

Date: Wednesday, June 18, 2025
Time: 6:00pm

"Learn continually. There's always "one more thing" to learn." — Steve Jobs

A G E N D A

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

ITEM 1

1. Territory Acknowledgement
2. Call to Order
3. Correspondence
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda – *Members of the public can provide input on decision items on the public meeting Agenda by emailing board@sd42.ca by no later than 5:30pm on June 18, 2025. The email subject line should read: INPUT regarding Decision Item. All public input received will be shared with trustees electronically. This agenda item has a time limit of 10 minutes.*
6. Approval of Minutes

B. DELEGATIONS – *The Board will receive delegations on any subject pertinent to Board business provided the item has been placed on the agenda by the Agenda Preparation Committee. Time limits for individual delegations will be established to allow all registered delegations to present within the time limit for this item. The Board will ordinarily receive for information the item presented and may take action after due deliberation. This agenda item has a time limit of 20 minutes including questions; extension is at the discretion of the Board.*

C. PRESENTATIONS – *Individuals and groups invited by the Board to make presentations on any subject pertinent to Board business. Time limits for individual presentations will be established to allow all speakers to present within the time limit for this item. This agenda item has a time limit of 20 minutes including questions; extension is at the discretion of the Board.*

1. Malcom Knapp Research Forest and ci:tməxw Environmental Community ITEM 2

D. DEFERRED ITEMS

E. DECISION ITEMS

1. Chairperson
 - a) Provincial Budget 2026 Consultation Opportunity ITEM 3
2. Superintendent of Schools
 - a) Strategic Plan Update ITEM 4
 - b) Student Governance Review ITEM 5
3. Secretary Treasurer
 - a) Five-Year Capital Plan for 2026/27 - Major Capital Projects ITEM 6
4. Board Committees
 - a) Finance
 - b) Facilities Planning

- c) Board Policy Development
 - i. Policies for Approval ITEM 7
- d) Education Advisory
- e) Indigenous Education Community Gathering
- f) Accessibility Advisory

5. Indigenous Education Council

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 1. Chairperson
- 2. Superintendent of Schools
 - a) Board Engagement with Secondary Students ITEM 8
 - b) District Financial Allocation to DPAC ITEM 9
 - c) Superintendent's Update ITEM 10
- 3. Secretary Treasurer
 - a) Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 ITEM 11
- 4. Board Committee Reports
 - a) Finance
 - b) Facilities Planning
 - c) Board Policy Development
 - d) Education Advisory
 - e) Indigenous Education Community Gathering
 - f) Accessibility Advisory
 - i. Receiving Minutes ITEM 12
- 5. Indigenous Education Council

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

H. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- 1. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation ITEM 13
- 2. City of Maple Ridge Engaged, Healthy Community Advisory Committee ITEM 14
- 3. Municipal Advisory Committee on Accessibility & Inclusiveness ITEM 15
- 4. District Parent Advisory Council ITEM 16

I. QUESTION PERIOD ITEM 17

Question period will be restricted to questions only – statements and debate will not be permitted. Questions, with the exception of Trustee questions, will be limited to one question per person. Members of the public can submit questions for the board by emailing them to board@sd42.ca by no later than 5:30 pm on June 18, 2025. The email subject line should read: QUESTION PERIOD. All questions received before the start of the question period will be answered in the order they are received. This agenda item has a time limit of 10 minutes; extension is at the discretion of the board.

J. OTHER BUSINESS

- 1. Public Disclosure of Closed Meeting Business ITEM 18

K. ADJOURNMENT

From: Elaine Yamamoto, Board Chairperson

Topic: Opening Procedures

1. TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is taking place on the shared traditional and unceded territories of Katzie First Nation and Kwantlen First Nation. We welcome and recognize all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students and families in our schools and community. We welcome and recognize the many different cultures that are represented in our schools and community.

2. CALL TO ORDER

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- 2025-05-05 Letter to Board of Directors from VSO re: Proposed Cuts to Music Programs in Surrey and Burnaby (**Attachment A**)
- 2025-05-15 Letter from Minister Beare to Board Chair re: Cybersecurity (**Attachment B**)
- 2025-05-21 Letter from Board Chair to Ministers, MLA's, Premier re: Urgent Need for Site Acquisition in Silver Valley (**Attachment C**)
- 2025-05-29 Letter from Board Chair to Minister Beare re: Need for a More Reliable & Equitable Funding Model (**Attachment D**)
- 2025-06-11 Letter from City of Maple Ridge to Minister Beare re School Site Advocacy (**Attachment E**)

Recommendation:

THAT the Board receive the correspondence, for information.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation:

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

5. INVITATION FOR PUBLIC INPUT TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Members of the public can provide input on decision items on the public meeting Agenda by emailing board@sd42.ca by no later than 5:30 p.m. on June 18, 2025. The email subject line should read: INPUT regarding Decision Item. All public input received will be shared with trustees electronically. This agenda item has a time limit of 10 minutes.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation:

THAT the Minutes of the May 14, 2025 Public Board meeting be approved as presented.
(**Attachment F**)



Vancouver Symphony Orchestra
VSO School of Music
843 Seymour Street
Vancouver, BC, V6B 3L4

May 05, 2025

Directors of Maple Ridge Board of Education
Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows School District
22225 Brown Avenue
Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 8N6

RE: Proposed cuts to music programs in Surrey and Burnaby, Spring 2025

The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and the VSO School of Music witness the profound benefits of music education every day. As organizations dedicated to music and education, and comprised of world-class musicians and educators, we are deeply invested in the value that music brings—not only to individuals, but to our broader community.

This value is not simply theoretical. We regularly hear from families in our programs and from schools across the region who describe how access to music has transformed their children's lives—keeping them engaged, focused, and connected. In multiple cases, parents have told us that music programs helped keep their children away from harmful paths such as gangs and drug use. These personal stories are echoed by research, including studies from the Public Safety Canada¹ and U.S. National Library of Medicine², which highlight music's positive role in community safety and youth engagement.

The benefits of music education extend into the realms of physical and mental health. Research from institutions such as McGill University³ and Harvard Medical School⁴ has demonstrated that music can reduce pain and anxiety, lower reliance on medication, and support mental and emotional well-being.

¹ <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/crm-prvntn/nvntn/dtls-en.aspx?i=10113>

² <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8940513/>

³ Valevicius, D., Lopez, A., et al. Emotional responses to favorite and relaxing music predict music-induced hypoalgesia. *Frontiers Pain Research*. 25 Oct 2023.

<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpain.2023.1210572>

⁴ Rebecchini, L. *Brain Behav Immun Health*. 2021 Dec; 18: 100374.

On an academic level, the impact is equally significant. Organizations like the Coalition for Music Education and the Canadian Network for Arts and Learning have extensively documented how music education enhances cognitive development, language acquisition, math proficiency, and critical thinking. Beyond academic gains, music fosters essential life skills: discipline, collaboration, empathy, and emotional expression.

Music education is not solely about cultivating musicians—though that is certainly a valuable outcome—it is about nurturing well-rounded, creative, and resilient individuals.

As a Canadian non-profit arts organization, we understand and respect the fiscal responsibilities that public institutions face. We recognize that school boards are often placed in the difficult position of balancing budgets while striving to serve all students equitably. However, given the extensive body of evidence supporting the lasting, positive outcomes of music education—for both individuals and communities—we respectfully urge a reconsideration of proposed cuts to elementary music programming.

Music heals. Music brings people together. Music helps build bright minds and strong communities. Ensuring access to music education is integral to the social, emotional, and cognitive development of the next generation of British Columbians.

We would welcome the opportunity to be part of a broader conversation about how music and education can continue to thrive together—even in challenging times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Elster', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Angela Elster
President & CEO, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra & VSO School of Music



May 15, 2025

Ref: 310438

Elaine Yamamoto, Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)
Email: elaine_yamamoto@sd42.ca

Dear Elaine Yamamoto:

Thank you for your letter of February 17, 2025, regarding cybersecurity challenges and financial impacts on school districts. I share your concerns about the serious nature of cyber threats to school districts and the need for enhanced cybersecurity safeguards for students, staff, and families. I apologize for the delay in my response.

To support boards of education in their development and implementation of adequate cybersecurity policies, the Ministry of Education and Child Care provides school districts with resources and training to maintain appropriate security safeguards and ensure a safe digital learning environment. Cybersecurity services are co-governed in partnership with school districts to ensure that security services meet each district's unique needs, and that appropriate policies and standards are in place.

The Ministry has made significant investments in cybersecurity to help districts improve their security postures and implement appropriate measures. The Ministry collaborates with school districts, cybersecurity professionals, [CyberBC](#), and [Focused Education Resources](#) to ensure that district and school staff are equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge to protect data and critical network infrastructure.

The Ministry funds and manages the provision, support, and maintenance of firewalls and licensing for 60 school districts, and provides guidance and support to school districts in the event of a cyberattack. It also offers oversight for a team of cybersecurity professionals to provide services to the sector.

Through grants from the Ministry, Focused Education Resources offers a range of cybersecurity services to school districts. These services include cybersecurity assessments and audit services, access to cybersecurity specialists, an incident response retainer, security awareness training, ransomware prevention backup solutions, security workshops to adopt best practices, security policy templates, data protection and information management, and a Multi-Factor Authentication toolkit.

.../2

The Ministry of Citizen Services offers a program called [CyberBC](#) that provides various resources to help prevent, detect, and respond to cyberattacks. These resources include templates and tools, security frameworks such as Defensible Security, policy and standard templates, and corporate supply agreements available to school districts.

Cybersecurity is an ever-changing landscape that requires collaboration between school districts, the Ministry, the private sector, and non-profit organizations to address the threats to the digital infrastructure and keep student, staff, and district information safe.

Thank you once again for sharing your concerns. The Ministry remains committed to working with districts and partners to ensure the highest standards of cybersecurity for our school districts. Should you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Wray, Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Information Officer, by email at Jennifer.Wray@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,



Lisa Beare
Minister

cc: Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education and Child Care
Jennifer Wray, Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Information Officer, Services and Technology Division, Ministry of Education and Child Care
Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools and Chief Executive Officer, School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)
Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer, School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)



May 21, 2025

Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care
 Honourable Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure
 Honourable David Eby, Premier of British Columbia
 MLA Lisa Beare, MLA for Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows
 MLA Lawrence Mok, MLA for Maple Ridge–Mission

Subject: Urgent Need for Site Acquisition and New School Construction in Silver Valley, Maple Ridge

Dear Premier Eby, Minister and MLA Lisa Beare, Minister Ma, and MLA Mok,

On behalf of the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows), I am writing to express our deep concern and continued urgency regarding the need for site acquisition and new school construction in the rapidly growing Silver Valley area of Maple Ridge.

Silver Valley has been identified as a high-priority growth area in our district for over a decade. Despite being included in every annual capital plan submission since 2012, no site acquisition approvals have been received to date. As noted in our Strategic Facilities Plan and confirmed by the City of Maple Ridge, the area is undergoing significant residential development and will continue to grow for the foreseeable future.

