



"Together We Learn"

School District No. 23  
(Central Okanagan)

# BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

(Second and fourth Wednesday of every month, except July and August and the fourth Wednesday in March and December, at the School Board Office, at 6:00 PM.)

**The Central Okanagan Board of Education acknowledges that this meeting is being held on the Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People.**

**DATE:** Wednesday, November 16, 2016  
**TIME:** 6:00 pm  
**LOCATION:** School Board Office  
1940 Underhill Street  
Kelowna, B.C. V1X 5X7

Attending:

**Board of Education:**

Trustee M. Baxter (Chairperson)  
Trustee D. Butler  
Trustee R. Cacchioni  
Trustee J. Fraser  
Trustee C. Gorman  
Trustee L. Mossman  
Trustee L. Tiede

**Staff:**

K. Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO  
L. Paul, Secretary-Treasurer  
T. Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent (*absent*)  
H. Wendt, Executive Assistant (*Recorder*)

**Partner Group Representatives Attending:**

COPAC Shelley Courtney, President  
COPVPA Mike Kormany, Pro-D Finance  
COTA No representative  
CUPE Dave Tether, Vice President  
DSC Claire Robb, Co-President (Okanagan Mission Secondary School) and  
Saul Rosal, Co-President (George Elliot Secondary School)

**ORDER**

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

**AGENDA**

Additions/Amendments/Deletions

Add: Information Items 8.4 Draft Letter to Ministry of Education – Grade 10-12 Graduation Years Curriculum (*Material for scheduled item*)

*Main*

16P-161 MOVED by Trustee Butler, SECONDED by Trustee Fraser,  
**THAT: The Agenda for the November 16, 2016 Public Board Meeting be adopted as amended.**  
**CARRIED**

## MINUTES

### Public Board Meeting – November 2, 2016

Main  
16P-162

MOVED by Trustee Butler, SECONDED by Trustee Tiede,

**THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of November 2, 2016 be adopted as distributed.**

**CARRIED**

**ABSTAIN: Trustee Gorman and Trustee Fraser**

## RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

### Presentation: “Inside 23”

#### **Cindy Rhodes, Teacher, Rutland Senior Secondary School**

National Bullying Prevention Week – November 13 to 19, 2016

*Beyond the Hurt* Youth Facilitator Program

Cindy Rhodes, Teacher at Rutland Senior Secondary School and Meghan Toal of the Red Cross, outlined the origin of the *Beyond the Hurt* program and the success it has seen not only at the high school level, but also in middle and elementary schools. They reviewed their presentation and noted the four Wellness Programs are Lifesavers, Beyond the Hurt, Amicia and Diversity. A number of past and present youth facilitators reviewed the success of the programs and how it has helped them become champions in assisting other youths who need someone to talk with in times of crisis.

### Recognition: Ryan Wakefield, Teacher, Springvalley Middle School, Recipient of the Canadian Student Leadership Association 2016 BC Leader of Distinction Award

The Board recognized and congratulated Ryan Wakefield, Teacher at Springvalley Middle School, for receiving the Canadian Student Leadership Association 2016 BC Leader of Distinction Award. This award is presented to an education professional who has consistently demonstrated excellence in leadership, and an extraordinary commitment to the development of student leadership in Canada.

### National Child Day – Sunday, November 20, 2016

The Board Chair made the following Declaration:

"The Central Okanagan Board of Education declares Sunday, November 20, 2016 as "National Child Day" in Central Okanagan Public Schools."

6:40 pm: *The meeting was recessed.*

6:45 pm: *The meeting was reconvened.*

## PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

The purpose of this public question/comment period is to provide an opportunity to members of the gallery to ask a question or comment on any items on the agenda. The total time for this period shall normally be 15 minutes. A person wishing to speak is requested by the Chairperson of the Board to state his/her name and provide, if possible, a written copy of the comments.

A number of students, teachers, parents and other individuals from the Community, some of whom represented the LGBTQ community, Diversity Clubs and Okanagan Pride, voiced their support in the matter of the Board's consideration for gender neutral washrooms. Comments included currently feeling unsafe in washrooms specified specifically for male or female, being asked if they were in the 'right' washroom, being required to have a key in order to access a washroom and thereby being

singled out as being 'different' from other students, not using a washroom until they get home, and being subject to harassment and bullying.

