



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**
Together We Learn

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Finance and Planning Committee Meeting

Public Meeting

Wednesday, April 30, 2025, 4:00 pm

School Board Office

1040 Hollywood Road S

Kelowna, BC

Board of Education:	Trustee L. Tiede, Committee Chair Trustee W. Broughton, Committee Member Trustee C. Desrosiers, Committee Member Trustee J. Fraser Trustee A. Geistlinger Trustee L. Guderyan Trustee V. Johnson
Staff:	Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO Gabe Cacchioni, Finance Manager Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
Absent:	<i>Jon Rever, Acting Deputy Superintendent</i> <i>Rob Drew, Director of Operations</i> <i>Josh Currie, Assistant Director of Operations</i> <i>David Widdis, Planning Manager</i>
Partner Groups	COTA: Susan Bauhart, President (<i>via Teams</i>) CUPE: Simone Gauthier, Indigenous Advocate Shop Steward COPAC: Nicola Baker, President (<i>joined meeting 4:14 pm</i>) COPVPA: Scott Sieben, President <i>There was no representative from District Student Council.</i>

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

Meeting called to order 4:06 pm.

AGENDA

April 30, 2025 Committee Agenda - approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Finance and Planning Committee Public Meeting Report - April 16, 2025

April 16, 2025 Committee Report - received as distributed.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public in attendance.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' QUERIES/COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Central Okanagan Public Schools Superintendent of Schools/CEO 2025/2026 Budget Recommendations Report

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO gave a recap of the 2025/2026 budget recommendations as there have not been any changes from the proposal set out at the April 30, 2025 Finance and Planning Committee meeting. The budget will efficiently staff schools, address growth, manage capacity and complexity, while also meet the Collective Agreements. The District expects conservative growth of 150 students for the 2025/2026 school year.

4:14 pm: The COPAC President joined the meeting.

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO and Secretary-Treasurer/CFO answered questions from the Committee regarding budget requests, the Classroom Enhancement Fund process, and the restructuring of senior staff.

Outcome: The Finance and Planning Committee recommended to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education approve the Central Okanagan Public Schools Superintendent of Schools/CEO 2025/2026 Budget Recommendations, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the April 30, 2025 Finance and Planning Committee Meeting.

Trustee Indemnity for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year

Trustee Fraser emphasized the need for Trustees to continue annual CPI-based stipend increases to keep pace with inflation and rising costs, ensuring fair compensation and maintaining the integrity and effectiveness of the Board of Education. Skipping adjustments can make it difficult to catch up in the future, potentially leading to significant disparities and challenges in maintaining fair compensation, especially for future Trustees.

Trustees shared their views, discussed the compensation costs and agreed that it would be best to debate this at the Public Board meeting on May 14, 2025.

Outcome: The Finance and Planning Committee recommended to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Board of Education set the Trustee Indemnity, in accordance with the most recent BC Consumer Price Index of 2.5% for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 thereby setting the stipend at: Trustee - \$25,564, Vice-Chair - \$27,000, Chair - \$29,181.

Financial Update – March 31, 2025

The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO advised that the Auditor General recommends that school districts provide a financial update to the Committee and Board on a regular basis.

The Committee discussed projected spending, the request to conserve and/or freeze spending, advocating for funding needed to cover inflation province-wide, and funding for critical issues and student assessments.

Outcome: The Finance and Planning Committee recommended to the Board of Education:

THAT: The Finance and Planning Committee receive the Financial Update as of March 31, 2025 as presented, and forward to the Board of Education as an information item.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

None.

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

Public Board Meeting: May 14, 2025

- Central Okanagan Public Schools Superintendent of Schools/CEO 2025/2026 Budget Recommendations Report (*Action Item*)
- Trustee Indemnity for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year (*Action Item*)
- Financial Update – March 31, 2025 (*Information Item*)

ITEMS FOR FUTURE FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

May

Finance:

- Auditor's Report to the Finance and Audit Committee – Initial Communication on Audit Planning for the Year
- Annual CommunityLINK Allocations
- Financial Update - International Education Program

Planning:

- Annual Transportation Update
- Capital Plan Submission

June

Finance:

- School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year 2025/2026
- 2024/2025 Accumulated Operating Surplus Review
- Proposed Multi-Year Financial Plan (2025/2026 to 2027/2028)
- Annual Review of Financial Planning and Reporting Policy

Planning:

- Energy and Sustainability Presentation

FUTURE FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 4:00 pm.
- Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 4:00 pm.

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Rd., S., Kelowna.

MEDIA QUESTIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Lee-Ann Tiede, Committee Chair at 250-258-3556 or Lee-Ann.Tiede@sd23.bc.ca

Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO at 250-860-8888 or Delta.Carmichael@sd23.bc.ca

Lee-Ann Tiede, Chair