Currently, 805 elementary-aged students reside in Silver Valley. Of these, 649 (81%) attend Yennadon Elementary, which is operating far beyond its designed capacity. Temporary accommodations—including the use of a detached Annex building (located a considerable distance from the main school building) which contains five classrooms, and three portable classrooms—have allowed us to manage enrolment pressures, but there is no space available for additional expansion. All other elementary schools in the district's Central East Capital Zone are also over capacity.

The need for a new school is not only pressing—it has been publicly acknowledged. On October 7, 2024, Premier Eby announced a campaign commitment to deliver a new school for the Maple Ridge community. This commitment was publicly supported by Minister Beare and referenced in media and social media. However, we were deeply disappointed that the Ministry of Infrastructure's March 25, 2025 Capital Response letter did not include approval for either the site acquisition or school construction in Silver Valley, despite our project being listed as the district's #1 capital priority for a site acquisition and new school.

The Board of Education passed a motion on May 14, 2025 reaffirming its commitment to the Silver Valley project and calling on the provincial government to honour its previous commitment to this community. We are requesting an immediate update on when the provincial government will approve funding to support the purchase of a site and the construction of a new elementary school in Silver Valley. A recent land appraisal confirms the current estimated cost of site acquisition remains at \$26.09 million.

We urge you to act now to ensure the students and families of Silver Valley receive the educational infrastructure they deserve. We would appreciate a timely response that outlines the government's intended course of action and timeline for advancing this long-standing and urgently needed project.

Sincerely,

Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson
 Board of Education

Cc: The Board of Education, School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)
 Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools & CEO
 Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer
 Mayor and Council, City of Maple Ridge
 Chris Schultz-Lorentzen, Chairperson, District Parent Advisory Council
 Martin Dmitrieff, President, Maple Ridge Teachers' Association
 Chad Raible, President, Maple Ridge Principal/Vice Principals' Association
 Jason Franklin, President, CUPE Local 703



May 29, 2025

The Honourable Lisa Beare
 Minister of Education and Child Care
 Office of the Minister
 Parliament Buildings
 PO Box 9045 Stn Prov Govt
 Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
 Via Email: ECC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Subject: Need for a More Reliable and Equitable Funding Model

Dear Minister Beare,

The Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Board of Education is writing to express our district's growing concern regarding the ongoing structural funding challenges facing School District 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) and to request immediate action to address systemic inequities—particularly in CommunityLINK funding—and the lack of inflationary adjustments in several key funding areas.

For several years, our district has relied on prior-year surplus funds to balance our annual operating budget. These funds were originally intended for critical infrastructure investments, and diverting them to support daily operations is no longer sustainable. This practice was identified as a significant concern in our recent Enterprise Risk Management review and underscores the urgent need for a more reliable and equitable funding model.

In the current budget cycle, we have taken significant steps to reduce our reliance on reserves and work toward a structurally balanced budget. However, this has come at a considerable cost to students and families. Service reductions this year have included, but are not limited to:

1. Cancellation of the Silver Valley school bus routes;
2. Elimination of the Kindergarten transition Education Assistant role;
3. Reductions in secondary school counselling time;
4. Reduced collaborative teaching time;
5. Reduced hours for Child and Youth Care Workers in elementary schools;
6. Elimination of a Vice Principal position focused on Indigenous Education;
7. Elimination of the District Helping Teacher for Racial Inclusivity

The elimination of the elementary band program was proposed and it has been reprieved for one year only through temporary funding. While the elementary band program has been temporarily sustained for the 2025/26 school year, it will only continue if fully funded through student fees and external revenue sources—raising concerns about accessibility and equity.

Looking ahead, our financial challenges are projected to grow more severe, with anticipated operating shortfalls of:

1. \$1.44 million in 2026/27,
2. \$2.12 million in 2027/28, and
3. \$2.02 million in 2028/29.

Unless provincial funding levels change, further reductions will be unavoidable.

Our community has responded with deep concern. Over 1,200 individuals participated in our public budget survey, and 54 delegations presented to the Board at our input meeting. In addition, we have received countless letters and emails from families and staff expressing distress over the loss of valued services. These are not only our constituents—they are yours as well.

Further compounding our situation is the inequity in CommunityLINK funding. Unlike many districts, SD42 does not receive the level of support necessary to implement a universal school meals program, despite provincial and federal expectations. The attached chart highlights how disproportionately low our CommunityLINK allocation is compared to other districts. While SD42 is projected to have 2.78% of the province's total student enrolment for 2025/26, it has been allocated only 1.05% of the \$60.4M CommunityLINK grant. In contrast, SD42 received 2.93% of the National School Food Program grant for 2024/25, which is based on a new socio-economic funding model. This discrepancy underscores the inequity of the CommunityLINK funding model, which fails to provide SD42 with sufficient resources to support its vulnerable student population.

The Ministry is clearly aware of this inequity. In a letter dated October 5, 2023, former Minister Rachna Singh acknowledged:

"We agree that the funding allocations under CommunityLINK require revision as they are based on outdated socio-economic data and a historical grant application process and, therefore, no longer address current inequities across the province. Internal discussions are taking place on how to address these inequities."

We were encouraged by this statement at the time and anticipated adjustments in the 2024/25 provincial allocation. Unfortunately, no changes were made last year or this year, while inflation continues to erode the value of existing funding—particularly in categories like StrongStart, student transportation, and other essential but indirect services and supports to student learning.

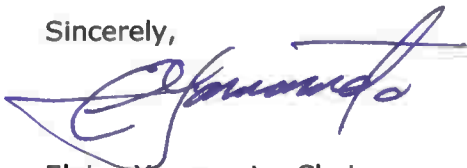
With this context in mind, we respectfully urge the Ministry to:

1. Expedite the review and revision of CommunityLINK funding to address long-standing inequities;
2. Provide clarity on the expected timeline and implementation of this review;
3. Consider inflationary adjustments across non-labour funding categories to reflect current cost realities.

Our district is committed to providing a high-quality, inclusive education to all students. However, without responsive and equitable funding, our ability to meet that commitment is in jeopardy.

Thank you for your continued attention to this matter. We remain hopeful that meaningful adjustments are forthcoming and look forward to meeting with you in June.

Sincerely,



Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson
Board of Education

Cc: The Board of Education, School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)
Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools & CEO
Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer

Attachment

ATTACHMENT (to Attachment D)

Summary		Table 4c	Table 1b				
School District	Community-LINK	Equity of	Enrolment 2024/25 Full-Year	Total of	Per Student		
		Opportunity Supplement Total		CommunityLINK & Equity of Opportunity	Community-LINK	Equity of Opportunity Supplement	CommunityLINK & Equity of Opportunity
42 Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	632,170	499,444	16,706.2500	1,131,614	23	47	70
93 Conseil scolaire francophone	139,727	290,990	6,196.0000	430,717	41	33	75
37 Delta	665,164	540,473	16,146.2500	1,205,637	44	38	81
45 West Vancouver	322,493	278,023	7,403.1900	600,516	50	32	82
43 Coquitlam	1,720,935	1,097,748	34,235.0000	2,818,683	51	37	88
23 Central Okanagan	1,293,116	923,843	25,277.8750	2,216,959	53	34	88
36 Surrey	4,362,041	2,803,508	81,680.3996	7,165,549	37	51	88
38 Richmond	862,931	1,175,452	23,163.6250	2,038,383	59	33	92
62 Sooke	797,821	450,986	13,633.5000	1,248,807	57	40	97
71 Comox Valley	626,643	435,454	10,930.8750	1,062,097	55	43	98
83 North Okanagan-Shuswap	366,197	290,676	6,698.1054	656,873	77	28	105
44 North Vancouver	1,293,469	466,069	16,710.6250	1,759,538	64	42	106
34 Abbotsford	1,320,021	861,910	20,612.6250	2,181,931	67	47	114
48 Sea to Sky	341,085	238,222	5,069.0675	579,307	50	66	116
33 Chilliwack	771,423	1,028,855	15,560.2800	1,800,278	91	28	119
35 Langley	2,345,214	710,512	25,735.0572	3,055,726	62	59	122
63 Saanich	481,653	455,522	7,710.7500	937,175	67	56	123
75 Mission	456,462	377,192	6,777.0000	833,654	70	56	126
5 Southeast Kootenay	419,328	331,664	5,967.0000	750,992	95	35	130
41 Burnaby	2,693,837	985,477	28,289.9375	3,679,314	72	62	134
22 Vernon	648,872	554,688	8,989.4375	1,203,560	69	66	134
67 Okanagan Skaha	402,015	383,461	5,847.5300	785,476	72	68	140
47 Powell River	228,750	215,477	3,162.0000	444,227	87	54	141
79 Cowichan Valley	761,512	471,657	8,721.7930	1,233,169	100	46	145
Provincial Total	59,980,898	27,500,000	601,530.3175	87,480,898	99	48	147
69 Qualicum	438,392	212,839	4,417.0000	651,231	104	45	149
19 Revelstoke	117,117	50,079	1,122.0000	167,196	105	48	152
60 Peace River North	642,426	292,673	6,146.0000	935,099	106	57	163
73 Kamloops-Thompson	1,691,176	913,905	15,994.6500	2,605,081	103	62	164
72 Campbell River	598,769	359,061	5,829.5000	957,830	106	59	165
53 Okanagan Similkameen	253,277	139,942	2,379.7500	393,219	127	44	171
6 Rocky Mountain	441,470	152,639	3,468.8900	594,109	114	58	172
64 Gulf Islands	164,095	84,083	1,445.0000	248,178	109	65	174
59 Peace River South	413,832	247,971	3,793.2490	661,803	131	57	187
51 Boundary	171,033	73,828	1,306.0000	244,861	135	55	190
54 Bulkley Valley	262,678	107,344	1,943.0000	370,022	158	54	212
8 Kootenay Lake	750,517	254,823	4,753.0000	1,005,340	159	58	216
46 Sunshine Coast	555,080	201,734	3,500.1250	756,814	150	73	223
58 Nicola-Similkameen	320,941	156,898	2,144.3744	477,839	183	43	226
20 Kootenay-Columbia	763,792	180,386	4,176.8390	944,178	169	59	228
68 Nanaimo-Ladysmith	2,609,510	902,296	15,421.1750	3,511,806	160	83	243
27 Cariboo-Chilcotin	733,079	380,845	4,592.0000	1,113,924	152	91	243
91 Nechako Lakes	578,577	346,496	3,813.0000	925,073	201	46	247
39 Vancouver	10,563,442	2,428,958	52,648.6875	12,992,400	158	89	247
82 Coast Mountains	652,960	367,921	4,134.0000	1,020,881	184	67	251
57 Prince George	2,417,153	884,013	13,171.2500	3,301,166	207	53	260
61 Greater Victoria	4,255,751	1,098,477	20,604.7980	5,354,228	217	47	264
40 New Westminster	1,725,662	377,387	7,958.0000	2,103,049	190	80	270
28 Quesnel	563,346	238,744	2,969.6250	802,090	213	68	281
10 Arrow Lakes	107,223	34,315	503.0000	141,538	247	62	309
81 Fort Nelson	153,794	38,923	622.9000	192,717	223	98	320
78 Fraser-Cascade	390,086	170,967	1,751.9375	561,053	250	84	334
50 Haida Gwaii	122,812	41,350	491.0000	164,162	254	91	345
70 Pacific Rim	1,014,040	364,548	3,998.0000	1,378,588	301	107	408
85 Vancouver Island North	368,249	130,672	1,223.0000	498,921	315	105	420
52 Prince Rupert	578,582	192,357	1,837.0000	770,939	403	97	500
74 Gold Trail	422,227	101,982	1,048.0000	524,209	413	103	516
92 Nisga'a	156,883	39,124	380.0000	196,007	464	108	572
84 Vancouver Island West	147,044	34,304	317.0000	181,348	1,315	82	1,397
49 Central Coast	279,375	17,441	212.3944	296,816			
87 Stikine	603,629	13,372	190.0000	617,001	3,177	70	3,247



June 11, 2025

Honourable Lisa Beare
Minister of Education and Child Care
Victoria, BC

via email: ECC.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Re: Advocacy for Immediate Funding to Support Acquisition of Silver Valley Elementary School Site

Dear Minister Beare,

I am writing to you on behalf of the City of Maple Ridge Council following our resolution passed on May 27, 2025. Our Council unanimously endorses the motion put forward by the Board of Education for School District 42 concerning the urgent need for the acquisition of a new school site in Silver Valley. This effort is in response to the increasing educational demands in our rapidly growing community. Our city is experiencing substantial growth, as evidenced by projections indicating 8,091 new housing units over the next decade within School District 42. Maple Ridge alone accounts for 7,211 of these units, potentially bringing an estimated 1,201 school-age children. Although these figures represent a decline from last year's projections, they continue to underscore the pressing requirement for expanded educational capacity.

