



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**
Together We Learn

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 24, 2025, 6:00 pm
School Board Office
1040 Hollywood Road S
Kelowna, BC**

Board of Education: Trustee J. Fraser, Board Chair

Trustee W. Broughton

Trustee C. Desrosiers

Trustee A. Geistlinger (*by telephone*)

Trustee L. Guderyan, Vice-Chair

Trustee V. Johnson

Trustee L. Tiede

Staff: Jon Rever, Superintendent of Schools

Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO

Mona Essler, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Partner Groups: Susan Bauhart, COTA President

Teri Wishlow, CUPE President and George York, Vice-President

Natalie Morin, COPVPA Executive

Nathan Hind, COPAC Member at Large and

Nicola Baker, COPAC President (*by Zoom*) (*disconnected from meeting at 7:25 pm*)

Genesis Caicado, District Student Co-President (*left meeting at 6:17 pm*)

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

AGENDA

Add: Material for item 10.2 'Annual Enhancing Student Learning Report 2025'

Defer: Item 10.3 'Presentation: Implementation of the School District No. 23 Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools Framework'

Main 25P-074

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The Agenda for the Public Board Meeting of September 24, 2025 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES

Public Board Meeting - September 10, 2025

Main 25P-075

MOVED by Trustee Guderyan

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of September 10, 2025 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS – "INSIDE 23"

Student Perspectives

In attendance:

Kindergarten Students:	Noah Bates, Raymer Elementary School Charlotte Dickinson, Raymer Elementary School
Admin/Teachers:	Bryce Owens, Principal, Raymer Elementary Jodi Lightfoot, Kindergarten Teacher, Raymer Elementary Kristin Meyers, Kindergarten Teacher, Raymer Elementary
Grade 12 Student:	Genesis Caicedo, École Kelowna Secondary School (Co-President of District Student Council)
Admin:	Scott Parker, Principal, École Kelowna Secondary School

Kindergarten students, Noah and Charlotte, shared their friendship and learning over the past three weeks of school and their excitement in starting their education. Genesis Caicedo spoke of her learning over the past twelve years and her future plans.

MEETING RECESS

The meeting recessed at 6:17 pm.

(The District Student Council rep left the meeting).

The meeting reconvened at 6:21 pm.

DECLARATIONS

World Teachers' Day

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared October 5, 2025 as 'World Teachers' Day' in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

International Walk to School Day - October 1, 2025

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared Wednesday, October 1, 2025 as 'International Walk to School Day' in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

Principal and Vice-Principal Month - October

The Central Okanagan Board of Education declared October as 'Principal and Vice-Principal Month' in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

Superintendent's District Start-up Report 2025-2026 - Part 2

Presenter: Jon Rever, Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent of Schools provided Part 2 of the 2025/2026 District Start-up Report. Highlights included:

- Recognition and thanks to the Operations Department, Learning Technology Department, Human Resources Department, Finance Department and Payroll Department for their hard work over the summer months.
- Details on the District's 2025/2026 theme: 'Learner Agency'.
- The reorganization of the senior leadership structure.
- The launch of the new monthly District Newsletter, which will also be available to the public.
- A report on student enrolment, which showed positive historical enrolment trends compared to a 0.8% contraction in the 2025/2026 year (the District has not contracted since 2015), despite a conservative projection in the spring. The report also provided data on which areas of the District were experiencing a decline in enrolment (all areas except for Lake Country).

- Information on the District's Operating Grant Funding, which is tied to student enrolment, and the expectation that an adjustment to the District's 2025/2026 Amended Budget will be required to adjust for the declining enrolment.

The Superintendent of Schools answered questions from Trustees regarding enrolment, school capacity issues and information gathered on reasons for students leaving the District.

The Superintendent's District Start-Up Report 2025-2026 Part 2 presentation is available on the Central Okanagan Public Schools website at www.sd23.bc.ca under Publications.

Main 25P-076

MOVED by Trustee Johnson

SECONDED by Trustee Broughton

THAT: The Board of Education receive the Superintendent's District Start-up Report 2025-2026, Part 2.

CARRIED

Annual Enhancing Student Learning Report 2025

Presenter: Jon Rever, Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO presented the Annual Enhancing Student Learning Report 2025.

The Ministry of Education and Child Care requires that the Enhancing Student Learning Report be submitted to the Ministry by September 30, 2025. The report supports continuous improvement focused on equitable learning outcomes for Indigenous learners, children and youth in care, and students with disabilities or diverse abilities (ie: priority populations). It presents accessible information to all, and provides the Ministry of Education and Child Care with valuable insights into District processes, contributing to a provincial overview that guides future capacity-building efforts.

The 2025 report reviewed student achievement and equity across five key outcomes: Literacy, Numeracy, Feeling Welcome/Safe/Connected, Graduation, and Life/Career Competencies. District Literacy results showed strong participation and performance, with District averages exceeding provincial benchmarks, particularly among Indigenous learners. Numeracy outcomes improved in Grade 4 but remain below provincial averages in Grades 7 and 10, highlighting areas for continued focus. Student well-being indicators, including safety and belonging, are stable, with Indigenous students reporting above-average experiences, though designated students show a slight decline. The graduation rate remains high, with notable success among Indigenous students on reserve, while gaps persist for students with diverse-abilities. Career development programs provide strong support for all students, but the department will focus on continuing to develop programs to better support newcomer students.

