

Minutes



PUBLIC MEETING

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

Date: May 14, 2024
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Wilson, Chair
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
Bruce Cunnings, Assistant Superintendent
Pat Taylor, Manager, IT Infrastructure
Tracy Orobko, Executive Assistant
Corissa St.George, Executive Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:05 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 White

THAT the Board of Education adopt the Agenda as Presented.

CARRIED

5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held April 16, 2024

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

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held April 16, 2024.

CARRIED

6.0 CONSENT ITEMS

6.1 Approval of Consent Items

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Neufeld

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

CARRIED

A) Information

There were no items presented for information at this meeting.

B) For Approval

6.2 Minutes of the Ad Hoc Policy Committee Meeting held October 31, 2023

6.3 Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held February 20, 2024

6.4 General Record of the Closed Board Meeting held April 16, 2024

7.0 DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 School Presentations – Barrowtown Elementary and Eugene Reimer Middle

Barrowtown students and Principal Michelle Basran and Eugene Reimer students, Principal Dean Johnston, Vice-Principals Michelle Myers and Rovi Sandhu, and teachers Shannon Benmore and Tawnie Hildebrandt attended and shared innovative work and events happening in their schools.

Barrowtown students shared about the school farm they started growing after the flood in 2021 and how students learn through hands-on experiences in growing plants and food and taking care of their farm animals.

Staff and students from Eugene Reimer shared their methods for mathematical exploration using both the core competencies and curricular competencies and had trustees participate in a thinking classroom task.

7.2 Community Partner Presentation: Abbotsford Hospice

Susanne Fehr, Director, Palliative and Training from Abbotsford Hospice & Grief Support Society provided information on how their organization supports students in the Abbotsford School District by offering grief support groups, including a middle school support group and a teen grief peer support training program.

8.0 REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT/RESULTS

Agenda item 8.3 was moved prior to agenda item 8.1.

8.3 Safe and Caring Schools

District Principal, Safe Schools David de Wit, provided an overview of the Safe and Caring Schools team and how they support the district in four primary domains: mental health, social-emotional learning, equity, and crisis response.

8.1 Strategic Plan Consultation & Preliminary Budget for 2024-2025

Superintendent Nosek and Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk provided the results from the 2024-25 Budget Consultation, including responses to the budget consultation questions. The Secretary-Treasurer guided trustees through a process of prioritizing strategic pillars, student success objectives, optimized resources objectives, engaging opportunities objectives, progressive workforce objectives. The board discussed the highest ranking objectives and provided feedback about the ranking order. An overview of budget assumptions, pressures, estimates, allocations and risks were also presented.

8.2 Uncertified Employees Teaching on Call (UETOCs) Update

Superintendent Nosek provided an update on the number of Uncertified Employees Teaching on Call and how many times they have been deployed since February.

8.3 Agenda item 8.3 was moved prior to agenda item 8.1

8.4 Summer School Update for 2024

Superintendent Nosek provided an update on the planning around Summer Explorers and Secondary Summer Programs.

8.5 Board Authority Authorized Courses (BAAC)

Superintendent Nosek presented six Board Authority Authorized Courses for consideration.

It was MOVED by Trustee Neufeld and SECONDED by Trustee Rai

THAT the Board of Education approve each of the following as a Board Authority Authorized Course:

- BAA Applications for Learning 10-12
- BAA Foundations of English Literacy: Oral Language 10-12
- BAA Foundations of English Literacy: Reading and Writing 10-12
- BAA Basketball Foundations 10-12
- BAA Rugby Foundations 10-12
- BAA Volleyball 10-12

CARRIED

8.6 Personal Digital Device Restrictions

The Ministry of Education and Child Care has amended the Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order (the “Order”) to promote provincial consistency and to support boards of education in ensuring their schools have appropriate policies in place to restrict student personal digital device use. The amended Order will come into effect on July 1, 2024.

Deputy Superintendent Ngieng presented the engagement process for obtaining feedback about personal digital device restrictions, including work on aligning language around electronic devices that can be used to communicate or access the Internet under the term “personal digital devices” and identifying the responsibilities of students, staff, and administrators with respect to their use in school environments.

8.7 Board Policy 15 - Student Code of Conduct - Notice of Motion

Superintendent Nosek presented the updated proposed policy, which has been updated to align with the *Provincial Standards Codes of Conduct Order*, which was amended to require all boards of education to include one or more statements restricting student use of personal digital devices at school to promote focused learning environments and safety. The proposed revised policy will be brought back to the Board at the June 18, 2024 Public Board Meeting for approval.

8.8 Board Policy 13 - Recruitment and Selection of Personnel - Notice of Motion

Superintendent Nosek presented the updated proposed policy, which has been updated as discussed at the April 30, 2024 Ad Hoc Policy Committee meeting. The proposed revised policy will be brought back to the Board at the June 18, 2024 Public Board Meeting for approval.

8.9 Board Self Evaluation

Chair Wilson announced that Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk will bring potential questions to the board for review in preparation for an upcoming board self-evaluation. The frequency of board self-evaluations will also be reviewed.

8.10 Archway Community Services - 2024 Golf Tournament Sponsorship

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the sponsorship request for consideration.

It was MOVED by Trustee Neufeld and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education approve the amount of \$500 representing hole sponsorship in support of the 2024 Archway Community Services Charity Golf Tournament.

CARRIED

8.11 Abbotsford Sports Hall of Fame Sponsorship

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the sponsorship request for consideration.

It was MOVED by Trustee Neufeld and SECONDED by Trustee Rai

THAT the Board of Education approve the request for an annual sponsorship in the amount of \$2,000 per year for three years, to the Abbotsford Sports Hall of Fame, targeting the achievements of young athletes.

CARRIED (Abstained: Trustee Petersen)

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8.12 Board Policy 2 - Role of the Board of Education

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk presented the revised policy for approval.

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

THAT the Board of Education approve revised Board Policy 2 - Role of the Board of Education, as presented.

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 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: April & May 2024

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

13.0 QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions asked during the second question period.

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Board Chair

Certified Correct, Secretary-Treasurer