To accommodate this growth, School District 42 has identified a suitable site in Silver Valley, approximately 3.42 hectares in size, with an estimated acquisition cost of \$26.09 million. This site is strategically aligned with our city's long-term development goals, as detailed in our Housing Needs Report and Official Community Plan updates. Silver Valley is a key area for future residential and family-oriented growth, making it an ideal location for a new elementary school.

The proposed school site acquisition fits seamlessly with both the School District's Strategic Facilities Plan and our city's growth planning framework. As such, it is crucial that the Province honor its commitment, made on October 7, 2024, to support the establishment of this vital educational infrastructure.



We respectfully urge your Ministry to provide immediate funding and support for the acquisition and development of this educational site. Furthermore, we request a timeline for the necessary provincial actions to expedite the school construction process to meet the impending demands of our community.

In conclusion, ensuring that Silver Valley has the necessary educational facilities is critical to sustaining our community's growth and prosperity. The City of Maple Ridge remains committed to collaborating with your Ministry and School District 42 to facilitate this essential development.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. Please feel free to contact me at druimy@mapleridge.ca or at 604-467-5288 should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Dan Ruimy
Mayor of Maple Ridge

cc: Premier David Eby
Honourable Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure
Honourable Lawrence Mok, MLA Maple Ridge East
Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson, Board of Education, School District No 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)
Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools & CEO, School District No 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)





**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Wednesday, May 14, 2025 (6:00 PM)
Boardroom, District Education Office**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson – Elaine Yamamoto
Trustee – Hudson Campbell
Trustee – Gabriel Liosis
Trustee – Mike Murray
Trustee – Pascale Shaw
Trustee – Katie Sullivan

Superintendent – Teresa Downs
Secretary Treasurer – Richard Rennie
Deputy Superintendent – Cheryl Schwarz
Assistant Secretary Treasurer – Iris Mo
Senior Manager, Communications – Irena Pochop
Executive Coordinator – Rebecca Lyle

ABSENT:

Vice Chairperson – Kim Dumore

GUESTS:

Yas Mann, District Helping Teacher
Jovo Bikic, Assistant Superintendent
Ken Cober, Assistant Superintendent
Louie Girotto, Director, Facilities

A. OPENING PROCEDURES

1. Territory Acknowledgement

The Chairperson acknowledged that this meeting is taking place on the shared traditional and unceded territories of Katzie First Nation and Kwantlen First Nation. The Chairperson welcomed and recognized all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students and families in our schools and community. The Chairperson welcomed and recognized the many different cultures that are represented in our schools and community.

2. Call to Order

The Chairperson called the Public Board meeting to order at 6:00pm. The Chairperson welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

3. Correspondence

- Letter to Min. Beare from Board of Education re: Cybersecurity

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the correspondence, for information.

CARRIED

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda

The Chairperson advised that members of the public were able to provide input on decision items on the Agenda by emailing board@sd42.ca by no later than 5:30pm on May 14, 2025.

No input was received.

6. Approval of Minutes

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Minutes of the April 30, 2025, Public Board Meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

B. DELEGATIONS

C. PRESENTATIONS

1. Numeracy

District Helping Teacher, Yas Mann, and Assistant Superintendent, Jovo Bikic, presented an update to the Board on the district's evolving approach to numeracy instruction. Three schools have formed Numeracy Exploration Teams this year to pilot the four key focus areas: Hands-On Learning (Play-Based), Teaching & Learning Multiple Strategies, Inquiry-Based Thinking Tasks, and Multimodal Assessment Tool.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive for information the presentation on Numeracy.

CARRIED

D. DEFERRED ITEMS

E. DECISION ITEMS

1. Chairperson
2. Superintendent of Schools

a) School Fees Schedule and Specialty Academy Fees Schedule for 2025/26

Assistant Superintendent Ken Cober reported on school fees and specialty academy fees for 2025/26.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board approve the following proposed fee schedule for the 2025/26 year:

Fee Category	Fee Description	Proposed 2025/26 Rate
Elementary	School Supplies Fee	\$ 60
Secondary - School Fees	Student Fee	\$ 35
Secondary - School Fees	Athletics	\$ 35
Secondary - School Fees	Yearbook	\$ 65
Continuing Education	Student Fee	\$ 20
Continuing Education	Optional Grad Ceremony Fee	\$ 30

Continuing Education	Graduated Resident Course Fee	\$ 650
Summer Learning	Textbook Deposit (Grades 10–12)	\$ 75
Graduated Resident	Graduated Resident Student Fee	\$ 650
Secondary - Specialty Academies	Basketball	\$ 800
Secondary - Specialty Academies	Interdisciplinary Arts	\$ 200
Secondary - Specialty Academies	Digital Arts	\$ 75
Secondary - Specialty Academies	Soccer – Full-time Athlete	\$ 850
Secondary - Specialty Academies	Soccer – Part-time Athlete	\$ 450
Secondary - Specialty Academies	Softball	\$ 2,000
Secondary - Trade Program Course Fees	Automotive	\$ 275
Secondary - Trade Program Course Fees	Carpentry	\$ 900
Secondary - Trade Program Course Fees	Framing	\$ 900
Secondary - Trade Program Course Fees	Metal Fabrication	\$ 600
Secondary - International Baccalaureate	Grade 11 Full Diploma Fee	\$ 600
Secondary - International Baccalaureate	Grade 12 Individual Exam Fee	\$ 120
Secondary - International Baccalaureate	Grade 12 Full Diploma Fee	\$ 600

CARRIED

3. Secretary Treasurer

a) Eligible School Sites Proposal

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the Eligible School Sites Proposal is a required component of the capital plan submission. The report estimates the number of eligible school sites required for the School District including approximate number, location and cost of school sites proposed to be included in the 2025/26 Capital Plan. The report specifically estimates that one new site in the Silver Valley Area be acquired for a future elementary school.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board approve the following eligible school sites proposal:

WHEREAS the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) (the "Board") has consulted with the City of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows on these matters;

IT IS RESOLVED THAT:

1. Based on information from local government, the Board estimates there will be approximately 8,091 new development units constructed in the School District over the next 10 years, as presented in Schedule 'A';
2. These 8,091 new development units will be home to an estimated 1,201 school-age children, as presented in Schedule 'A';
3. The Board expects one (1) new school site over the next ten years, which will be required due to this growth in the school district. The site acquisitions will generally be located as presented in Schedule 'B';
4. According to the Ministry of Education and Child Care site standards, the Board expects that the eligible school sites will require a total acquisition of 3.42 hectares (8.45 acres) of land, as presented in Schedule 'B'. This site should be purchased within the next year and, at current serviced land costs, the land will cost approximately \$26.09 million; and
5. The adjusted Eligible School Sites Proposal should be incorporated into the 2026/27 Capital Plan and submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

CARRIED

Discussion ensued regarding the inclusion an additional recommendation to strengthen advocacy for the provincial government to expedite funding for both the site acquisition and construction of new school in Silver Valley.

Moved/Seconded (requires 2/3 vote to be considered)

THAT the Board reaffirm its commitment to securing a new school site in the Silver Valley area and advocate to the Ministry of Education and Child Care, the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Government of British Columbia for immediate funding to support the acquisition of the Silver Valley elementary school site;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board call on the provincial government to honour its public commitment made on October 7, 2024, to deliver a new school for the Maple Ridge community;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board direct the Chairperson to write a formal letter to the Minister of Education and Child Care, the Minister of Infrastructure, the Premier of British Columbia and local MLAs expressing the urgent need for site acquisition and new school construction in Silver Valley and requesting a timeline for provincial action;

AND FURTHER THAT the Board encourage continued advocacy and support for this project from key partners and stakeholders, including the City of Maple Ridge and the District Parent Advisory Council.

CARRIED

b) Regular Board Meeting Schedule for 2025/26 Amendment

The Secretary Treasurer proposed that the October 15, 2025 regular board meeting date be rescheduled to October 22, 2025.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board the amend the regular board meeting schedule for 2025/26 to reflect the following dates:

- Wednesday, September 17, 2025
- Wednesday, October 22, 2025
- Wednesday, November 12, 2025
- Wednesday, December 3, 2025
- Wednesday, January 14, 2026
- Wednesday, February 11, 2026
- Wednesday, March 4, 2026
- Wednesday, April 15, 2026
- Wednesday, April 29, 2026
- Wednesday, May 13, 2026
- Wednesday, June 17, 2026

CARRIED

c) Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plan for 2025/26

The Secretary Treasurer presented the Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plan with Katzie First Nation. As an extra-curricular item was not eligible to be claimed, an amendment to the plan within the agenda package was presented to the Board to reduce the total estimated annual operating costs to be funded by BCTEA from \$153,432 to \$151,695, as agreed to with Katzie First Nation to transport 49 students to and from school in 2025/26.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board approve the Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plan for 2025/26, as amended.

CARRIED

4. Board Committees and Advisory Committee Reports

a) Finance

i. Third Quarter Financial Statements for 2024/25

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the financial statements for the quarter ended March 31, 2025, are presented to the Board for approval at the recommendation of the Finance Committee of the Whole.

The Secretary Treasurer provided an overview of the major variances from budget.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board approve the financial statements for the third quarter ended March 31, 2025.

CARRIED

b) Facilities Planning

c) Board Policy Development

ii. Policies for Approval

The Secretary Treasurer report that feedback was received, considered, and resulted in further proposed updates the Policy 6530: Environmental Sustainability. Additionally, updates to Policy 4410: Travel Expenses were recommended by the Board Policy Development Committee to strengthen cost control measures.

