



CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Education and Student Services Committee Public Meeting

Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 4:00 pm

**School Board Office
1040 Hollywood Road S.
Kelowna, BC**

Board of Education: Trustee A. Geistlinger, Chair
Trustee W. Broughton
Trustee C. Desrosiers
Trustee J. Fraser
Trustee V. Johnson, Committee Member
Trustee L. Tiede, Committee Member (*arrived at 4:25 pm*)

Staff: Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO
Jon Rever, Acting Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Yvonne Hildebrandt, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Partner Groups: Lori Dawson Bedard, COTA 1st Vice-President
Nicola Baker, COPAC President
Jared Birkeland, COPVPA Vice-President
Jessica Teasdale, CUPE Executive Member
There was no representative from District Student Council.

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

*Trustee Broughton was appointed the Acting Voting Committee Member in Trustee Tiede's
absence.*

AGENDA

February 26, 2025 Committee Agenda – approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Education and Student Services Committee Report – January 15, 2025

January 15, 2025 Committee Report – received as distributed.

4:25 pm – Trustee Tiede arrived and assumed the role of Voting Committee Member.

RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

How Are We Doing? Literacy and Numeracy

Jamie Robinson, Assistant Superintendent, Jordan Kleckner, Director of Instruction – Learning and Innovation, and Brenda Kirsch, District Principal – Early Learning and Child Care, presented on how the District is doing in educating learners with the foundational skills of Literacy and Numeracy. Literacy is the ability to comprehend, make connections, and critically analyze, as well as create a variety of communication forms, including oral, written, visual, digital, and multimedia. Numeracy is the ability to interpret and apply mathematical understanding to solve problems in a variety of contexts and to analyze and communicate these solutions in ways relevant to the given context.

Literacy and numeracy have been, and continue to be, strategic priorities for Central Okanagan Public Schools. Educators and schools across the District are engaged in deep, meaningful work to enhance student learning in both literacy and numeracy. Sustained focus on literacy and numeracy support is essential, with an emphasis on ongoing professional learning for responsive instruction.

Central Okanagan Public Schools is a provincial leader in early literacy assessment and has established, in collaboration with District educators, a digital K-3 literacy assessment tool which will be in draft implementation in Fall 2025. The District has developed robust student achievement data systems that continuously track, monitor, and report on the literacy development of each child. An elementary school numeracy assessment tool is being developed and refined, and will be trialed with interested educators in Fall 2025. Middle school teachers have collaborated to develop an assessment strategy, numeracy assessments continue to be prototyped and piloted in classrooms with interested educators, and feedback is being collected to refine and implement improvements. There have been significant investments in District literacy and numeracy assessment development, resources related to reporting student achievement results, current research, and ongoing teacher professional learning, which represents the District's commitment to literacy and numeracy development for all students in kindergarten through grade twelve.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

No public present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUERIES/COMMENTS

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS/REFERRALS TO THE BOARD/COORDINATING COMMITTEE/OTHER COMMITTEES

None

ITEMS FOR FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

April 9, 2025

- Proposals for Board/Authority Authorized Courses
- Presentation: Artificial Intelligence to Enhance Student Learning
District Principal – Learning Technology Services (T. White)

May 7, 2025

- Draft Program Review Cycle & Draft Meeting Schedule 2025-2026
- Refreshed Equity in Action Agreement 2025-2030
Director of Instruction - Indigenous Education and Equity (J. Bruce)
- Feeding Futures Program Report
Director of Instruction – Feeding Futures (R. Ovelson)

June 4, 2025

- Presentation: School Community Student Learning Plans

REVIEW LEGEND

Level One Review

- District-wide surveys involving all stakeholders
- Focus Groups
- Interviews with key staff and clients

Level Two Review

- Surveys to a representative sample group of stakeholders
- Optional Focus Groups and personnel interviews as appropriate

Level Three Review

Limited or no surveying and/or interviews to gather informal feedback

FUTURE EDUCATION AND STUDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings start at 6:00 pm.

April 9, 2025; May 7, 2025; and June 4, 2025.

MEDIA QUESTIONS

No media present.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:49 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Amy Geistlinger, Chair at Amy.Geistlinger@sd23.bc.ca

Jon Rever, Acting Deputy Superintendent of Schools at 250-470-3225 or Jon.Rever@sd23.bc.ca

Amy Geistlinger, Chair