



**Central Okanagan  
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 6:00 pm**

**School Board Office**

**1040 Hollywood Road S**

**Kelowna, BC**

Board of Education: Trustee C. Desrosiers, Acting Chair  
Trustee J. Fraser  
Trustee A. Geistlinger  
Trustee L. Guderyan  
Trustee L. Tiede

*Absent: Trustee V. Johnson, Board Chair  
Trustee W. Broughton*

Staff: Jon Rever, Superintendent of Schools  
Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO  
Mona Essler, Executive Assistant  
Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Partner Groups: George York, CUPE Vice-President  
Leslie Atwell, COPAC President-Elect  
Karis Gardner, DSC Co-President Elect  
Susan Bauhart, COTA President (*by Zoom, joined meeting 6:35 pm*)

*There were no representatives from COPVPA*

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

---

In the absence of the Board Chair, Trustee Desrosiers was appointed as Acting Chair.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

## AGENDA

### Main 26P-062

**THAT: The Agenda for the Public Board Meeting of June 10, 2026, be adopted as presented.**

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

## MINUTES

### Public Board Meeting - May 20, 2026

Trustee Geistlinger requested that the following be added to the end of her comment under “Trustee Queries and Comments”:

*“and has them available for reference”.*

### Main 26P-063

**THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of May 20, 2026, be adopted as amended.**

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT

## CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS – "INSIDE 23"

### Agency in Action through CARE (Climate Action Ripple Effect)

**In attendance:** Jordan Kleckner, Director of Instruction – Learning & Innovation  
Lindsey Stevens, Learning & Innovation Team  
Tobias Blaskovits, Learning & Innovation Team  
Robbi Martens, Learning & Innovation Team  
Kristi Langlois, Learning & Innovation Team

#### Constable Neil Bruce Middle School:

- Anatasia Fuller, Teacher
- Stephanie Rodway, Teacher
- Luca Gliege, Grade 6
- Luke Jensen, Grade 6
- Jaxton McLure, Grade 6

#### École KLO Middle School

- Sydney Fender, Teacher
- Emma Girard, Teacher
- Kali Karslake, Grade 7
- Keely Karslake, Grade 7
- Everly Deagnon, Grade 7
- Vaiya Pollard-Bessie, Grade 7

#### École George Elliot Secondary School

- Josee Arcand, Teacher
- Ryder Wilson, Grade 9
- Caleb Larson, Grade 9

The presenters shared how CARE (Climate Action Ripple Effect) looks in our District this year and delved into three stories from educators and students about how CARE fosters student agency and the growth of competencies. The students briefly shared their projects and the way their community mentors supported them, and the teachers shared how they made this experience so meaningful for their learners.

## **INTRODUCTION - NEW STAFF**

The Board of Education welcomed Tori McVicar - Payroll Manager, and Michael McLellan - Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Operations and Corporate Services to the District.

## **MEETING RECESS**

The meeting recessed at 6:47 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 6:53 pm.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Advancing Student Mental Health and Wellbeing: Foundry's Expansion to the Westside**

Presenters: Mike Gawliuk, CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Kelowna  
Jamie Lloyd-Smith, Director of Innovation & Project Development, Canadian  
Mental Health Association (CMHA) Kelowna

Foundry Kelowna (est 2017) was established to provide integrated service for young people aged 12-24 and their caregivers, offering support in:

- Walk-in mental health counselling
- Physical and sexual health
- Substance use health
- Peer support
- Work, education and community services
- Family navigation and natural support.

Working alongside community partners, Foundry provides no cost, accessible support through a coordinated system designed to center the voice of young people and caregivers. The Foundry originally expanded to West Kelowna and Lake Country through the Wellness on Wheels Bus and partnerships with local mental health offices. In January of 2026 Foundry Westside was identified as a new satellite site. A survey of Westside youth stated 73% believe there is a strong need for substance use support for their peers, and requested an easily accessible location, to build awareness and understanding of Foundry services and supports, and multipurpose space offering access to food and water, youth-directed programming and Indigenous cultural activities. After consultation with the Westbank First Nation, a site was announced on June 9th at #105 – 2370

Bering Road. The location was declared by 91% of the youth as easily accessible to them. The “Not Alone: Bridging the Gap Campaign” has been created to fund Foundry services on the Westside. The fundraising goal is \$1.8 million and to date close to \$500,000 has been raised. The fundraising goal will be used to upgrade the West Kelowna facility by spring of 2027.

