



BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, December 10, 2025, 6:00 pm
School Board Office
1040 Hollywood Road S
Kelowna, BC

Board of Education: Trustee V. Johnson, Board Chair
Trustee W. Broughton
Trustee C. Desrosiers
Trustee J. Fraser
Trustee L. Guderyan
Trustee L. Tiede

Absent: Trustee A. Geistlinger

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

Partner Groups: Nicola Baker, COPAC President and Leslie Atwell, COPAC Vice-President
Teri Wishlow, CUPE President and George York, CUPE Vice-President
Susan Bauhart, COTA President (*via Zoom, joined meeting at 6:32 pm*)
There were no representatives from COPVPA or District Student Council.

**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

Amended by the addition of material for Item 10.7: Draft Admin Procedure – Responding to Unexpected Emergencies.

Main 25P-096

MOVED by Trustee Tiede

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Agenda for the Public Board Meeting of December 10, 2025 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

MINUTES

Public Board Meeting - November 12, 2025

Main 25P-097

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of November 12, 2025 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS – "INSIDE 23"

Two Countries, One Learning Community: The Japan Exchange Story

In attendance: Brad Kuhn, Principal, Constable Neil Bruce Middle School
Bobbi Hunter, Principal, École Glenrosa Middle School

Students:

École Glenrosa Middle School

- Kyla Stone, Grade 9
- Jett Riendeau, Grade 9

Constable Neil Bruce Middle School

- William Brown, Grade 8
- Lauren Pauls, Grade 8

The Inside 23 presentation highlighted the learning journey of students from École Glenrosa Middle School and Constable Neil Bruce Middle School who participated in the Kasugai Exchange Program. Each student was the successful candidate for the 2025 school year, chosen for their essay and scholarship application. Through photos, video, student voice, and reflections, students shared how this international experience supported student growth, strengthened global connections, and fostered deep cross-cultural learning. The presentation celebrated how students built empathy, independence, and global awareness while representing Central Okanagan Public

Schools abroad. It offered a window into the powerful opportunities created when learners step beyond the classroom and engage meaningfully with the world.

RECOGNITION

Kathy Ross, Teacher at Peachland Elementary School

Kathy Ross, a grade 3/4 teacher at Peachland Elementary School, was congratulated by the Board of Education on being a recipient of the Susan Langley Earth Steward Teaching Award – ‘Excellence in Sustainable Education in Canada’. Accompanied by Peachland Elementary Principal Lisa Wilson, Ms. Ross shared some of the details and examples of teaching sustainability to her students.

6:32 pm: The COTA President joined the meeting.

MEETING RECESS

The meeting recessed at 6:39 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 6:43 pm.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

None.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

None.

ACTION ITEMS

Annual Integrated Pest Management Report

Main 25P-098

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

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 December 10, 2025 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

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

Main 25P-099

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education approve the 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 Budget Timeline as presented at the December 10, 2025 Public Board meeting.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

Enrollment Application Dates for 2026/2027 School Year

Main 25P-100

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The initial enrollment application dates for the 2026/2027 school year be set as February 2, 2026, at 7:00 am through to March 13, 2026;

AND THAT: The closing date of enrollment applications, to apply the Board's enrollment priorities as established in Board Regulations 405R – Student Placement (Regulations), be set as August 27, 2026.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent's Emergent Issues

None.

Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary - 2025/2026

The Board reviewed the information.

Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary - 2026/2027

The Board reviewed the information.

General Statement – November 12, 2025

The Board reviewed the information.

Statement of Financial Information for June 30, 2025

Referred by the Finance and Planning Committee Meeting - November 19, 2025.

The Board reviewed the information. Trustee Fraser, as Chair of the Finance and Planning Committee, confirmed that the SOFI Report will be uploaded to the District's website.

Transportation of Senior Secondary Students on BC Transit

Trustee Desrosiers opened the discussion by pointing out that Board Policy (470 – Transportation Services Management (*Regulations*) – section 5) provides the rationale for the Board to consider the potential for a shift to public transit for certain secondary school routes. Trustee Desrosiers stated she wanted to reassure the public that the conversation is focused on understanding transportation costs and does not imply that all transportation services will be eliminated.

Trustee Fraser stated that she believes the Board is doing its due diligence by requesting this review, and shared that when comparing the District to others of a similar size, the District spends approximately \$4M/year from its operating budget to subsidize transportation services, and these costs continue to grow annually.

The CUPE President spoke to the broader role of bus drivers, noting that they provide the first and last point of connection for students each day, ensure safety, and often communicate issues to schools. Drivers help new students adjust and support field studies, creating a sense of community. She cautioned that reducing transportation could result in fewer drivers available during the day for field studies and emphasized that decisions should prioritize students as well as finances. The CUPE President requested that CUPE be included in any further discussions.

The COPAC President stated that she was surprised to see the item in the Public Board meeting agenda package rather than the matter being addressed by the Finance and Planning Committee. She noted that parents are already discussing the issue in the community and stressed that a broader conversation is needed, ideally through the Finance and Planning Committee.

Trustee Broughton noted the staff report stated that changes could improve the bus experience for elementary and middle school students by reducing wait times before and after school and agreed that no major further steps should be taken until BC Transit is also consulted.

The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO stated that it is difficult to determine potential savings to the District as the exact routes are unknown until a more detailed report is prepared.