Following discussion, an amendment was made to Policy 6530 to include collaboration with parents and guardians within the policy's philosophy statement.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board approve the following updated policies:

- 4410: Travel Expenses, as presented
- 6530: Environmental Sustainability, as amended

CARRIED

d) Education Advisory

e) Indigenous Education Community Gathering

f) Accessibility Advisory

5. Indigenous Education Council

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Chairperson

a) Chairperson's Update

The Chairperson provided the Board with an update on the BC School Trustees Association annual general meeting and shared that three motions the Board submitted were passed at the meeting: Revision to Substance Education Curriculum in Response to the Ongoing Opioid Crisis, Student Voice, and Post-Secondary Transition Rates.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Chairperson's Update, for information.

CARRIED

2. Superintendent of Schools

a) Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent presented an update on the school district's Opioid Education and Response Implementation Report, confirming that all recommended actions have been implemented.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Superintendent's Update, for information.

CARRIED

1. Secretary Treasurer

a) Environmental Sustainability Update and 2024 Climate Change Accountability Report

The Manager, Energy and Environmental Sustainability reported on the school district's Environmental Sustainability Plan progress regarding energy conservation measures to further reduce emissions from facilities, school district operations and vehicle feet. The goals of the Environmental Sustainability Plan are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 22% by 2026 (compared to 2010 levels) and to improve building efficiency by 20% by 2026. An overview of projects completed in 2024/25 was provided.

The Manager, Energy and Environmental Sustainability further reported that the 2024 Climate Change Accountability Report which summarizes the school district's emissions profile, the total offsets to reach net-zero emissions, the actions taken in calendar year 2024 to minimize the District's greenhouse gas emissions, and plans to continue reducing emissions in 2025 and beyond will be submitted to the Climate Action Secretariat and posted to the school district website.

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Environmental Sustainability Update and 2024 Climate Change Accountability Report, for information.

CARRIED

4. Board Committees and Advisory Committee Reports

- a) Finance
- b) Facilities Planning
- c) Board Policy Development
- d) Education Advisory

i. Receiving Minutes

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Education Advisory Committee minutes for the meeting held on May 6, 2025, for information.

CARRIED

- e) Indigenous Education Community Gathering
- f) Accessibility Advisory

5. Indigenous Education Council

G. TRUSTEE MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

H. TRUSTEE REPORTS

I. QUESTION PERIOD

No questions were received.

J. OTHER BUSINESS

K. ADJOURNMENT

Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The Public Board Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson

Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer

From: Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson

Topic: **Malcolm Knapp Research Forest and ci:tmæx^w Environmental Community**

BACKGROUND

The following individuals have prepared a presentation on Malcolm Knapp Research Forest and the school district's ci:tmæx^w Environmental Community:

- Hélène Marcoux, Manager, Malcolm Knapp Research Forest
- Nicole McKenzie, Principal, ci:tmæx^w Environmental Community

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive for information the presentation on Malcolm Knapp Research Forest and ci:tmæx^w Environmental Community.

From: Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson
Topic: **Provincial Budget 2026 Consultation Opportunity**

BACKGROUND

The Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (the Standing Committee) is inviting public input as part of its consultation process for the development of the Provincial Budget 2026.

The Committee, made up of members from both government and opposition parties, is mandated by the Legislative Assembly to conduct an annual public consultation and to provide recommendations to the Minister of Finance based on the feedback received.

Information on the consultation process is available at:

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/committees/annual-fgs-budget-consultation>

The window for submitting written input is open from June 2 to June 20, 2025.

At the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting on May 14, 2025, Trustees requested that the Chairperson work with the Secretary Treasurer to draft a written submission reflecting the key advocacy themes identified at that meeting. A draft letter (**Attachment**) has been prepared for the Board's review.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board authorize the Chairperson to finalize the letter and submit it to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services by June 20, 2025.

June 18, 2025

Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services
Parliamentary Committees Office
Room 224, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Email: FinanceCommittee@leg.bc.ca
Submitted via: [LABC Consultation Portal](#)

Dear Committee Members:

RE: Provincial Budget 2026 Consultation Opportunity

The Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) appreciates the opportunity to contribute to the 2026 Provincial Budget consultation. Public education is foundational to a just, healthy, and prosperous society. Yet year after year, structural underfunding and a lack of inflationary adjustment have forced school districts like ours to make increasingly difficult choices, putting essential services, classroom supports, and infrastructure investments at risk.

To ensure all B.C. students can thrive, we urge the provincial government to make bold, systemic reinvestments in education through the following three priorities:

1. Make K–12 Public Education a Provincial Budget Priority

Education's share of the provincial budget has steadily declined, from 15.49% in 2001-02 to just 7.97% in 2023-24. This is out of step with B.C.'s population growth, student needs, and inflationary cost pressures.

We support BCSTA's resolution calling on the Premier, the Minister of Finance, and Treasury Board to increase the percentage of the Provincial Budget allocated to K–12 education and ensure funding is indexed to inflation and actual district costs.

Key Recommendations:

- **Increase operational funding to reflect real inflationary pressures**, particularly for supplies, services, and non-salary expenses.
- **Fully fund the cost of collective agreement increases**, including rising extended health and dental benefit premiums, which districts cannot sustain without sacrificing direct classroom services.
- **Modernize and reform special purpose funding** for CommunityLINK (by establishing an equitable funding model) and for Early Learning Programs, including StrongStart, to address demographic shifts, community needs, and sustained inflationary cost pressures.

2. Strengthen Supports for Students with Diverse Needs in the Early Years

School District No. 42 supports BCSTA's call to shift early childhood support models from a strictly medical model to a more responsive, social model of disability. This would enable schools to support children in K–3 without requiring a formal diagnosis, which is often delayed due to long waitlists.

We also recognize the Minister's Mandate Letter emphasis on strengthening early childhood and inclusive supports and recommend targeted investments to ensure students with complex needs receive timely, school-based interventions in their earliest years.

Key Recommendations:

- **Fund the transition to a social model of disability in K–3**, allowing school-based teams to initiate supports based on observed student needs.
- **Provide stable, flexible funding** that allows districts to deploy Education Assistants and other support staff where and when they are most needed in K–3 settings.
- **Prioritize early intervention funding** for StrongStart and other early learning programs that address pandemic-related developmental delays.

3. Modernise Capital and Technology Investments

Our district supports the need for capital funding increases in both major and minor capital programs, particularly to address IT infrastructure, learning environments, and health and safety standards. The area standards for new schools have not been comprehensively reviewed in decades and no longer reflect inclusive design, student mental health needs, or space required for Indigenous and community programming.

In addition, cybersecurity poses a growing risk to school operations. School districts are under-equipped to manage this responsibility without provincial support.

Key Recommendations:

- **Increase capital funding** for IT modernization, digital infrastructure, and classroom-ready technology.
- **Initiate a full review of school area standards**, with a focus on accessibility, diverse learning needs, and First Nations partnerships.
- **Develop and fully fund a coordinated provincial plan for K–12 cybersecurity**, including shared expertise, system-wide training, and district-level implementation funding.

School District No. 42 thanks the Committee for its attention to these critical priorities. The 2026 Provincial Budget is an opportunity to reset funding assumptions, reinforce system-wide equity, and invest in the potential of every learner in B.C.

We would be pleased to provide further context or participate in future discussions.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson
Board of Education

cc: The Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)
The Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care and MLA Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
The Honourable Brenda Bailey, Minister of Finance
The Honourable George Chow, Minister of Citizen Services
Lawrence Mok, MLA Maple Ridge East
Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools
Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer
Martin Dmitrieff, President, Maple Ridge Teachers' Association
Jason Franklin, President, CUPE Local 703
Chris Schultz-Lorentzen, Chairperson, District Parent Advisory Council
Tracy Loffler, President, BCSTA

From: Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools

Topic: **Strategic Plan Update**

BACKGROUND

At the January 15, 2025 meeting in accordance with the Board's annual work plan the Board received the following recommended changes to the Strategic Plan: Strategic Priorities and Goals.

Our strategic priorities are designed to support every learner and the effectiveness of the system. We will achieve these priorities through strategic and operational alignment in planning, processes, policies, and procedures.

1. **Literacy and Numeracy**

Improved literacy and numeracy outcomes for students.

2. **Equity**

Improved learning outcomes and improved levels of safety, care and belonging for every learner. Equitable decision-making processes and resource allocation.

3. **Social-Emotional Learning**

Cultivate resilience, self-awareness, and interpersonal skills to improve the social and emotional well-being of all learners.

4. **Assessment**

Improved assessment practices to support personalized learning, inform instruction, and drive continuous improvement.

5. **Innovation**

Expand and integrate innovative practices.

6. **Sustainability**

Improved long-term system sustainability.

At that meeting the Board directed staff to engage with First Nations and partners on the proposed changes to the strategic plan and bring the feedback to a future meeting.

Since that meeting staff have elicited feedback from the Indigenous Education Community table, Maple Ridge Principals and Vice Principals Association, Maple Ridge Teachers Association, CUPE Local 703, District Parent Advisory Council, and representatives of Student Voice on the proposed changes to the strategic plan priorities.

FEEDBACK

There was strong and consistent support for the strategic priorities to be inclusive of all employees, schools, and departments. Partners appreciated the clarity and coherence of the plan and endorsed its relevance across the system.

There was broad agreement on the addition of numeracy as a strategic priority, and support from the majority to position literacy and numeracy as the first priority. This shift was seen as a positive step toward improving student outcomes.

The most substantive discussion centred on the proposed re-prioritization of equity. Several partner groups initially expressed concern that equity appeared to be lowered in importance. After discussion, many acknowledged that advancing high expectations and strong outcomes in literacy and numeracy for all learners is a critical lever for achieving equity. However, one group shared ongoing concern that the repositioning of equity might signal a step back from

the commitment to inclusive, caring, and welcoming school environments and addressing personal and systemic racism and homophobia.

There was support for framing equity more broadly—not only through the lenses of inclusion, diversity, and anti-racism, but also through equitable decision-making and system-wide accountability.

The shift toward a broader assessment priority was generally well received. However, one partner group expressed concern that it could be interpreted as signaling a change in the district's approach to the provincial Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA), and reiterated their preference for holistic assessment practices.

Sustainability as a strategic priority was also supported. One group encouraged clarity on how this commitment will translate into practice over the short and long term and cautioned against the perception of sustainability being symbolic rather than action-oriented.

Based on the feedback received, it is proposed that the numeric ordering of the priorities be removed, as follows.

- **Literacy and Numeracy**
Improved literacy and numeracy outcomes for students.
- **Equity**
Improved learning outcomes and improved levels of safety, care and belonging for every learner. Equitable decision-making processes and resource allocation.
- **Social-Emotional Learning**
Cultivate resilience, self-awareness, and interpersonal skills to improve the social and emotional well-being of all learners.
- **Assessment**
Improved assessment practices to support personalized learning, inform instruction, and drive continuous improvement.
- **Innovation**
Expand and integrate innovative practices.
- **Sustainability**
Improved long-term system sustainability.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve the recommended changes to the strategic plan.