Trustees and the Superintendent of Schools expressed their gratitude for the services the Foundry supplies to support the students and families of Central Okanagan Public Schools and for opening a site in West Kelowna to address the gap in mental health services on the Westside.

## **DECLARATION**

### **National Indigenous History Month - June 2026, and National Indigenous Peoples Day - June 21, 2026**

The Central Okanagan Board of Education recognized that June is National Indigenous History Month and declared June 21, 2026, as 'Indigenous Peoples Day' in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public questions/comments.

## **TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS**

Trustee Fraser acknowledged June as Pride Month and highlighted the great turnout at the District’s booth at the previous weekend’s Pride Parade. She noted the event’s impact, with approximately 12,000 attendees and many students visiting the booth.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Setting Regular Board and Committee Meeting Dates and Times**

**Main 26P-064**

MOVED by Trustee Tiede

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

**THAT: In the 2026/2027 school year, regular Public Board Meetings be conducted once per month, commencing at 6:00 pm (with the exception of September and June, where there will be two meetings per month), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 10, 2026, Public Board Meeting;**

**AND THAT: In the 2026/2027 school year, regular Incamera Board Meetings be conducted once per month, commencing at 3:30 pm (with the exception of September and June, where there will be two meetings per month), as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 10, 2026, Public Board Meeting;**

**AND THAT: In the 2026/2027 school year, Board Standing Committee meetings be held according to the schedule as attached to the agenda, and as presented at the June 10, 2026, Public Board Meeting, subject to review by the Standing Committee Chairperson.**

**CARRIED**

**ABSENT: Trustee Broughton, Trustee Johnson**

**Adoption of the 2026/2027 Governance Framework and Annual Workplan**

**Main 26P-065**

MOVED by Trustee Geistlinger

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

**THAT: The Board of Education adopt and approve the 2026/2027 Governance Framework and Annual Workplan as the annual governance reference to guide the Board's recurring governance decisions, Trustee learning, public accountability, community engagement, and advocacy for the 2026/2027 school year;**

**AND THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with Trustees, to use the Governance Framework and Annual Workplan to support Agenda planning, committee workplans, Trustee in-service, public reporting, staff planning, and annual review.**

**CARRIED**

**ABSENT: Trustee Broughton, Trustee Johnson**

**BCSTA Policy Review for Boards of Education - Recommended Next Steps**

**Main 26P-066**

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

**THAT: The Board of Education adopt the BCSTA recommended Policy Review Phases 1, 2 and 3 as the organizing framework for the next phase of the Policy Framework and Manual Review Project, as indicated in the BCSTA Policy Review for Boards of Education materials and as presented at the June 10, 2026, Public Board Meeting;**

**AND THAT: The Board of Education direct the Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the Secretary-Treasurer/CFO, to develop and bring forward a Policy Manual modernization workplan that sequences the review, amendment, creation or rescission of Board policies and bylaws according to the following phases:**

- **Phase 1: Key Governance Policies, including the Role of the Board, Delegation of Authority and Role of the Superintendent of Schools, with priority completion prior to the October 2026 local government election;**
- **Phase 2: Other Priority Governance Policies, including Foundational Statements, Role of the Trustee, Role of the Board Chair, Role of the Vice-Chair, Trustee Code of Conduct, Policy Development and Recruitment and Selection of Personnel; and**
- **Phase 3: Remaining Governance, Financial, Operational and Local Context Policies, including a sustainable workplan for ongoing review and update through the 2026-2030 Board term.**

**CARRIED**

**ABSENT: Trustee Broughton, Trustee Johnson**

**OPPOSED: Trustee Geistlinger**

**Approval of School Community Student Learning Plans for the 2026/2027 School Year**

**Main 26P-067**

MOVED by Trustee Guderyan

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the School Community Student Learning Plans for the 2026/2027 school year based on the School Community Student Learning Plan Summary Report, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 10, 2026, Public Board Meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**ABSENT: Trustee Broughton, Trustee Johnson**

