

Minutes



PUBLIC MEETING

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

Date: June 18, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

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

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Sean Nosek, Superintendent
Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
Nathan Ngieng, Deputy Superintendent
Jay Pankratz, Assistant Superintendent
Donna Wright, Acting Director of Instruction (part)
Mike Sillery, Tech Support, IT
Tracy Orobko, Executive Assistant
Corissa St.George, Executive Assistant

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Rai 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.

4.0 **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

4.1 Adoption of the Agenda

It was MOVED by Trustee Neufeld and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Agenda as Presented.

CARRIED (Abstained: Trustee Wilson)

5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held May 14, 2024

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

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held May 14, 2024.

CARRIED (Abstained: Trustee Wilson)

6.0 CONSENT ITEMS

6.1 Approval of Consent Items

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

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

CARRIED (Abstained: Trustee Wilson)

A) Information

6.2 BCSTA - Capital Working Group Report

6.3 Correspondence: BC Anti-Human Trafficking

6.4 Ministry of Education and Child Care News Release - Access zones in place to protect kids at school

6.5 PSO Climate Change Accountability Report 2023

B) For Approval

6.6 General Record of the Closed Board Meeting held May 14, 2024

6.7 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held May 21, 2024

7.0 DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 School Presentations – Jackson and Sandy Hill Elementary Schools

Jackson students, teacher Nadia Lee, Sandy Hill students, Principal Cathy Erickson, Vice-Principal Sharon Phillips, teacher Jill Roberts, Jackie Lepp, and Kona from St. John's Ambulance attended and shared innovative work and events happening in their schools. Jackson students shared presentations where they interviewed a relative about their Immigration Story - - the journey of how they chose to make Canada their home. Staff and students from Sandy Hill shared their experience with the Paws 4 Stories initiative, where Kona, the therapy dog, visits the class weekly for reading time, which promotes improvement in children's reading skills.

7.2 Yale Secondary School Senior Boys Rugby Team – Tier 2 Provincial Championship

Principal Rob Sloboda, Coach Greg Byron and key grade 12 senior players from the Yale Secondary Senior Boys Rugby Team shared key highlights from the season, including claiming the Tier 2 Provincial Championship.

Chair Wilson joined the meeting at 7:35 p.m. and resumed the position of Chair.

7.3 2024 Community Matters Award Presentation: Starfish Packs

The 2024 Community Matters Award was presented to Starfish Packs. For over a decade, the Starfish Pack program has grown to support 741 students at 42 different schools in Abbotsford. Meghan Kellington, Starfish Pack Coordinator, Rod Santiago, Central Executive Officer, Neil Stark, Director of Advocacy & Social Equity and Rebecca Thuro, Manager, Food Security were in attendance to accept the award.

8.0 REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT/RESULTS

8.1 Multi-Year Strategic Plan and Budget for 2024-2025

Superintendent Nosek and Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the multi-year strategic plan and budget for 2024-2025. Information presented included the process around refreshing the multi-year strategic plan, new initiatives, the consolidated budget, assumptions, budget drivers, the operating budget, the preliminary budget, and risks. The Annual Budget Bylaw for 2024-2025 was then presented for approval.

8.2 Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025

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

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

CARRIED

8.3 Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (First Reading)

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT the School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Annual Budget Bylaw for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 be given first reading.

CARRIED

8.4 Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (Second Reading)

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Rauch

THAT the School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Annual Budget Bylaw for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 be given second reading.

CARRIED

8.5 Annual Budget Bylaw for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (Third Reading)

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

THAT the School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Annual Budget Bylaw for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, specifying a total budget amount of \$288,489,694 be given third reading, reconsidered, and finally passed and adopted on this 18th day of June, 2024.

CARRIED

8.6 2025-2030 Enhancement Agreement Signing Update

Superintendent Nosek shared that the 2025-2030 Enhancement Agreement has been signed, representing the district's commitment to Indigenous students and families. Appreciation was given to the Indigenous Education Department, Dr. Gwen Point, Semáth First Nation, Mathxwí First Nation, and the Fraser Valley Métis Association for reviewing and renewing the collaborative agreement.

8.7 Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02

In accordance with Section 143 of the School Act, Boards of Education are required to adopt a single Capital Bylaw for its approved 2024/25 Five-Year Capital Plan.

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education approve having all three readings of the Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02 in this one meeting.

CARRIED

8.8 Capital Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02 (First Reading)

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Rauch

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02 be given first reading.

CARRIED

8.9 Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02 (Second Reading)

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02 be given second reading.

CARRIED

8.10 Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02 (Third Reading)

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

THAT School District No. 34 (Abbotsford) Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2024/25-CPSD34-02, be given third reading, reconsidered, and finally passed and adopted on this 18th day of June, 2024.

CARRIED

8.11 Five-Year Capital Plan Submission 2025-2026 (Major Capital Projects)

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the proposed Major Capital Projects for 2025-2026.

