

Minutes



PUBLIC MEETING

The Board of Education of School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) 2790 Tims Street, Abbotsford, BC V2T 4M7

Date: December 10, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Wilson, Chair
Preet Rai, Vice Chair
Rupi Kanda-Rajwan
Stan Petersen
Mike Rauch
Jared White

TRUSTEE REGRETS: Korky Neufeld

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Sean Nosek, Superintendent
Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
Nathan Ngieng, Deputy Superintendent
Bruce Cunnings, Assistant Superintendent
Jay Pankratz, Assistant Superintendent
Michelle Gehring, Director of Instruction, Learning Support Services
Tracy Krys, Director of Instruction, Curriculum
Kristi Ferguson, Senior Manager, Communications and Community Relations
Mona Liu, Communications Coordinator
Beth Penney, Executive Assistant
Corissa St.George, Executive Assistant

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY**

2.1 Acknowledgement of Local Indigenous Community

We acknowledge that the Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Semá:th First Nation and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.

3.0 **SINGING OF 'O CANADA'**

The Board began the meeting with the singing of O Canada.

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4.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4.1 Adoption of the Agenda

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Kanda-Rajwan

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Agenda as Presented.

CARRIED

5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Annual Organizational Meeting held November 5, 2024

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Rauch

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Annual Organizational Board Meeting held November 5, 2024.

5.2 Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held November 5, 2024

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Rauch

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held November 5, 2024.

CARRIED

6.0 CONSENT ITEMS

6.1 Approval of Consent Items

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Rai

THAT the Board of Education receive and approve the Consent Items as presented.

CARRIED

A) Information

6.2 2025 Trustee School Liaison Program

6.3 2025 Trustee Representation on Committees

6.4 Correspondence from the Minister of Education and Child Care re IT Security

B) For Approval

6.5 Minutes of the Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting held April 9, 2024

6.6 Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held April 23, 2024

6.7 General Record of the Closed Board Meeting held November 5, 2024

6.8 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held November 26, 2024

6.9 2023-2024 Statement of Financial Information Report

7.0 DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 School Presentations: Mathxwí & Terry Fox Elementary Schools

Acting Principal Nicolas Cochrane, teacher Mireille Strafford and students shared how Mathxwí Elementary is embracing their commitment to Truth and Reconciliation by learning a new word a week in Halq'eméylem and practicing that word all week long. Principal Kari Petzold shared information about the Roots of Empathy program currently running in one of their Kindergarten classes at Terry Fox Elementary. This program, which involves the entire school, is helping students develop their self-regulation skills.

7.2 2025 Community Matters Award

Superintendent Nosek announced that nominations for the 2025 Community Matters Award are open. The award will be presented in June as a way to formally recognize a community partner who has exceeded their community service mandate and has made a significant, deliberate contribution to Abbotsford School District Students.

8.0 REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT/RESULTS

8.1 Curriculum Department: Strategic Plan Progress Report

Tracy Kryz, Director of Instruction, Curriculum provided an update to the Board on the progress made in the strategic plan's focus areas: Student Success and Engaging Opportunities. She reviewed the strategic objectives linked to the Curriculum Department's operational plan, highlighted key successes, discussed emerging needs, and presented future plans. These upcoming initiatives include continued support for early career teachers, the expansion of residency models, and efforts to strengthen community connections.

8.2 Learning Support Services Department: Strategic Plan Progress Report

Michelle Gehring, Director of Instruction, Learning Support Services, provided an update to the Board on the progress of the District's Strategic Plan, specifically regarding the strategic goals for Excellence in Teaching. The update focused on inclusive classrooms and highlighted key achievements and projects from the 2023-24 school year that support the department's strategies. Additionally, it included an overview of ongoing work for the 2024-25 school year.

8.3 Board Authority Authorized Courses (BAAC)

Superintendent Nosek presented three Board Authority Authorized Courses for consideration.

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT the Board of Education approve BAA Braille 10, 11, and 12 as Board Authority Authorized Courses; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Education approve BAA Nutrition and Cooking 11 as a Board Authority Authorized Course.

CARRIED

8.4 Review of Board of Education Student Awards with Abbotsford Community Foundation

Superintendent Nosek presented the awards available to graduating students, affirming the board's commitment to continue offering them.

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8.5 Budget Guiding Principles

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the budget guiding principles used in previous years for review prior to beginning preparation of the 2025-26 Budget and Strategic Plan. The Board made no changes to these guiding principles for 2025-26.

8.6 Public Board Meeting Start Times

Chair Wilson presented the motion to approve the change in the start time for public board meetings.

It was MOVED by Trustee Rauch and SECONDED by Trustee Kanda-Rajwan

THAT the Board of Education change the start times of the Public Board Meetings in 2025 to begin at 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED

8.7 Public/Closed Agendas

Trustees asked questions and commented on the types of agenda items placed in public and closed board meetings.

9.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports at this meeting.

10.0 REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

There were no reports by representatives of external organizations at this meeting.

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to report at this meeting.

12.0 TRUSTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.1 Trustee Meetings & Events: November-December 2024

Trustees reported on events, community activities, and meetings they had attended and will be attending.

13.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions asked during the question period.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Board Chair

Certified Correct, Secretary-Treasurer