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### **Survey Results Presentation: Possible 15-minute Adjustment to Secondary Schools' Start and Dismissal Times**

Presenter: Jon Rever, Superintendent of Schools

This Superintendent of Schools' presentation was in response to the Board of Education's direction on May 20, 2026, for the Superintendent of Schools to explore adjusting secondary school start and dismissal times by 15 minutes and to provide a plan for public consultation. The results of the engagement process and the operational recommendation related to optimizing secondary school transportation were presented. The survey produced strong participation from those most directly connected to secondary schools and student transportation. There were 1,243 respondents who identified their role. Two-thirds were parents or caregivers of a secondary student, and a meaningful portion of responses also came from students and staff. Fifty-five percent of respondents indicated there is a student in their family who rides the school bus. Participation was well distributed throughout the secondary school communities. 69% of respondents had not previously heard about the proposed 15-minute shift. The engagement process therefore served two purposes: it gathered feedback and it helped families understand the rationale before providing their final view. Originally 43% of participants agreed or strongly agreed with the idea of later secondary start and dismissal times. After participants were provided with information about the rationale, the final support increased to 64% (708 respondents). 36% of respondents indicated the adjustment would be unmanageable for them due to family and work schedules, and after school activities. Therefore, the recommendation before the Board is not simply to approve a change; it is to approve a change with a deliberate implementation plan that addresses the legitimate concerns raised by families and students. Clear communication with families, school administrators, athletic coordinators, community partners and, where appropriate, employers and BC Transit will be required.

Through the ThoughtExchange survey, student wellbeing ranked first as to what mattered most to respondents. Second was transportation efficiency and cost savings, third – impact on extra-curricular activities, fourth – impact on work schedules and reducing student wait times and supervision was fifth. The survey results suggest that the community understands both dimensions: the importance of student wellbeing and the need to operate the transportation system responsibly. A common 9:15 am secondary start time and aligned dismissal time enables a consistent three-tier routing model. By creating better separation between elementary, middle and secondary schedules, the same bus can complete an elementary run, a middle run and a secondary run. In the École Okanagan Mission Secondary and Canyon Falls Middle School area, staff previously applied a three-tier model to address significant waitlists. The adjustment allowed an additional 200 students to be transported without adding routes. Since that time, there have been no École Okanagan Mission Secondary or Canyon Falls Middle School students on a waitlist due to route capacity. BC Transit has also identified the potential to increase ridership and reduce peak-time overcrowding

if secondary schools start later than middle schools. The practical benefits for students and families are more predictable access, fewer waitlist pressures, reduced wait time and better alignment between school supervision and bus timing. The route analysis identifies estimated annual net savings of approximately \$119,278 in Rutland, \$115,789 in Lake Country and \$89,859 in the Central family of schools. Together, that estimates approximately \$324,926 in estimated recurring operating savings. There is also the preliminary opportunity for two additional Westside route reductions when the three-tier system can be further implemented in September of 2027. Transportation is a vital service, although its unfunded cost draws from the same operating grant that supports classrooms. The 2026/2027 transportation operating budget is approximately \$7.1 million. Ministry support for transportation is approximately \$600,000 and the transportation revenue is estimated at approximately \$2.5 million. That leaves approximately \$3.9 million funded from the per-pupil operating grant. The District is forecasting a net \$4.2 million budget shortfall for the 2026/2027 school year. If the change is approved by the Board of Education, implementation will need to be disciplined and responsive. Once the Board's direction is confirmed, the Transportation Department will finalize routes, and the District will work with secondary schools, athletics, BC Transit and families to address local impacts. Implementation of the change will be monitored closely. The recommendation is for the Board of Education to approve a 15-minute adjustment to secondary school start and dismissal times, establish a 9:15 am secondary start time to support student access, transportation reliability, and responsible stewardship of public resources

*8:10 pm: Trustee Geistlinger left the meeting.*

*8:13 pm: Trustee Geistlinger returned to the meeting.*

The Superintendent of Schools, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO and Transportation Manager Gail Prokopchuk answered queries from Trustees and the District Student Council representative regarding the proposal and the consultation process.

