes to bus rules about instruments
- 2025-09-29 Email from J. Nice Concern Regarding Rising Costs and Reliability of Student Transportation
- 2025-09-30 Email from J. Reid re Concerns regarding rising school bus fees
- 2025-10-03 Email from K. Miller re: letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application
- 2025-10-06 Email from K. Finamore re: Ellison Elementary School Grounds
- 2025-10-08 Email from L. Sanbrooks re: letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application

Sent:

- 2025-09-22 Letter to Kelowna City Council in support of Community Centres
- 2025-09-23 Email from A. Geistlinger to District of Lake Country re letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application
- 2025-09-29 Email response from Board Chair to J. Nice regarding Transportation
- 2025-10-02 Letter to WFN Chief and Council sending congratulations
- 2025-10-06 Email response from Board Chair to K. Finamore re: Ellison Elementary School Grounds
- 2025-10-08 Email response from Board Chair to J. Reid re: Concerns regarding rising school bus fees.
- 2025-10-08 Email from A. Geistlinger to District of Lake Country re letter of Support from SD23 for Lake Country's grant application

Main 25P-088

MOVED by Trustee Johnson

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: At the October 15, 2025 Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Broughton, Trustee Guderyan

BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

BCPSEA Symposium 2025

November 6-7, 2025
(Virtual)

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch Meeting

October 17/18, 2025
Kamloops, BC

BCSTA Provincial Council

October 24, 2025
(Virtual)

BCSTA Trustee Academy

November 27-29, 2025
Vancouver, BC

BOARD MEETINGS WITH PARTNER AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Joint Board/WFN Meeting

Monday, October 27, 2025

Joint Board/MLA Meeting

~~Wednesday, December 3, 2025~~

Being rescheduled due to Legislature Session dates.

Joint Board/CUPE Executive Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

FUTURE MEETINGS

Annual General Meeting

- Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings

- Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

Board Standing Committee Meetings

Finance and Planning Committee

- Wednesday, October 22 2025, at 4:00 pm

Policy Committee

- Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 4:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

MEDIA QUESTIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:37 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer/CFO