The District continues to prioritize inclusive practices, culturally responsive teaching, and targeted supports to improve equity and outcomes for all learners.

The Superintendent of Schools and senior leaders answered questions from Trustees and partner groups.

The Annual Enhancing Student Learning Report 2025 is available on the Central Okanagan Public Schools website at www.sd23.bc.ca under Publications.

Main 25P-077

MOVED by Trustee Guderyan

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education receive and approve the Annual Enhancing Student Learning Report 2025, as presented at the September 24, 2025 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

Dominique Raymond, a teacher in Central Okanagan Public Schools, asked if the District receives any funding to develop and implement programs for newcomers to Canada and ELL (English Language Learner) students. Violeta Malfair, Director of Instruction, Settlement Services confirmed that government funding is received for this purpose, as well as other related programs for newcomers.

George York, the CUPE Vice-President, commented on the detail given in the Superintendent's District Start-up Report that 89% of the District budget is used for staffing costs, and 11% is for operations, and queried what exactly this 11% covers. The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO advised that examples of this would be utilities, insurance, software, supplies, learning resources, small capital, etc.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

Trustee Johnson shared that Westbank First Nation recently had their election, and suggested that the Board send a letter of congratulations. Trustee Broughton also advised that Chief Louie was the recent recipient of the Order of British Columbia, and suggested that this accomplishment also be mentioned in the letter.

The Board Chair advised that in the summer, she attended the Canadian School Boards Association National Conference. The conference was supposed to be in Winnipeg, Manitoba but had to be shifted online due to the Manitoba wildfires. Trustee Fraser attended sessions that offered valuable learning opportunities, with the highlight being keynote speaker Clara Hughes, Canadian Olympian and mental health advocate.

ACTION ITEMS

Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2024/2025

Recommendation from the Finance and Planning Committee - September 17, 2025.

Main 25P-078

MOVED by Trustee Tiede

SECONDED by Trustee Johnson

THAT: The Board of Education receive and approve the Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

CARRIED

2024/2025 Accumulated Operating Surplus

Recommendation from the Finance and Planning Committee - September 17, 2025.

Main 25P-079

MOVED by Trustee Tiede

SECONDED by Trustee Broughton

THAT: The Board of Education receive and approve the Accumulated Operating Surplus for the year ended June 30, 2025 as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the September 24, 2025 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Emergent Issues

None.

Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary - 2025/2026

The Board reviewed the information.

General Statement – September 10, 2025

The Board reviewed the information.

2024/2025 Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis

(Referred by the Finance and Planning Committee - September 17, 2025)

The Board reviewed the information.

2025 Summer Projects Update

(Referred by the Finance and Planning Committee - September 17, 2025)

The Board reviewed the information.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Received:

- 2025-09-05 Emails from A. Machum Hutton and J. Delichte re: Childcare in Our Schools
- 2025-09-08 Email from W. Holly re: RMS overcrowded
- 2025-09-08 Email response from W. Holly re: RMS overcrowded
- 2025-09-11 Email response from W. Holly re: RMS overcrowded
- 2025-09-12 Letter from COTA regarding invitation to meet
- 2025-09-17 Email from W. Holly regarding RMS

Sent:

- 2025-09-11 Email response Board Chair Fraser re: RMS Overcrowded
- 2025-09-11 Email response from Board Chair Fraser re: RMS Overcrowded
- 2025-09-18 Letter to COTA regarding invitation to meet

Main 25P-080

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: At the September 24, 2025 Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.

CARRIED

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

The Board Chair, Trustees and the Superintendent of Schools/CEO, spoke of the following:

- Jesse Bruce, Director of Instruction - Indigenous Education and Equity, formally invited Trustees and senior staff to the Equity in Action Agreement 2025-2030 Signing Ceremony scheduled for Tuesday, November 25, 2025, 6:00 – 7:30 pm at Constable Neil Bruce Middle School.
- School and District sites will be closed on Tuesday, September 30, 2025 to honour Truth and Reconciliation Day.
- As part of the BCSTA monthly Board Chair meetings, Trustee Julia Fraser, Board Chair, will be participating in a Teams call with Minister Lisa Baere on September 25, 2025.

- Trustees also spoke about the opportunity to liaise with the University of British Columbia Okanagan and attending secondary school soccer games.

BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

BCPSEA Symposium 2025

November 6-7, 2025

(Virtual)

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch Meeting

October 17/18, 2025

Kamloops, BC

BCSTA Provincial Council

October 24, 2025

(Virtual)

BCSTA Trustee Academy

November 27-29, 2025

Vancouver, BC

BOARD MEETINGS WITH PARTNER AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Joint Board/WFN Meeting

Monday, October 27, 2025

Joint Board/MLA Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

FUTURE MEETINGS

Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings

- Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 6:00 pm.
- Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Board Standing Committee Meetings

Education and Student Services Committee

- Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 4:00 pm.

Finance and Planning Committee

- Wednesday, October 22, 2025, at 4:00 pm.

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

Presentation: Implementation of the School District No. 23 Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools Framework'

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer/CFO