

Minutes



PUBLIC MEETING

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

Date: March 11, 2025
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Shirley Wilson, Chair
Preet Rai, Vice-Chair
Rupi Kanda-Rajwan (via Microsoft Teams)
Stan Petersen
Mike Rauch

TRUSTEE REGRETS: Korky Neufeld
Jared White

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Sean Nosek, Superintendent
Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
Nathan Ngieng, Deputy Superintendent
Bruce Cunnings, Assistant 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. Chair Wilson advised that Trustee Neufeld is on an unpaid leave from February 25 - April 23, 2025.

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**

Trustee Rauch requested that a notice of motion be added to the agenda.

4.1 Adoption of the Agenda

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Rai

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 February 11, 2025

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

THAT the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held February 11, 2025.

CARRIED

6.0 CONSENT ITEMS

6.1 Approval of Consent Items

It was MOVED by Trustee Rai and SECONDED by Trustee Petersen

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

CARRIED

A) Information

- 6.2 Updated Trustee School Liaison Program
- 6.3 2025 Updated Trustee Representation on Committees

B) For Approval

- 6.4 Minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held January 14, 2025
- 6.5 General Record of the Closed Board Meeting held February 11, 2025
- 6.6 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held February 14, 2025
- 6.7 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held February 18, 2025
- 6.8 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held February 18, 2025
- 6.9 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held February 28, 2025
- 6.10 General Record of the Special Extraordinary Closed Board Meeting held March 3, 2025

7.0 DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 Provincial Champions: W.J. Mouat Senior Boys Wrestling Team

The Senior Boys Wrestling team competed at Provincials on February 21-22, 2025 and earned another Provincial banner by collecting the most points by any team in the event. Principal Rob Sloboda, Coaches and some of the team attended to review the season and cinching the title.

7.2 School Presentations: École Clearbrook Elementary and Bakerview Centre for Learning

Principal Erica Hopkins, teacher Amardeep Bhullar, and students shared an update on the implementation of the optional Grade 5 Punjabi Language class offered for the first time this year. The students demonstrated some of the vocabulary they have been practicing.

Principal Jacqui Hall provided an overview of the programs offered at Bakerview Centre for Learning and information on this year's Student Voice Survey, highlighting key insights from students. Students shared their experiences with the school's Grade 9 Pod, discussing its impact on transitions from both middle and secondary school and their journeys to Bakerview and how the school's career programs have supported their future goals.

8.0 REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENT/RESULTS

8.1 Heroes in Education

Abbotsford News annually publishes a special edition honouring Abbotsford's Heroes in Education. Four honourees from our district were featured and will be highlighted on social media channels over the next month:

- Danielle Petrie, ELL & Library Learning Commons Teacher from École Centennial Park Elementary
- Satvinder Gill, Custodian From Chief Dan George Middle
- Terry Ninkovic, EA From Clayburn Middle
- Teresa Chan, Social Studies Teacher From Yale Secondary

8.2 Correspondence from the Ombudsperson

Superintendent Nosek advised trustees that the district is working on getting information to the BC Ombudsperson regarding a recent Notice of Investigation – exclusion of students from schools, particularly those with diverse needs, from classrooms and schools in BC's K-12 public education system.

8.3 2025-2026 Preliminary Budget

Secretary-Treasurer Velestuk provided an update on the preliminary budget estimates for 2025-26. The presentation included information about the *Ministry of Education and ChildCare K-12 2025-26 Budget Highlights* and an overview of the district's budget guiding principles, the amended operating budget for 2024-25, budget assumptions, pressures, financial comparisons to other districts and the provincial summary, estimates, allocations and risks. Superintendent Nosek reviewed the framework the Board of Education has with their strategic plan and their priorities and objectives that were identified and set out in the 2024-25 updated strategic plan, which will continue to guide the district for 2025-26.

8.4 Skills Canada Provincial Competition Partners' Luncheon Sponsorship

It was MOVED by Trustee Petersen and SECONDED by Trustee Rauch

THAT the Board of Education approve the request from Skills Canada BC to co-sponsor the 2025 Skills Canada BC Competition Partners' Luncheon to a maximum amount of \$2,500.

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

11.1 Notice of Motion

Trustee Rauch presented a Notice of Motion to Amend Policy 6 – Trustee Code of Ethics, Appendix 1. This item will be added to the April 15, 2025 Public Board Meeting.

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12.0 TRUSTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.1 Trustee Meetings & Events: February 2025 & March 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 7:41 p.m.

Board Chair

Certified Correct, Secretary-Treasurer