### **Comprehensive Review Follow-Up: Additional Information re: Possible 15-minute Adjustment to Secondary Schools' Start and Dismissal Times**

Additional information was provided to the Board regarding the possible 15-minute adjustment to secondary school start and dismissal times to support a three-tier transportation model. Further review confirmed the estimated net annual savings and potential efficiencies for the Rutland, Lake Country, and Central Families of Schools, with additional Westside efficiencies to be explored for 2027.

Transportation Manager Gail Prokopchuk answered questions for Trustees and noted some minor corrections to schools in the memo.

*8:45 pm Trustee Geistlinger left the meeting.*

**Superintendent's Emergent Issues**

None.

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

Received

**General Statements**

Received

**COPAC Executive 2026/2027**

The Acting Board Chair noted the new members of the COPAC Executive for 2026/2027.

*8:49 pm: The CUPE Vice-President left meeting.*

**ADVOCACY**

Trustee Fraser noted that as Chair of the Finance and Planning Committee, she would be making a submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government requesting sustainable, predictable, and enhanced education funding, including increased per-pupil funding indexed to inflation, full-funding for negotiated agreements, and continued capital investment.

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

Trustee Tiede attended the May 13, 2026, Safe Schools Community Network where there was a presentation on the Crisis Response Community Led (CRCL) Service and an update on the HRVY (Honoring Resiliency in Vulnerable Youth) Project.

Trustee Fraser attended the Health Promoting Schools Committee meeting and District Student Council meeting where new co-Presidents Karis Gardner and Mackenna Wiggin were elected.

Trustee Guderyan attended the District Early Years Committee meeting and the Indigenous Education Council meeting. One discussion at the IEC meeting which has relevance to the Board was the topic of developing a clear policy or procedure regarding event protocols. The suggestion was that a Committee, made up of Trustee reps, the IEC and Elders, could work together to create this protocol and have it available on the District's website.

## **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Received:**

- 2026-05-14 Submission from L. Wood regarding Music Program at Ecole Peter Greer Elementary
- 2026-05-16 Submission from J. Henderson regarding Music Program at Ecole Peter Greer Elementary
- 2026-05-31 Submission from T Ellis re Gordon Drive rezoning

### **Sent:**

- 2026-05-27 Letter to Minister Beare and Minister Ma re: Sustainable and Inflation-Indexed Funding for Public Education
- 2026-06-02 Response to T Ellis re Gordon Drive rezoning

### **Main 26P-068**

MOVED by Trustee Tiede

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

**THAT: At the June 10, 2026, Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.**

**CARRIED**

**ABSENT: Trustee Broughton, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Geistlinger**

## **ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION**

The Board Chair and Trustees spoke of the following:

- Attendance at events including Grad Ceremonies, band concerts, school visits, Indigenous Education Blanketing Ceremonies and the Pride Festival.
- The Relay for Life held at École Okanagan Mission Secondary School, bringing together cancer survivors, remembering those lost to cancer, and fundraising over \$105,000. This year's students organized, planned and executed event included teams from École Kelowna Secondary School and Rutland Senior Secondary School. 450 students participated, which is the largest for a relay youth event in British Columbia.
- A wall of historical photos of schools throughout the Central Okanagan Public Schools has been installed in the Learning Centre. Special appreciation is extended to our current Secretary Treasurer/CFO, Delta Carmichael, and to retired Secretary Treasurer, Eileen Sadlowski, for their leadership and dedication in bringing this project to fruition.

- Congratulations were extended to two École Kelowna Secondary School students:
  - Shaeyllan Beardmore for receiving a \$120,000 Schulich Leader Scholarship for her outstanding academic and extra-curricular achievement
  - Dilynn Scott for receiving a \$70,000 2026 TD Scholarship for Community Leadership

## **TRUSTEE CANDIDATE INFORMATION SESSION**

- Wednesday, August 12, 2026  
5:00 - 7:00 pm  
Room 355, Learning Centre

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

### **Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings**

- Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

### **Board Standing Committee Meetings**

- Finance and Planning Committee  
Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 4:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:01 pm.

---

Acting Chair

---

Secretary-Treasurer/CFO