It was MOVED by Trustee White and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education approve the proposed Major Capital Projects for 2025-2026 as provided on the Five-Year Capital Summary for 2025-2026 submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

CARRIED

8.12 Five-Year Capital Plan Submission 2025-2026 (Minor Capital Projects)

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the proposed Minor Capital Projects for 2025-2026.

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Neufeld

THAT the Board of Education approve the proposed Minor Capital Projects for 2024-2025 as provided on the Five-Year Capital Plan Summary for 2025-2026 submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

CARRIED

8.13 Five-Year Capital Plan Submission 2025-2026 (Major - Child Care)

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the proposed Child Care Major Capital Projects for 2025-2026.

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

THAT the Board of Education approve the proposed Child Care Major Capital Projects for 2025-2026 as provided on the Five-Year Capital Plan Summary for 2025-2026 submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

CARRIED

8.14 Long Range Facilities Plan

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the Long Range Facilities Plan which serves as a comprehensive framework for decision-making regarding the district's capital investments. It covers aspects like new schools, additions, consolidations, program locations, maintenance priorities, and upgrades. The plan considers enrolment projections, educational needs, facility conditions, and long-term planning. Its horizon spans ten years (2023-2033) and aligns with specific vision and planning principles set by the Board.

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT the Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Long Range Facilities Plan as presented.

CARRIED

8.15 Revised Board Policy 1 - Foundations Statements

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the updated policy, which has been updated to align with the changes made to the Board's foundational statements to include the new goals in the multi-year strategic plan.

It was MOVED by Trustee Neufeld and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education approve revised Board Policy 1 - Foundation Statements as presented.

CARRIED

8.16 Revised Board Policy 3 - Role of the Trustee

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the updated policy, which has been updated to reflect a minor revision to the Trustee Code of Ethics.

It was MOVED by Trustee White and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education approve revised Board Policy 3 - Role of the Trustee as presented.

CARRIED

8.17 Revised Board Policy 7 - Board Governance and Operations

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the updated policy, which has been updated to reflect amendments to question period in the agenda and the process of the board's self-evaluation.

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

THAT the Board of Education approve revised Board Policy 7 - Board Governance and Operations, as presented.

CARRIED (Opposed: Trustee White)

8.18 Revised Board Policy 13 - Recruitment and Selection of Personnel

Superintendent Nosek presented the updated policy, which has been updated to reflect the distinction between governance and operations for the recruitment and selection of personnel.

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

THAT the Board of Education approve revised Board Policy 13 - Recruitment and Selection of Personnel, as presented.

CARRIED

8.19 Revised Board Policy 15 - Student Code of Conduct

Superintendent Nosek presented the updated policy, which aligns with the provincial standards for codes of conduct amendment for Boards of Education to include one or more statements restricting the student use of personal digital devices in schools.

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT the Board of Education approve revised Board Policy 15 - Student Code of Conduct, as presented.

CARRIED

8.20 Summary of changes to Administrative Procedures (APs)

Superintendent Nosek presented new or significant changes made to APs this year. Trustee White provided comments about AP 339. Trustee Rauch provided comments around AP 303 and sought to propose a motion to amend AP 303 to include an option for parents of grade nine students to request and receive a letter grade assessment in addition to the provincially mandated proficiency scale assessment. Discussion ensued around the suggested motion as letter grade assessments are provincially mandated, and our teachers are obligated to follow the reporting order of the Ministry of Education and Child Care. The motion was not proposed. Trustee Rauch brought up similar concerns that Trustee White brought up regarding AP 339 and made a motion. Refer to agenda item 8.23 below.

8.21 Big Brother and Big Sisters Sponsorships

Superintendent Nosek presented a request from Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fraser Valley to sponsor group programs.

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Rai

THAT the Board of Education approve the request from Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fraser Valley to sponsor group programs in the amount of \$5,000.

CARRIED

8.22 Proposed Public Board Meeting Schedule for 2024-2025

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Rauch

THAT the Board of Education approve the proposed Public Board Meeting Schedule for 2024-2025 as presented.

CARRIED

8.23 AP 339

It was MOVED by Trustee Rauch and SECONDED by Trustee White

THAT the Board of Education request staff in accordance with AP 339 S. 1.2 to require parental consent be given if we are to use a elementary / middle school student's name and pronoun that does not conform with their biological sex.

MOTION FAILED (*In Favour:* Trustees Neufeld, Rauch, White / *Opposed:* Trustees Kanda-Rajwan, Petersen, Rai, Wilson)

Minutes: Public Meeting

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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 on 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: May & June 2024

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

13.0 QUESTION PERIOD

Questions were asked and responded to regarding whether the 20-metre no-protest zone will be enforced when protests arise in the district, the Indigenous Acknowledgement, Board Policy 15, and the use of social media, as well as Board Policy 13.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Board Chair

Certified Correct, Secretary-Treasurer