**Vivian Evans of the Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council**

Queried what the ratio of students per bathroom is.

*The Secretary-Treasurer advised the City of Kelowna By-law stipulates one porcelain fixture for every 25 occupants.*

**Shelley Courtney, President of the Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council**

Queried whether all schools have single-use facilities, whether staff washrooms would be single use and available for use by all students and lastly whether the change to gender neutral washrooms would restrict access for students with toileting needs.

*The Board Chair advised these matters would be addressed during the Board's discussion of the Action Item.*

**TRUSTEES QUERIES/COMMENTS**

**Trustee Fraser**

Queried what the District's safety protocols are in light of the recent stabbings at Abbotsford Secondary School.

*The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised this matter will be discussed later in the meeting under 'Information Items'.*

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Request from the District Human Rights Committee – British Columbia Human Rights Code**

In response to queries from the Board, the Superintendent of Schools/CEO confirmed some schools within the District have already moved towards providing gender neutral washrooms. If the Board approves the recommendation, District staff will provide a plan to the Board of Education at a future Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting outlining the process to move forward with the work required.

Main  
16P-163

MOVED by Trustee Mossman, SECONDED by Trustee Fraser,

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the single use washrooms (or alternate washroom facilities) that exist in the District be more accessible by changing signage from gender specific "Male" and "Female" to gender neutral "Washroom" for these single use facilities;**

**AND THAT: The Board of Education make the requirements of the Human Rights Code and the needs of all students in regard to washroom facilities a priority for action as funding comes available for retrofitting, renovating, and designing washrooms in existing and new facilities.**

The Secretary-Treasurer advised all secondary, middle and most elementary schools have single-use washrooms; however, some of the smaller, older schools have not yet been modified.

The Secretary-Treasurer further noted that should school staff washrooms be renamed, the school staff and Administrator(s) would be consulted. As well, attention would be given to assisting students who have toileting needs in order to support the students throughout the day.

**MAIN 16P-163  
CARRIED**

## **PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD**

This public question/comment period is to provide an opportunity to members of the gallery to ask a question or comment on any matter pertaining to public education.

### **Shelley Courtney, COPAC President**

Queried if there was any information regarding the Supreme Court of Canada's recent decision pertaining to rights to bargain class sizes.

*The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised the next step is negotiations between the British Columbia Public School Employers' Association and British Columbia Teachers' Federation. Until that takes place, the current teachers' collective agreement remains in place.*

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Superintendent's Emergent Issues**

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised RCMP media releases have been disseminated regarding incidents that have recently taken place at or near District schools. The RCMP are continuing the investigations and the Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised a letter has been sent home to parents/guardians encouraging them to review the RCMP Street Proofing Tips with their children.

### **Pro-Active Safety Awareness**

Dave Cavezza, the District Health and Safety Manager, outlined his presentation and confirmed the District is in a state of heightened awareness due to the recent fatality at Abbotsford Secondary School. The previous District-Level Emergency Response Plan has been modified and is now known as the Emergency Response Procedures. The differences between the terms 'evacuate', 'lockdown', 'hold and secure', 'shelter in place', 'drop/cover/hold' and 'reverse evacuation' were reviewed. Response protocols are a resource on the District's intranet and all Administrators are trained in the various protocols.

In response to a query from the Board, the District Health and Safety Manager confirmed the phrase 'dash and scatter' is utilized in some Districts. However, all emergency-response matters are prefaced by noting that all situations are different and that common sense should prevail.

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO confirmed the District works with Interior Health, the RCMP and other community groups regarding community support and advising the District as to what is happening in the community that may spill back onto schools.

In response to a query from the COPAC President, the Superintendent of Schools/CEO advised the earthquake recovery bins that are used in some Districts in BC required annual upkeep, training and resources. This approach has not been adopted in the Central Okanagan. In many Districts, there was a challenge in finding available personnel to ensure the bins were maintained (i.e., picks, shovels, first-aid kits and fresh water).