From: Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools

Topic: **Student Governance Review**

BACKGROUND

At the January 17, 2024 meeting, the Board approved the following motion:

THAT the Board of Education direct staff to review the current district student governance model and explore the feasibility of implementing a Student Trustee in time for the 2026/27 School Year.

Staff have engaged in the review referenced in the January 17th memo. A summary of the findings from the review and recommendation for Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District are below.

British Columbia

There are three school districts that include a student within their governance structure. The selection and application of the student trustee role varies between the three districts.

- Vancouver School District includes one student trustee as part of its governance structure. The student selected as the student trustee is a representative of the Vancouver District Students' Council. The student trustee attends public and committee meetings. The student trustee is a non-voting member of the board.
- Sunshine Coast School District appoints student trustees to the Board of Education. The student trustee is a representative of the District Student Leadership Team. The student trustee participates in all public and committee meetings. The student trustee is a non-voting member of the board.
- Kootenay Lake School District has a structured student trustee program where two student trustees represent each high school. The student trustee is a non-voting member of the board and attends public meetings.

Ontario

In Ontario, all publicly funded school boards are mandated to include at least one student trustee, elected by their peers. These student trustees participate in board meetings and discussions, providing a student perspective, though they do not possess voting rights.

Nunavut

Nunavut mandates student representation on school boards through legislation. In Nunavut, student representatives are required to be part of district education authorities, ensuring that student voices are formally included in educational governance.

In other provinces and territories, while there isn't a legislative mandate, some school boards have voluntarily established student trustee positions or similar roles to incorporate student perspectives into decision-making processes. However, these positions are not uniformly implemented across all school boards and may vary in terms of responsibilities and influence.

Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District

The Board's current meeting schedule limits the potential for meaningful participation by a student trustee. Much of the discussion and analysis takes place during committee meetings and workshops, which, while not decision-making forums, significantly shape the decisions made at public board meetings. Expecting a Grade 11 or 12 student to attend these weekly meetings is unreasonable. Conversely, limiting their involvement to public meetings alone would prevent them from fully engaging or contributing informed input.

As the Board is committed to a model that meets student needs and enables student voice and engagement on governance matters, it is recommended that a Student Advisory Committee be established.

A Student Advisory Committee would be a group of secondary students (Grades 10–12) from across the district, selected through an application process or elected by their peers. This group will meet regularly with the Board of Education. At these meetings, the Board would invite input from the student committee members on upcoming item(s) from the Board's Annual Work Plan. In addition, student representatives of the committee would have the opportunity to bring forward governance topic(s) for discussion.

If the Board decides to proceed with a Student Advisory Committee, it would need to be assessed and refined through the implementation process. The creation of a Student Advisory Committee would not preclude the Board from revisiting the idea of having a Student Trustee in the future.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board direct staff to create a Terms of Reference for a Student Advisory Committee and bring it forward to the September public meeting for consideration.

From: Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer
Louie Girotto, Director of Facilities

Topic: **Five-Year Capital Plan for 2026/27 – Major Capital Projects**

BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Infrastructure (MOI) 2026/27 Capital Plan Instructions identify that the deadline for 2026/27 Major Capital Plan submission to the MOI is June 30, 2025. The MOI is seeking submissions for the following major capital programs applicable to SD42:

- Seismic Mitigation Program (SMP)
- School Expansion Program (EXP)
- School Replacement Program (REP)
- Rural Districts Program (RDP)
- Child Care (CC) – Major

The 2026/27 Minor Capital Plan submission deadline to the MOI is September 30, 2025. The MOI is seeking submissions for the following minor capital programs applicable to SD42:

- School Enhancement Program (SEP)
- Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCP)
- Playground Equipment Program (PEP)
- Food Infrastructure Program (FIP)
- Building Envelope Program (BEP)
- Child Care (CC) – Minor

The proposed major capital projects to be submitted as part of the Five-Year Capital Plan for 2026/27 to 2030/31 are presented in this report and total \$517 million. Minor capital projects will be presented to the Board for approval in September 2025.

Strategic Facilities Plan

To ensure that future capital plan submissions to the MOI accurately reflect the priorities and needs of the school district, the comprehensive school district [Strategic Facilities Plan](#), approved by the Board in March 2022, was updated in consultation with local First Nations, Métis community, urban Indigenous organizations, education partners, post-secondary institutions, stakeholders, people with diverse lived experiences, the public, and the two municipalities of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.

The Strategic Facilities Plan identifies and rationalizes current and future capital requirements for school sites, new schools, and facility upgrades based on building conditions, seismic vulnerability, and ongoing maintenance/life cycle costs, as well as new initiatives.

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

Seismic Mitigation Program (SMP)

The MOI identifies the highest priority projects that should be considered for major capital investment. Critical to this identification is an assessment of current seismic risk. The seismic risk rating criteria established by Engineers and Geoscientists BC (EGBC) for public schools is as follows:

- **High 1 (H1):** Structures at highest risk of widespread damage or structural failure; not repairable after event. Structural and non-structural upgrades are required.
 - H1 ratings are further prioritized based on the probability of total damage in a moderate earthquake, with P1 being high and P4 being low.
- **High 2 (H2):** Structures at high risk of widespread damage or structural failure; likely not repairable after the event. Structural and non-structural upgrades are required.
- **High 3 (H3):** Isolated failure to building elements (such as walls) is expected, building likely not repairable after the event. Structural and non-structural upgrades are required.
- **Medium:** Isolated damage to building elements is expected; non-structural elements (such as bookshelves and lighting) are at risk of failure. Non-structural upgrades may be required.
- **Low:** Least vulnerable structure; isolated damage may be expected with the building probably repairable after the event. Non-structural upgrades may be required.

The school district engaged a structural engineer to conduct seismic rapid assessments to determine the current seismic risk of our facilities. As of 2020, twelve schools were identified as having H1 to H3 classifications. The schools listed below have been included and remain in our Capital Plan.

Program	Type	Priority	Facility/Site	Project Description	Estimated Cost
SMP	Upgrade	1*	Harry Hooge Elementary	Seismic upgrade 1 block H3 this would be done in conjunction with a building addition to increase capacity to 80K/600E	\$ 1,486,898
SMP	Upgrade	1	Maple Ridge Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 2 blocks H2 & 1 block H3	\$ 11,115,057
SMP	Upgrade	2	Highland Park Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 2 blocks H2 & 1 block H3 (to be combined with EXP project)	\$ 6,884,319
SMP	Upgrade	3	Pitt Meadows Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 2 blocks H1 (1-P2, 1-P4), 1 block H2 & 1 block H3 (to be combined with REP project)	\$ 12,214,955
SMP	Upgrade	4	Alouette Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 1 block H1 (P3) & 1 block H2 (to be combined with BEP project)	\$ 11,133,807
SMP	Upgrade	5	Glenwood Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 2 blocks H1 (P2)	\$ 7,019,651
SMP	Upgrade	6	Davie Jones Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 1 block H2 & 1 block H3	\$ 2,880,494
SMP	Upgrade	7	Albion Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 4 blocks H2	\$ 5,800,000
SMP	Upgrade	8	Mt Crescent Elementary	Seismic upgrade of 5 blocks H1 (1-P2, 3-P3, 1 P4)	\$ 12,287,438
				Program Total	\$ 70,822,619

* Project has been supported by the MOI for development of a project definition report.

School Expansion Program (EXP)

EXP projects include new schools, additions to existing schools, and site acquisitions for a new or expanded school to accommodate student enrolment in a permanent education setting.

The projected continued increase of enrolment over the next decade confirms the need for elementary and secondary school expansion for six projects as outlined in the following table.

Program	Type	Priority	Facility/Site	Project Description	Estimated Cost
EXP	Addition	1*	Harry Hooge Elementary	Addition to increase capacity from 465 to 680 (80K/600E, with 40K/175E addition to be completed with seismic upgrade)	\$ 30,963,436
EXP	Addition	1	Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary	Addition to increase capacity from 600 to 1,300 (700 new)	\$ 114,756,334
EXP	Addition	2	Highland Park Elementary	Addition to increase capacity from 395 to 660 (40K/225E addition to be combined with SMP project)	\$ 32,444,745
EXP	New Site	1	Silver Valley Elementary Site	Area land site for a new 660 capacity K-7 Elementary school	\$ 26,090,000
EXP	New School	1	Silver Valley Elementary	New Elementary School for 340 (40K/300E new with core for future capacity of 660)	\$ 80,735,065
EXP	New School	2	East Albion Elementary	New Elementary School for 390 (40K/350E new)	\$ 75,428,963
EXP	New School	3	Mount Crescent	New Elementary School for 390 (40K/350E new)	\$ 70,978,963
Program Total					\$ 431,397,506

* Project has been supported by the MOI for development of a project definition report.

School Replacement Program (REP)

REP projects include full or partial replacement or renovation of schools and must be supported by a recent building condition assessment and engineering reports substantiating that the school building or portion of a school has reached or will shortly reach the end of its expected useful life.

The following major renovation projects are included in the capital plan:

Program	Type	Priority	Facility/Site	Project Description	Estimated Cost
REP	Renovation	1	Pitt Meadows Elementary	Major renovation for school with a high facility condition index (to be combined with SMP project)	\$ 10,715,825

Rural Districts Program (RDP)

The RDP is available to target funding not typically included under other major or minor capital programs such as full or partial demolition of board-owned buildings as well as renovations associated with consolidation of under-utilized schools.

While the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District does not ordinarily meet the criteria for funding under the RDP, it is the only program available for demolition of board-owned buildings, and ministry staff have indicated that the following project may be considered for funding under this program:

Program	Type	Priority	Facility/Site	Project Description	Estimated Cost
RDP	Demolition	1	Mt. Crescent Elementary	Demolition of closed school	\$ 4,500,000

Child Care Program (CC)

The CC program is available to provide funding to build new spaces or to convert existing underutilized spaces for Child Care programs.

Though no major CC projects have been identified for inclusion in the 2026/27 Capital Plan, major CC projects for the following school sites will be considered for inclusion in future capital plan submissions for integration with other major capital projects once feasibility can be confirmed:

- Pitt Meadows Secondary
- Silver Valley Elementary
- East Albion Elementary
- Mount Crescent Elementary
- Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approves the Major Capital Program projects for the Five-Year Capital Plan 2026/27 for submission to the Ministry of Infrastructure.

From: Board Policy Development Committee
Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer

Topic: Policies for Approval

BACKGROUND

At the January 15, 2025 public board meeting, the Board Policy Development Committee (BPDC) proposed a new policy which was referred back for further development. It is now being brought forward for board approval with the addition of a guiding principle for reporting:

- 3550: Enterprise Risk Management (**Attachment A**)

At the April 16, 2025 public board meeting, the BPDC proposed the following:

- Updates to policy 2400: Board Meeting Proceedings (**Attachment B**)
- Updates to policy 2915: Board Chairperson, Elections, Role, and Responsibilities (**Attachment C**)
- Updates to policy 2918: Vice-Chairperson, Elections, Role, and Responsibilities (**Attachment D**)
- New policy 7100: Employee Standards of Conduct (**Attachment E**)
- Retirement of the following policies in connection with approval of policy 7100:
 - 7213: Conflict of Interest – District Staff (**Attachment F**)
 - 7220: Dangerous Weapons (**Attachment G**)

Input from education partners and the public was invited from April 17, 2025 to May 28, 2025. No public input was received.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board approve the following updated policies:

- **2400: Board Meeting Proceedings**
- **2915: Board Chairperson, Elections, Role, and Responsibilities**
- **2918: Vice-Chairperson, Elections, Role, and Responsibilities**

AND FURTHER THAT the Board approve the following new policies:

- **3550: Enterprise Risk Management**
- **7100: Employee Standards of Conduct**

AND FURTHER THAT the Board approve the retirement of the following policies:

- **7213: Conflict of Interest – District Staff**
- **7220: Dangerous Weapons**

**SD42 POLICY: 3500****ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT****PHILOSOPHY**

The Board of Education ("Board") is committed ensuring that the School District ("District") is prepared to address potential risks that could impact its operations, finances, human resources, compliance, reputation, and overall ability to meet its strategic plan. The strategic plan includes the District's vision, mission, values, and strategic priorities and goals.