Main 25P-101

MOVED by Trustee Broughton
SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

THAT: The Board of Education refer the ‘Transportation of Senior Secondary Students on BC Transit’ report back to the Finance and Planning Committee for further discussion.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

Main 25P-102

MOVED by Trustee Guderyan
SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education request that District staff complete an in-depth review of the transportation services, including any potential benefits or costs, with information coming to an upcoming Finance and Planning Committee meeting.

Amendment 25P-103

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers
SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

Add “for secondary school routes” after transportation services.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

Main 25P-102 as amended by Amendment 25P-103

THAT: The Board of Education request that District staff complete an in-depth review of the transportation services for secondary school routes, including any potential benefits or costs, with information coming to an upcoming Finance and Planning Committee meeting.

CARRIED

Draft Administrative Procedure - Responding to Unexpected Emergencies

The Superintendent of Schools advised that the District has drafted an Administrative Procedure in response to a Ministerial Order requiring school districts to have a policy or procedure for responding to unexpected health emergencies at schools, by ensuring that automated external defibrillators and naloxone kits are readily accessible in each school.

The COPAC President, as the parent of a child with anaphylaxis, expressed her disappointment with the Ministry of Education and Child Care that they did not include anaphylaxis in the Ministerial Order, requiring schools to also have epinephrine accessible. The COPAC President suggested that the Board may wish to advocate provincially through BCSTA on this matter.

Trustees discussed the feasibility of adding epinephrine to the Administrative Procedure and the costs involved for this prescribed medication.

The Superintendent of Schools advised that no funding is provided to the District to provide automated external defibrillators and naloxone kits in each school, and the ongoing costs will be coming out of the District's operating budget. It was confirmed that for any other medication needed for students, it is the parent's responsibility to provide it to the school, as these medications require a prescription issued by a doctor.

BOARD/DISTRICT COMMITTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Trustee Fraser attended the Health Promoting Schools Committee Meeting on November 20, 2025 and reported on the Committee's goals. She noted that the teacher coordinating the Health Promoting Schools program is working .3 FTE, while historically there have been up to two full-time coordinators. Trustee Fraser stated she will be advocating to make this a 1.0 FTE position at budget time and would like there to be a focus on mental health in this program as well.

Trustee Broughton attended the District Student Council meeting on December 1, 2025, where there was a presentation by Elder Randy on leadership. École Okanagan Mission Secondary will be hosting a TedX Youth event on May 19, 2025 and they are looking for potential speakers. There is a Mosaic Club at Rutland Senior Secondary representing multicultural diversity. A big part of the District Student Council meeting was a discussion on student surveys and the goals of having student forums. Survey results included numerous reports of the issue of school bathrooms feeling unsafe, and student voices not being heard.

Trustee Guderyan attended the COPAC meeting on December 1, 2025 where the Superintendent of Schools presented on the upcoming Strategic Plan sessions.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Received:

- 2025-11-21 Email from K. Wilson re: 15 West Kelowna youth dead since 2016 - we cannot wait any longer
- 2025-11-27 Email from K. Stoneman re: school entrance to GMS

Sent:

- 2025-11-13 Letter of condolence to Peachland Mayor and Council

Main 25P-104

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Tiede

THAT: At the December 10, 2025 Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.

CARRIED

ABSENT: Trustee Geistlinger

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

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

- Attendance at various meetings and events throughout the District, including the performance of a Christmas Carol at the Okanagan Mission/Main Stage Theatre, Winter Market at Constable Neil Bruce Middle School, the Equity in Action 2025-2030 Signing Ceremony at Constable Neil Bruce Middle School, and the BCSTA Trustee Academy in Vancouver, BC.
- Trustees will be delivering gift baskets to all the schools/sites in the District expressing their appreciation to staff for their contributions to the success of students in Central Okanagan Public Schools. The gift baskets were assembled by students in the WHEELS Transition to Employment Program.
- Thank you to all staff and students on the production of winter concerts, theatre productions and festive events that are currently taking place across our schools. These experiences create lasting memories for students and families and depend on countless hours of planning, rehearsal, and behind-the-scenes support from staff. Thank you for everything you are doing in this busy season to keep learning joyful, inclusive and connected to our communities.
- Schools will be closed for winter break from December 22, 2025 to January 2, 2026.

UPCOMING PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

Public Strategic Plan Engagement Sessions

COPAC (Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council) Session

Central Okanagan Public Schools Learning Centre
Room 355, 1040 Hollywood Road S.
Thursday, January 15, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

Rutland Senior Secondary School

Monday, January 26, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

École George Elliot Secondary School

Monday, January 26, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

Mount Boucherie Secondary School

Thursday, February 5, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

École Kelowna Secondary School

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

École Okanagan Mission Secondary School

Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 6:00-9:00 pm

George Pringle Secondary School/Westside Parent Information Evenings

Constable Neil Bruce Middle School

Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 6:00-8:00 pm

École Glenrosa Middle School

Thursday, May 7, 2026, 6:00-8:00 pm

BC PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION

BCPSEA AGM

Thursday, January 29, 2026

(Virtual)

BC SCHOOL TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION

BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch Meeting

February 20-21, 2026

Oliver, BC

BOARD MEETINGS WITH PARTNER AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Joint Board/MLA Meeting

Friday, January 16, 2026

Joint Board/COPAC Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

FUTURE MEETINGS

Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings

- Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 6:00 pm
- Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

Board Standing Committee Meetings

Policy Committee

- Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 4:00 pm

Finance and Planning Committee

- Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 4:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:51 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer/CFO