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO noted it may be interesting for a meeting with COPAC to review the presentation with the District Health and Safety Manager in attendance.

### **Synopsis: Second Annual Ministry of Education Liaison Meeting / BCSTA Meeting of Board Chairs**

This matter was deferred to the November 30, 2016 Board of Education Public Meeting.

**Draft Letter to Ministry of Education – Grade 10-12 Graduation Years Curriculum**

The Board reviewed the information provided and suggested various modifications to the letter. The Board agreed to forward the letter to the Minister of Education.

**Month End Enrolment – October 2016**

The Board reviewed the information provided.

**Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary – 2016/2017**

The Board reviewed the information provided.

**General Statement**

The Board reviewed the information provided. Trustee Gorman advised that had he been able to attend the November 2, 2016 Board of Education Incamera meeting, he would have recused himself from the Human Resources Action Item due to a potential conflict of interest.

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

**BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

**Sent:**

**Received: Correspondence Directed to the Board**

Ministry of Education, October 31, 2016, regarding approval for the Central Okanagan Board of Education's Aboriginal education funding amount.

BCSTA Legal Counsel, November 7, 2016, regarding Bill 24 – Societies Act.

**Summary of Copies of Letters received by the Board**

SD No. 72 (Campbell River), October 6, 2016, to Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services, regarding concerns and recommendations.

SD No. 5 (Southeast Kootenay), October 26, 2016, to BCSTA President, regarding BCSTA media release re: Government Firing of Vancouver School Board

British Columbia Teachers' Federation, October 28, 2016, to Deputy Minister of Education, regarding implementation of Grades 10-12 curriculum.

Thompson Okanagan Branch of the BCSTA, October 30, 2016, to the Minister of Education, regarding SD83 being with a locally elected Board of Education.

Board of Education of SD No. 61 (Greater Victoria), October 28, 2016, to the Minister of Education, regarding support of elected Boards of Education.

SD No. 70 (Alberni), November 1, 2016, to the Minister of Education, regarding funding to BC independent schools.

SD No. 70 (Alberni), November 1, 2016, to the Minister of Education, regarding reduction in transportation funding.

Ministry of Education, November 2, 2016, to BCSTA President, BCSSA President and BCASBO President, regarding application of government policy to British Columbia school districts.

Ministry of Education, November 2, 2016, to all Superintendents, Secretary-Treasurers, School Facility Managers and School Districts, regarding Youth Trades Capital Equipment Program.

Ministry of Education, November 4, 2016, to All Secretary-Treasurers, Superintendents and School Districts, regarding Apprentices on Public Projects Policy.

Ministry of Education Resource Management and Corporate Services Division, November 9, 2016, regarding update on Rural Education Engagement Process.

Main  
16P-164

MOVED by Trustee Tiede, SECONDED by Trustee Butler,

**THAT: At the November 16, 2016 Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.**

**CARRIED**

#### **ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION**

Trustee Mossman advised he was honoured to attend the very respectful Remembrance Day Ceremonies at Rutland Middle School and Rutland Secondary School.

Trustee Fraser noted she attended the Remembrance Day ceremonies at Mt. Boucherie Secondary School and Constable Neil Bruce Middle School. The beautiful tribute to Veterans was very touching.

Trustee Gorman was proud to have attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at Glenmore Elementary. The music-filled event was very moving.

#### **BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION**

##### **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

Date: January 27, 2017

Location: Vancouver

#### **BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION**

##### **Learning Forward Annual Conference**

Date: December 3-7, 2016

Location: Vancouver Convention Centre

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

### **REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS**

Regular Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., School Board Office

Annual General Meeting and Regular Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., School Board Office

### **BOARD STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Finance and Legal

Wednesday, November 23, 2016 at 1:00 pm at the School Board Office

Planning and Facilities

Wednesday, November 23, 2016 at 4:30 pm at the School Board Office

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**

- *Central Okanagan Public Schools Logo/Graphic Standards Report*
- *Update: Second Annual Ministry of Education Liaison Meeting / BCSTA Meeting of Board Chairs*
- *Motions Arising from BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting*

**ADJOURNMENT: The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.**

---

Chairperson

---

Secretary-Treasurer