The Board believes that fostering a culture of proactive risk awareness, mitigation, and resilience within an Enterprise Risk Management ("ERM") framework is integral to achieving its strategic goals and ensuring long-term success. A structured yet adaptive framework empowers informed decision-making, enhances governance, and strengthens the School District's ability to manage potential challenges.

SCOPE

This policy is applicable to the District's key plans including its strategic plan, operational plans for the Board, Business Division, Human Resources Department and Information Technology Department, and School Growth Plans. It shall be applied during the development and review of these key plans and in evaluating current operations, responding to new and emerging risks, and increasing risk management awareness among staff.

AUTHORITY

The Board assigns the responsibility for the implementation of this policy to the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer. The Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer shall establish procedures to guide and facilitate its implementation while staying within the acceptable risk levels.

DEFINITIONS

Enterprise Risk Management: An integrated, organization-wide process that links the management of risk with the achievement of the District's strategic objectives. ERM provides a formal structure for identifying, assessing, and managing risks that could impact the District's performance and success.

Risk: A potential event or condition that may affect the achievement of the District's objectives. Risk is evaluated based on the likelihood of occurrence and the potential impact on the organization.

Objectives: The strategic, operational, and departmental goals the District aims to achieve, including those outlined in the strategic plan and other key plans.

Residual Risk: The level of risk remaining after considering existing controls and mitigation strategies.

Risk Tolerance: The maximum level of residual risk that the District considers acceptable, recognizing that tolerance may vary depending on the context and objective.

Risk Culture: The values, behaviors, and attitudes related to risk awareness and risk-taking that are shared throughout the organization. A strong risk culture supports proactive and informed risk management.

Emerging Risks: Newly developing or evolving risks that may not yet be fully understood but could significantly impact the District due to changes in external or internal environments.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1. Risk Management Framework:** The risk management processes and practices shall be guided by a framework that aligns with recognized industry standards, enabling the District to systematically identify, assess, and manage risks. The framework shall be flexible to address new and emerging risks, allowing leadership to make informed decisions in a dynamic environment.
- 2. Strategic Alignment:** Risk management practices shall align with the District's strategic goals, ensuring that risk considerations enhance long-term success and contribute to the achievement of educational objectives.
- 3. Strengthened Governance:** Risk management shall be embedded into the District's governance and operational processes, ensuring that all levels of the organization are engaged in achieving the strategic plan.
- 4. Comprehensive Risk Management:** The District shall implement a structured, comprehensive approach to identifying and managing risks, ensuring a systematic and consistent process to mitigate potential challenges.
- 5. Proactive Risk Awareness:** The District shall foster a culture where all staff are encouraged to identify, assess, and address risks proactively, integrating risk awareness into everyday practices and decision-making.
- 6. Resilience:** The District shall build and maintain organizational resilience, ensuring its ability to adapt, respond, and recover from risks while maintaining its focus on student success.
- 7. Continuous Improvement:** The District will remain vigilant in addressing new and emerging risks, ensuring continuous improvement within the ERM framework.
- 7.8. Reporting:** The District shall ensure regular communication with the Board through reports on risk management activities at least annually, including key risks, mitigation efforts, and emerging challenges, to support informed decision-making and strengthen governance.

APPROVED: ~~TBD~~ June 18, 2025



SD42 POLICY: 2400

BOARD MEETING PROCEEDINGS

No act or proceeding shall be valid or binding on the Board of Education ("Board") unless such act or proceeding shall have been adopted at a meeting called and held as provided by the [School Act](#) or by Board policy.

1. AGENDA PREPARATION

The Board delegates responsibility for establishing the order of business ("Agenda") for meetings of the Board to the Agenda Preparation Committee. The Agenda Preparation Committee shall be comprised of the Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary Treasurer, and the Superintendent. The Secretary Treasurer, in collaboration with the Superintendent shall prepare and submit to the Board the Agenda for each regular, closed, and special meeting.

The Agenda Preparation Committee will consider adding to a Board meeting agenda, items received in one of the following ways:

- Notification provided to the Secretary Treasurer or designate at least 14 days prior to the Board meeting. Notification provided with less than 14 days may be considered in extenuating circumstances.
- Notice of motion at the previous meeting of the Board.
- Request or recommendation from a committee of the Board.
- Written request to present provided to the Secretary Treasurer or designate at least 14 days prior to a regular Board meeting.

2. PROCEEDINGS

In all cases where the School Act and this Policy are silent, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall apply to procedures at meetings of the Board and its committees.

3. REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDAS

Except as otherwise indicated, the Agenda of each public and closed meeting, unless varied by motion, shall be presented as follows:

Opening Procedures

- 1. Territory Acknowledgement**
- 2. Call to Order**
- 3. Motion of Exclusion** (for closed meetings)
- 4. Correspondence**
- 5. Approval of Agenda**
- 6. Invitation for Public Input on Decision Items** – Members of the public can provide input on decision items on the public meeting Agenda in writing by no later than 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. All public input received will be shared with trustees electronically.
- 7. Approval of Minutes**

Presentations – Individuals and groups invited by the Board to make presentations on any subject pertinent to Board business. Time limits for individual presentations will be established to allow all speakers to present within the time limit for this item. This agenda

item has a time limit of 20 minutes including questions; extension is at the discretion of the Board.

Delegations – The Board will receive delegations on subjects pertinent to Board business if approved by the Agenda Preparation Committee. Each delegation is allotted time within a 20-minute total limit, including questions. Extensions are at the Board's discretion. Delegations are typically received for information, and the Board may take action after due deliberation.

Decision Items

- 1. Chairperson**
- 2. Superintendent**
- 3. Secretary Treasurer**
- 4. Board Committees**
- 5. Indigenous Education Council**
- 6. Trustee Motions and Notices of Motion** – Trustee motions introduced during a meeting shall require a two-thirds vote to be considered at that meeting.

Information Items

- 1. Chairperson**
- 2. Superintendent**
- 3. Secretary Treasurer**
- 4. Committee Business**
- 5. Indigenous Education Council**
- 6. Trustee Reports** – Includes reports on trustee appointments to external committees and community liaison groups.

Question Period (for public meetings)

Question period will be restricted to questions only – statements and debate will not be permitted. Questions, with the exception of trustee questions, will be limited to one question per person. Members of the public can submit questions for the Board in writing by no later than 30 minutes before the start of the meeting. Questions will be answered in the order they are received. This agenda item has a time limit of 10 minutes; extension is at the discretion of the Board.

Other Business

Public Disclosure of Closed Meeting Business

Adjournment

4. SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS

The Board may hold Special Board Meetings (i.e., meetings that are additional to regular board meetings) on such days and at such hours as the Board may decide by majority vote.

A Special Board Meeting, either public or closed, may be called by the Chairperson, on special written request of the majority of the Trustees, or at the request by the Secretary Treasurer or Superintendent. No business other than that for which the meeting was called upon shall be conducted at that special meeting.

5. SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AGENDAS

Except as otherwise indicated, the Agenda for each Special Public and each Special Closed meeting, unless varied by motion, shall be as follows:

1. Opening Procedures
 - a. Territory Acknowledgement
 - b. Call to Order
 - c. Motion of Exclusion (for closed meetings)

- d. Approval of Agenda
- 2. Business Item(s)
- 3. Adjournment

6. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

No less than 48 hours' written notice is required to reschedule a Regular Board Meeting or to call a Special Board Meeting. Notice must be provided electronically to each Trustee followed by verbal confirmation of receipt via phone, facilitated by the Board Chairperson or Executive Coordinator, delivered to the designated notice location.

Notice may be waived if reasonable efforts have been made to notify all Trustees and a quorum of Trustees agrees to the waiver.

7. DISTRIBUTION OF AGENDAS

The proposed Agenda must be electronically delivered to Trustees, and made available to the general public (for public meetings), by the Friday preceding a Regular Board Meeting. For Board Committee or Special Board Meetings, agendas must be provided to each Trustee, the Superintendent, and the Secretary Treasurer at least 48 hours in advance.

Changes or additions to the Agenda, including Trustee motions without prior notice, may be introduced by a Trustee and shall require a two-thirds vote to be considered.

8. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Minutes shall be kept by the Secretary Treasurer of the Board of all proceedings passed at each Board meeting. Such minutes are to record decisions of the Board but not the contents of speeches. Movers and seconders of motions shall not be recorded in minutes.

Verbal reports made by Trustees shall not be recorded in the minutes of Board meetings unless the Board acts as a result of such reports.

A copy of the Public Board meeting minutes shall be made available on the School District website. All board meeting minutes shall be made available to the Board appointed auditors for review.

9. TRUSTEE PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS THROUGH VIRTUAL MEANS

The Board values discussion and debate as essential to its work and, therefore, prioritizes in-person participation at all Board meetings. However, it recognizes that extenuating circumstances may occasionally prevent a trustee from attending in person. In such cases, the Board is committed to facilitating full participation through virtual means, where feasible.

- a) Trustees are expected to prioritize in-person attendance at Board meetings but may attend through virtual means if required for extenuating circumstances such as illness that require Trustee participation from another location. Approval from the Chairperson is required for virtual participation.
- b) Trustees may participate in Board meetings through virtual means provided the technological capability is available for both audio and visual communication with the rest of the Board and they must ensure that their location provides appropriate privacy, particularly when confidentiality matters are being discussed.
- c) Trustees participating through virtual means are considered present for the meeting and count towards quorum.

10. ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

The Board recognizes there may be circumstances where it is practical or necessary to hold a meeting through electronic means. Accordingly, at the call of the Chairperson, Board meetings may be held using electronic arrangements providing that such arrangements be in accordance with the following:

- a) It is practical to hold a meeting of the Board and its Officers using electronic means for matters that require immediate attention, have significant time constraints, are straight forward or procedural in nature, situations that are more efficiently handled using electronic means.
- b) Electronic meeting arrangements include video conferencing, telephone or other such technology, and will only be made where it is practical to do so and where all Trustees and Officers of the Board attending or participating in the meeting are able to communicate effectively with each other.

Minutes of the Board shall indicate that the meeting was held pursuant to this provision, indicate which Trustees and Officers were connected electronically, and in which manner the electronic meeting was held.

11. REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS – DAY, TIME AND LENGTH

A schedule of regular public and closed board meeting dates for the next fiscal year will be approved by the board and published on the school district website prior to the start of the fiscal year. Such board meetings will typically be held from September to June.

Regular closed meetings will typically commence no earlier than 1:00pm and end no later than 4:00pm unless determined to be required by the Agenda Preparation Committee. Regular closed meetings held on the same day as a public board meeting shall conclude no later than 4:30pm, unless there is a majority vote of the members to extend the meeting by no longer than 15 minutes. A second extension requires unanimous approval.

Regular public meetings will commence at 6:00pm unless the Board decides to vary the start time.

All regular public Board meetings shall be adjourned three hours after their commencement at 9:00pm; however, adjournment may be extended by 15 minutes with majority vote. With a unanimous vote of all Board members present, the normal adjournment time may be extended by a maximum of one hour or until 10:00pm, whichever comes first.

12. STAFF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

The Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer shall have the right to be present at all Board meetings where decisions are made. With a two-thirds vote, the Board may request that any one of the Board's officers not be present at a Board meeting. However, at least the Superintendent or Secretary Treasurer must be present at all Board meetings where decisions are made.

13. BOARD QUORUM

A quorum of the Board shall be a majority of the Trustees holding office at the time of the meeting.

Should a quorum not be present within 30 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting of the Board, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a date to be fixed by the Chairperson or, in default of the Chairperson fixing a meeting date, until the next regular meeting.

After a meeting has commenced, if there ceases to be a quorum, the presiding officer shall adjourn the meeting to a certain time or the next regular meeting date, at the Chairperson's discretion.

14. PUBLIC AND CLOSED SESSIONS

Except as provided in this policy, all meetings of the Board shall be open to the public. If in the Board's opinion the public interest so requires, the Board may order a meeting or part thereof to be closed and may exclude persons other than Trustees and officers as provided for in this policy.

The Board may occasionally live-stream public meetings at its discretion, limited to Board proceedings. Individuals invited to speak or present at a live-streamed meeting do so with the understanding that they may be recorded. Unauthorized recording of any part of the meeting by individuals, other than those authorized by the Board, is strictly prohibited. The Board reserves the right to stop any recording that disrupts its proceedings, contravenes Board policy, or violates this prohibition, and to edit any recorded portion of a meeting.

Unless otherwise determined by a two-thirds majority vote, the following matters shall be considered by the Board in closed session:

- a) Labour matters dealing with personnel or collective bargaining matters.
- b) Law matters dealing with any litigious items involving the Board, staff, or the community.
- c) Land dealings of purchase, swap, or disposals.
- d) Such other matters where the Board decides that the public interest so requires, including matters of a confidential, sensitive, or preliminary nature.

No Trustee or Board employee shall disclose to the public, the proceedings of a closed meeting or any materials or information pertaining thereto, unless a Resolution has been passed at a closed meeting to allow disclosure.

15. INAUGURAL AND ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BOARD

In the year of a general election of Trustees, the inaugural and organizational meeting shall be held on the first Wednesday in November commencing at 4:00pm and held exclusively for that purpose. Thereafter, annual organizational meetings of the Board shall be held in November concurrent with the regular open meeting of the Board commencing at 6:00pm.

Items of Business

The business of the inaugural (I) and annual (A) meeting shall be comprised of:

- a) The installation of any newly elected Trustees. (I)
- b) At the direction of the Chairperson Pro Tem, the Secretary Treasurer, who shall be Chairperson, will report upon the returns of the election of school Trustees, as certified by the returning officers of the two municipalities. (I)
- c) The Secretary Treasurer then shall administer to each Trustee, or have administered by another person duly qualified for this task, the Declaration and Oath of Allegiance required by the School Act. (I)
- d) The annual report of the immediate past Board Chairperson under policy 2918. (I)(A)
- e) The election of Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson as per Board policy 2915. (I)(A)
- f) Such items of ordinary business as the Board otherwise may approve as being in order for the annual meeting. (I)(A)

APPROVED: June 15, 2022

UPDATED: June 18, 2025

**SD42 POLICY: 2915**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON -
ELECTION, ROLE, AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

ELECTIONS

At its inaugural Public Board Meeting in November following a general local election, the Board of Education ("Board") shall elect one of its members to serve as Board Chairperson.

To ensure fairness and transparency in leadership selection, the Board shall conduct an election for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson each November to serve for the coming year. The election will be conducted at a Public Board Meeting following the Board-approved procedure for the election.

If the Chairperson resigns before the annual election, the position shall be declared vacant, and the Board shall hold an election at the next scheduled Public Board Meeting. Until the election occurs, the Vice-Chairperson shall assume the responsibilities of Chairperson.

ROLE

The Board entrusts the Chairperson with the primary responsibility of ensuring the integrity of the Board's processes and representing the Board to the broader community.

The role of the Chairperson is to facilitate the work of the Board, ensure effective governance, and articulate the collective decisions of the Board. The Chairperson does not have the authority to make decisions beyond policies established by the Board, nor do they have the authority to supervise or direct staff. The Chairperson may only speak on behalf of the Board regarding decisions already made and must not present personal opinions as Board decisions.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board delegates to the Chairperson the following powers and duties:

Board Meeting Responsibilities

1. Confers with the Vice-Chairperson, Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer before each Board meeting to review and finalize the agenda.
2. Presides over all Board meetings, ensuring they are conducted in accordance with the School Act, Board policies and procedures, and Robert's Rules of Order.
3. Facilitates Board discussions by:
 - a) Ensuring all issues are clearly presented.
 - b) Providing every Trustee with an equal opportunity to be heard and contribute to the collective decision-making process.
 - c) Keeping discussions focused on the topic under consideration.
 - d) Ensuring all Trustees present vote on matters before the Board.
 - e) Extending professional courtesy to Trustees, Board officials, media, and members of the public.

Governance and Communication Responsibilities

4. Maintains awareness of significant developments within the District.
5. Keeps the Board, Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer informed of matters that may impact the District.
6. Maintains regular communication with the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer to stay informed on key issues.
7. Conveys directly to the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer any concerns or questions raised by Trustees, parents, students, or employees that may significantly impact District administration.
8. Brings matters requiring Board decisions to the full Board for consideration.
9. Serves as the official spokesperson for the Board, articulating Board positions in accordance with Board direction and established policies. The Board may delegate this role to another individual or group as necessary.

Committee and Administrative Responsibilities:

10. Serves as a signing officer for the Board as outlined in Board policy.
11. Serves as an officer of the Board authorized to witness the use of the Board's corporate seal when required.
12. Represents the Board or arranges alternative representation at official meetings or public functions.

Leadership and Oversight Responsibilities

13. Ensures the Board engages in regular self-assessments to evaluate its effectiveness.
14. Oversees the Board's responsibility for the performance evaluation of the Superintendent.
15. Establishes and maintains efficient processes to manage the Board's business effectively.
16. Promotes public confidence in the Board's governance by fostering transparency, accountability, and ethical leadership.
17. Works with the Vice-Chairperson to support the work of the Board when needed.

APPROVED: October 10, 2012

UPDATED: June 18, 2025



SD42 POLICY: 2918

**VICE-CHAIRPERSON -
ELECTION, ROLE, AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

ELECTIONS

At its inaugural Public Board Meeting in November following a general local election, the Board of Education ("Board") shall elect one of its members to serve as Board Vice-Chairperson.

To ensure fairness and transparency in leadership selection, the Board shall conduct an election for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson each November to serve for the coming year. The election will be conducted at a Public Board Meeting following the Board-approved procedure for the election.

If the Vice-Chairperson resigns before the annual election, the position shall be declared vacant, and the Board shall hold an election at the next scheduled Public Board Meeting.

ROLE

The Vice-Chairperson shall act on behalf of the Board Chairperson in the Chairperson's absence and assume all associated duties and responsibilities as outlined in [Policy 2915: Board Chairperson – Election, Role, and Responsibilities](#).

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board delegates to the Vice-Chairperson the following powers and duties:

1. Assists the Board Chairperson in ensuring that the Board operates in accordance with the [School Act](#), Board policies and procedures, and Roberts' Rules of Order, while providing leadership and guidance to the Board.
2. Confers with the Board Chairperson, Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer before each Board meeting to review and finalize the agenda.
3. Undertakes additional duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Board Chairperson.

APPROVED: October 10, 2012

UPDATED: June 18, 2025



SD42 POLICY: 7100

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

PHILOSOPHY

The Board of Education ("Board") recognizes the profound impact that the work performed by and conduct of School District employees has on the lives of our students, families, and the community at large. As stewards of learning and development, the Board embraces a shared philosophy that serves as the foundation for these Standards of Conduct.

The Board believes in fostering an inclusive culture of care and belonging where the well-being, diversity, identity and success of all learners (both students and staff) is supported and celebrated. The Board's commitment to the highest standards of professional conduct is grounded in the following principles.

SCOPE

This Standards of Conduct policy applies to all School District employees.

Trustees of the School District are not employees, and their conduct is governed by [Board Policy 2919: Trustee Code of Conduct](#).

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Employees are role models and need to exhibit the highest qualities of character, including honesty, integrity, trustworthiness, and compassion. Employees must act lawfully and in accordance with the privileged position of authority, trust and influence they hold with students. While the Board respects the privacy and autonomy of employees in their personal lives, their actions, both in the workplace and outside it, have the potential to negatively impact the reputation and credibility of the School District. Employees whose personal conduct has the potential to harm the reputation of the School District, including the Board of Education, are accountable for their actions.

Employees will act lawfully and be free from undue influence and not act, or appear to act, in order to gain financial or other benefits for themselves, family, friends or other business.

Employee Standards of Conduct are further detailed below.

Loyalty

Employees have a duty of loyalty to the Board as their employer. They must act honestly in good faith and, in the course of their duties, in the best interests of the employer.

Accountability

Employees are responsible for the duties entrusted to them and to take ownership for their decisions and actions. This includes being accountable for acts of commission (taking deliberate actions) and omission (choosing not to act when appropriate). Employees are encouraged to maintain clear and detailed records of their decisions, actions, and processes to support transparency and accountability.

Confidentiality

Employees have a duty to comply with all policies and procedures relating to maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of personal information, including [Board Policy 5700: Privacy Management Program](#), and related procedures in the [Board Policy Manual](#). Confidential information, in any form, that employees receive through their employment must not be disclosed, released, or transmitted to anyone other than persons who are authorized to receive the information. Employees with care or control of personal or sensitive information, whether it is verbal, written in documents, on electronic media, or on electronic devices, must handle and dispose of the personal or sensitive information appropriately in accordance with [Procedure 5700.2 Personal Information Protection](#). Employees who are in doubt as to whether certain information is confidential must ask the appropriate authority before disclosing, releasing, or transmitting it.

The proper handling and protection of confidential information is applicable both within and outside of the workplace and continues to apply after the employment relationship ends.

Confidential information that employees receive through their employment must not be used by an employee for any purpose other than the performance of their duties, and never for the purpose of furthering any private interest or as a means of making personal gains.

Public Comments

Employees are free to comment on public issues but must avoid engaging in activities or making public statements that could be perceived as an official act or representation of the School District unless authorized to do so in accordance with [Board Policy 10200 Communications](#).

