

Minutes



PUBLIC MEETING

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

Date: February 11, 2025
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Wilson, Chair
Preet Rai, Vice Chair
Rupi Kanda-Rajwan
Korky Neufeld (via teleconference)
Stan Petersen
Mike Rauch (via teleconference)
Jared White

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Sean Nosek, Superintendent
Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
Nathan Ngieng, Deputy Superintendent
Kristi Ferguson, Senior Manager, Communications and Community Relations
Beth Penney, Executive Assistant
Corissa St.George, Executive Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 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.

4.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4.1 Adoption of the Agenda

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

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Agenda as Presented.

CARRIED

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5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held January 21, 2025

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Rai

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held January 21, 2025.

CARRIED

6.0 CONSENT ITEMS

6.1 Approval of Consent Items

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

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

CARRIED

A) Information

There were no items for information presented at this meeting.

B) For Approval

6.2 Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held September 17, 2024

6.3 Minutes of the Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting held November 26, 2024

6.4 General Record of the Closed Board Meeting held January 21, 2025

6.5 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held February 4, 2025

7.0 DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 School Presentations: École Centennial Park Elementary and Abbotsford Traditional School

Principal Melanie Trudeau, teacher Gurleen Grewal, Education Assistant Jenna Merrill and students shared the benefits of *The Cove*, a sensory room designed to provide students with tools to regulate their emotions through purposeful breaks. Staff at the school created this supportive space so students can work with adults to develop strategies that help them succeed in the classroom.

Principal Jasbir Singh, Vice-Principals Ashley Mennear and Becky Toews, teacher Jeff Dunton, LLC teacher Brenda Mallory and students presented their efforts to enhance school-wide literacy and differentiation using *Morpheme Magic* lessons to improve literacy skills. The presentation included how these strategies are implemented, including book clubs, *Morpheme Magic* prompts, and the *Stop, Notice & Note* approach, to engage students and support their learning.

8.0 REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT/RESULTS

8.1 Secondary Schools: Strategic Plan Progress Report

Nathan Ngieng, Deputy Superintendent, provided an update highlighting the strategic work in secondary schools and the plans underway to support the success of our students. Secondary schools fulfil the commitment of prioritizing and preparing students and challenging them to a lifetime of success through engaging and innovative learning experiences through the creation of safe and nurturing spaces that empower intellectual, social and emotional growth. Collaborative practices in secondary schools are fostered to uplift and empower student voice and agency and support a positive school community with students, staff, and families.

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8.2 Personal Digital Device Restrictions in Schools – Update

Deputy Superintendent Nathan Ngieng provided an update highlighting the feedback from middle and secondary principals and vice-principals regarding the newly implemented restrictions for the use of personal digital devices in schools.

8.3 Superintendent’s Mid-Year Report

The superintendent provided a comprehensive mid-year report synthesizing the key activities under the four pillars of the board’s strategic plan.

8.4 BCSTA Roles and Responsibilities for Boards of Education Infographic

The [Roles and Responsibilities for Boards of Education infographic](#) was created to establish clear expectations for boards of education to support continuous improvement through strategic planning and define the role of boards of education within the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning. The secretary-treasurer noted and pointed out that the district’s specific processes around our strategic plan overlap with these roles and responsibilities presented in partnership with BCSTA, FNEESC, BCSSA, and BCASBO.

8.5 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2024/2025

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the amended annual budget bylaw for 2024/2025 and provided details of the most significant changes incorporated into the 2024/2025 Amended Budget noting that increasing substitute salaries is becoming a significant budget pressure and is anticipated to increase.

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

THAT the Board of Education approve having all three readings of the 2024/2025 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in this one meeting.

CARRIED

8.6 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2024/2025 (First Reading)

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2024/2025 be given first reading.

CARRIED

8.7 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2024/2025 (Second Reading)

It was MOVED by Trustee Neufeld and SECONDED by Trustee Rauch

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2024/2025 be given second reading.

CARRIED

8.8 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw 2024/2025 (Third Reading)

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

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2024/2025, specifying an expenditure of \$294,601,061 be given third reading, reconsidered, and finally passed and adopted on this 11th day of February 2025.

CARRIED

8.9 Property Disposition Bylaw 88: Facilities - Statutory Right of Way (BC Hydro and Power Authority/Telus Communications)

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented property disposition bylaw No. 88 which will be for the purposes of installation, operation and maintenance of electrical and telecommunication works on the portion of land located within 6 metres of either side of the centre of the alignment of the works as defined in the Standard Charge Terms, at the Facilities & Transportation department.

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education approve having all three readings of Property Disposition Bylaw No. 88 in this one meeting.

CARRIED

8.10 Property Disposition Bylaw 88: Facilities - Statutory Right of Way (BC Hydro and Power Authority/Telus Communications) – First Reading

It was MOVED by Trustee Neufeld and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Property Disposition Bylaw No. 88 be given first reading.

CARRIED

8.11 Property Disposition Bylaw 88: Facilities - Statutory Right of Way (BC Hydro and Power Authority/Telus Communications) – Second Reading

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

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Property Disposition Bylaw No. 88 be given second reading.

CARRIED

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8.12 Property Disposition Bylaw 88: Facilities - Statutory Right of Way (BC Hydro and Power Authority/Telus Communications) – Third Reading

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Property Disposition Bylaw No. 88 be given third reading, reconsidered, and finally passed and adopted on this 11th day of February 2025.

CARRIED

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: January 2025 & February 2025

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

13.0 QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were asked during the question period.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Board Chair

Certified Correct, Secretary-Treasurer