



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Finance and Planning Committee Meeting

Public Meeting

Wednesday, November 19, 2025, 4:00 pm

School Board Office

1040 Hollywood Road S

Kelowna, BC

Board of Education: Trustee J. Fraser, Committee Chair
Trustee C. Desrosiers, Committee Member
Trustee L. Tiede, Committee Member (*joined meeting at 4:36 pm*)
Trustee V. Johnson, Acting Committee Member

Staff: Jon Rever, Superintendent of Schools
Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Kate Cumming, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Rob Drew, Director of Operations
Josh Currie, Assistant Director of Operations
Graeme McCallum, Maintenance Manager
Gabe Cacchioni, Finance Manager
Mona Essler, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Absent: David Widdis, Planning Manager

Partner Groups: Susan Bauhart, COTA President
George York, CUPE Vice-President
Nicola Baker, COPAC President
Scott Sieben, COPVPA Past President
Tait Catton, Vann Richmond, Harrison Long, Promise Akomolafe
- District Student Council Reps

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

AGENDA

November 19, 2025 Committee Agenda - approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Finance and Planning Committee Public Meeting Report - October 22, 2025

October 22, 2025 Committee Report - received as distributed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' QUERIES/COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

2025/2026 and 2026/2027 Budget Timeline and Budget Development Principles

The budget timeline is provided as a guide for the Board, staff, and the public to use in the ongoing development of the budget. It outlines the significant dates and deadlines pertaining to both the amendments of the current year's budget as well as the development of next year's budget.

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer outlined some of the uncertainties for 2025/2026, which include:

- Classroom Enhancement Fund funding confirmation, which is typically in December each year, but was delayed due to the BCGEU job action;
- Staffing – specialty teachers and CEAs;
- Capacity challenges;
- Cost escalations.

For the 2026/2027 year, the factors listed above continue to be uncertainties, and student FTE projections will be closely monitored. Additionally, the Ministry of Education and Child Care per pupil funding amount will be announced in March, 2026.

Staff answered queries from the Committee.

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

THAT: The Board of Education approve the 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 Budget Timeline as presented at the November 19, 2025 Finance and Planning Committee meeting.

Annual Integrated Pest Management Report

The Director of Operations, along with the Assistant Director of Operations and the Maintenance Manager outlined the annual report presented to the Committee each year. The District's IPM program applies a combination of strategies to manage pest populations in ways that are effective, economical, and environmentally responsible. In recent years, the Operations Department has observed an increase in pest activity on school grounds.

Invasive weeds have become a district-wide concern, damaging sports fields, creating safety hazards, and affecting the overall appearance of school grounds. These weeds hinder healthy turf growth, leading to costly repairs and replacements. Community feedback has highlighted concerns about the condition of fields and play areas.

To address these challenges, the Operations Department has developed a comprehensive plan with four phases, which was outlined for the Committee.

The Operations team answered queries from the Committee.

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

THAT: The Board of Education accept the Annual Integrated Pest Management Report as the Annual Report required in Policy 620 – Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the November 19, 2025 Finance and Planning Committee Public Meeting.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Statement of Financial Information for June 30, 2025

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer advised that the District must prepare, on an annual basis, a Statement of Financial Information (SOFI). This statement must be filed with the Ministry of Education and Child Care by December 31st of each year and must include a schedule showing:

- a) in respect of each employee earning more than a prescribed amount, the total remuneration paid to the employee and total amount paid for the employee's expenses;
- b) a consolidated total of all remuneration paid to all other employees; and
- c) total payments to vendors.

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer answered questions from the Committee.

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

The COTA President asked about the opening date for George Pringle Secondary School. The Director of Operations confirmed that the planned opening is September, 2027.

Trustee Fraser queried the status of the École Dr. Knox Middle School construction project and new general contractor. The Director of Operations confirmed that they hope to have students in the new and renovated space soon.

4:36 pm: Trustee Tiede joined the meeting.

The District Student council members queried:

- **Priorities on environmental practices:** it was recommended that Harold Schock, the District's Energy and Sustainability Manager, be invited to one of the District Student Council meetings. Mr. Schock's annual report, which is contained in the June 18, 2025 Finance and Planning Committee Agenda, is available on the District website.
- **Score Clocks:** The Assistant Director of Operations advised that there is a plan in place to replace score clocks in all high schools. The COPAC President suggested having a donation link in School Cash Online for this purpose. The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer confirmed that schools are currently fundraising for this as well.

RECOMMENDATIONS/REFERRALS TO THE BOARD

December 10, 2025 Public Board Meeting

- 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 Budget Timeline and Budget Development Principles (*Action item*)
- Annual Integrated Pest Management Report (*Action item*)
- Statement of Financial Information for June 30, 2025 (*Information item*)

ITEMS FOR FUTURE FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

January

Finance:

- Annual Review of Committee's Mandate, Purpose and Function.
- 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget
- Ministry of Education and Child Care Recalculation Allocation
- Financial Update at December 31st
- Budget Survey Development

February

Finance:

- 2026/2027 Budget Presentation
- School Fees Summary

Planning:

- Annual Facility Grant (AFG) Plan

April (1st Meeting)

Finance:

- Central Okanagan Public Schools Superintendent of Schools/CEO 2026/2027 Budget Proposal Report
- Budget Consultation Input Received
- Trustee Indemnity for the 2026/2027 Fiscal Year

April (2nd Meeting)

Finance:

- Central Okanagan Public Schools Superintendent of Schools/CEO 2026/2027 Budget Recommendations Report
- Financial Report at March 31st

May

Finance:

- Auditor's Report to the Finance and Audit Committee – Initial Communication on Audit Planning for the Year
- 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 2026/2027
- 2025/2026 Accumulated Operating Surplus Review
- Proposed Multi-Year Financial Plan (2026/2027 to 2028/2029)
- Annual Review of Financial Planning and Reporting Policy

Planning:

- Energy and Sustainability Presentation

FUTURE FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- January 21, 2026
- February 11, 2026
- April 15, 2026
- April 29, 2026

4:00 pm, Main Board Room
1040 Hollywood Rd. S., Kelowna

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Julia Fraser, Committee Chair at Julia.Fraser@sd23.bc.ca

Kate Cumming, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer at Kate.Cumming@sd23.bc.ca

Julia Fraser, Committee Chair