Political Activity

Employee conduct in relation to political activity is outlined in [Policy 10820 Political Activities](#).

Interactions with School Board Trustees

Outside of Board meetings, an individual trustee has no more authority than any member of the community, except when explicitly delegated certain duties and powers by the Board. For this reason, employees should seek the advice and approval of the Superintendent or their designate before responding to or acting on any direct request from an individual trustee.

Providing Service

Employees must provide service in a manner that is courteous, professional, and aligned with established standards. They are expected to be sensitive and responsive to the changing needs, expectations, and rights of a diverse public while performing their duties.

Workplace Behaviour

Positive workplace behavior fosters a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone can thrive. Every employee plays a vital role in shaping and contributing to a respectful and collaborative workplace, making a meaningful impact on our shared success and well-being.

Employees must treat each other with respect and dignity and must not engage in discriminatory conduct protected by the BC [Human Rights Code](#). The protected grounds include Indigenous identity, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, or conviction of a criminal or summary conviction offence that is unrelated to the employment or to the intended employment of an individual.

Further, employees must ensure their conduct in the workplace aligns with the standards of

respectful and professional behaviour, contributing to a positive and inclusive work environment. Bullying, harassment, or any other conduct that compromises the integrity of the School District will not be tolerated. These expectations are further outlined in [Board Policy 7210: Workplace Discrimination or Bullying and Harassment](#), which provides additional details on the School District's commitment to maintaining a respectful workplace.

Other inappropriate conduct includes any form of disorderly or misbehaving actions, including abuse of power, intimidation, verbal or physical abuse, deceit, or adverse treatment of others.

All employees may expect and have the responsibility to contribute to a safe workplace. Employees must comply with the School District's health and safety program, policies and related procedures while performing their duties. Employees must report any safety hazards or unsafe conditions and follow the provisions outlined in the [WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulations](#).

Use of Impairing Substances

The School District is committed to maintaining a safe and productive work environment. Employees play a vital role in this commitment by reporting to work fit for duty, free from the effects of impairing substances.

Employees are responsible for ensuring they are capable of performing their tasks productively, competently, and safely. The use of impairing substances that impacts an employee's fitness for work will not be tolerated.

Supervisors have a responsibility to fulfill their duty to inquire and duty to accommodate when an employee has, or appears to have, challenges related to impairing substances. Similarly, employees are responsible for disclosing any circumstances that may affect their fitness for duty and for cooperating with any support or accommodations provided by the School District.

Impairing substances are any substances that, when ingested or consumed, negatively affect a person's cognitive, emotional, or physical functioning. This includes, but is not limited to, alcohol, cannabis, illicit drugs, and medications with impairing effects. The use or inappropriate consumption of these substances can have serious adverse impacts in the workplace and on others, in particular, students.

While engaged in School District business, working on School District property, or operating motor vehicles or equipment, all employees are expected to:

- Report to work fit for duty.
- Ensure their ability to perform job duties is not compromised by the use or after-effects of impairing substances.
- Consult with their physician or pharmacist to determine if their use of any impairing substance may affect their fitness for duty or the safety of any person at work or in the workplace.
- Inform their supervisor if they are taking or have taken an impairing substance that may negatively impact their fitness for duty while at work or the safety of any person at work or in the workplace. However, employees are not required to disclose a specific diagnosis related to the use of impairing substances.
- Take appropriate action and immediately inform their supervisor if they reasonably believe that another employee is on School District premises or carrying out School District work in an unfit condition that poses a danger to themselves or others.
- Remain fit for duty if working on-call or decline the call-in if unfit.

Furthermore, employees:

- May be requested to undergo testing if there is evidence, or a reasonable suspicion, that impairing substances may be affecting their performance, behaviour or attendance or compromise workplace safety.
- Will seek advice and comply with recommended treatment programs as prescribed by an addiction specialist physician should they have a current or emerging addiction to any impairing substances. In addition, employees will comply with any recommended medical monitoring programs as recommended by this physician. Human Resources provides confidential support for employees who voluntarily disclose an addiction diagnosis.

The School District supports rehabilitation and provides opportunities for employees seeking assistance. Any violation of this policy will be investigated with an emphasis on supporting employees who seek assistance.

Conflicts of Interest

Employees, in the course of their duties, must prioritize the interests of the School District over personal interests and actively avoid situations that could lead to conflict of interests or the appearance of a conflict of interest.

A conflict of interest occurs when an employee's private affairs or financial interests are in conflict, or could result in a perception of conflict, with the employee's duties or responsibilities in such a way that:

- the employee's ability to act in the public interest could be impaired; or
- the employee's actions or conduct could undermine or compromise:
 - the public's confidence in the employee's ability to discharge work responsibilities; or
 - the trust that the public places in the School District.

While the Board recognizes the right of employees to be involved in activities as citizens of the community, conflict must not exist between employees' private interests and the discharge of their School District duties. At commencement of employment with the School District, employees must arrange their private affairs in a manner that will prevent actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

Employees must not expect or request preferential treatment for themselves or their families because of their position. They must also avoid any action that could lead members of the public to believe they are seeking such treatment.

Employees who find themselves in an actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest must disclose the matter to their supervisor.

Examples of conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to, employees:

- Being indebted to a person who could benefit from or seek special consideration or favour.
- Giving preferential treatment in official duties to individuals, corporations, or organization, including non-profits, in which the employee their relatives or friends have an interest, financial or otherwise.
- Benefiting from or being reasonably perceived by the public to benefit from, information acquired solely through their employment.
- Benefiting from, or being reasonably perceived by the public to benefit from, a School District transaction that the employee can influence (e.g., investments, sales, purchases, borrowing, grants, contracts, regulatory or discretionary approvals, appointments).

Personal Relationships Who Work Closely With One Another

Personal relationships, including romantic or familial connections, may create perceptions of favoritism, bias, or conflicts of interest. Employees involved in such relationships must disclose them to their supervisor. No reprisal will be taken against employees for disclosing these relationships in good faith. The supervisor will work with the employees to implement appropriate measures, such as reassignment or adjusted reporting structures, to maintain a professional and objective work environment.

For example, employees who are direct relatives—defined as spouses, domestic partners, parents, children, siblings, grandparents, grandchildren, in-laws, or any other familial relationship by blood, marriage, or legal arrangement—or who permanently reside together may not be employed in situations where:

- One employee has influence, input or decision-making power over the other employee's performance evaluation, salary, working conditions or similar human resource decisions.
- The working relationship affords an opportunity for collusion that may harm the School District's interests.

This restriction may be waived if the Superintendent determines that adequate safeguards are in place to protect the School District's interests.

Acceptance of Gifts and Other Complimentary Items

The School District promotes integrity and transparency in all interactions. Employees are expected to adhere to ethical standards when it comes to accepting gifts and other complimentary items.

Employees shall not, either directly or indirectly, demand or accept for personal benefit a gift, favour or service from any individual, organization or corporation except for the following instances:

- The normal exchange of hospitality between persons doing business together.
- Tokens exchanged as part of protocol (e.g., Christmas, retirement, appreciation).
- The normal presentation of gifts to persons participating in public functions.

Legal Proceedings

There may be times when an employee is requested or required to engage in a legal proceeding. When an employee receives such a request as it relates to their duties, they must notify their supervisor prior to acting on it.

Employees must not sign affidavits relating to facts that have come to their knowledge in the course of their duties for use in court proceedings unless the affidavit has been prepared or approved by a lawyer acting for the Board.

A written opinion prepared on behalf of the Board by any legal counsel is privileged and is, therefore, not to be released without prior approval of the Superintendent.

Outside Remunerative and Volunteer Work

Employees may hold jobs outside the School District, carry on a business, receive remuneration from public funds for activities outside their position or engage in volunteer activities provided it does not:

- interfere with the performance of their duties as a School District employee;
- bring the School District into disrepute;
- represent a conflict of interest or create the reasonable perception of a conflict of interest;
- appear to be an official act or to represent the School District opinion or policy;
- involve the use of work time or the unauthorized use of School District premises, services, equipment, or supplies; or
- gain an advantage that is derived from their employment with the School District.

Employees must first obtain permission from the Superintendent or designate, if such permission is required by their employment contract, before engaging in outside business activities, work or employment.

Operation of a Motor Vehicle

Employees who are required by the employer to operate a motor vehicle in the performance of their duties must hold a valid driver's license and must immediately inform their supervisor if their driving privileges have been revoked or suspended while on or off duty. Employees will not operate a motor vehicle if their driving privileges have been revoked or suspended.

Allegations of Misconduct

Employees have a duty to report any situation they believe contravenes this policy, violates the law, misuses public funds or assets, or poses a danger to public health and safety or a significant danger to the environment. Reports should be directed to the School District. Such matters will be treated confidentially, except where disclosure is authorized or required by law (e.g., under the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#)).

Employees will not be subject to discipline or reprisal for reporting, in good faith, allegations of misconduct in accordance with this policy.

Employees must report their allegations or concerns as follows:

- Employees belonging to a bargaining unit (MRTA or CUPE), must report breaches in accordance with the related article of their collective agreement if the agreement has explicit reporting requirements. Otherwise, they must report in writing to their supervisor, or the next level of management not involved in the matter, who will acknowledge receipt of the submission and have the matter reviewed in a timely manner.
- Excluded employees must report breaches in writing to their supervisor, or the next level of management not involved in the matter, who will acknowledge receipt of the submission and have the matter reviewed in a timely manner.

If a written report is not immediately possible, employees may report verbally, with a follow-up written report provided as soon as practicable.

Employees may also report serious wrongdoing under (and as defined in Division 2 of) the [Public Interest Disclosure Act](#) in accordance with [Board Policy 7110 Whistleblower Protection](#) and related [Procedure 7110.1](#).

Standards of Conduct Breaches

Employees are to abide by the requirements of the Standards of Conduct and shall endeavour to resolve interpersonal disputes in good faith. Staff must speak to their supervisor if they require any clarity about the Standards of Conduct. Any breaches of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Superintendent of Schools or Designate

- Provide timely policy orientation and advice to their respective teams to ensure all staff are regularly trained on the Standards of Conduct.
- Provide the district leadership team with guidance on an appropriate employer response to transgressions of the policy statement.
- Advise employees of the required Standards of Conduct.
- Promote a work environment that is free of discrimination.
- Deal with breaches of this policy statement in a timely manner, taking the appropriate action based upon the facts and circumstances.
- Seek out guidance and advice on issues that are complex and/or cannot be easily resolved.
- Delegate authority and responsibility, where applicable, to apply this policy statement within the district.

Human Resources

- Provide new employees with an orientation on the Standards of Conduct.
- Provide advice on Standards of Conduct issues to employees and supervisors.
- Seek out legal guidance and advice on issues that are complex and/or cannot be easily resolved.
- Consult with the Superintendent on significant breaches of this policy.
- Provide guidance and support to the supervisor with the investigation of the alleged breach of this policy.

Supervisors

- Provide an orientation to existing employees related to the Standards of Conduct and review the policy annually.
- Advise staff on Standards of Conduct issues, including assessing and addressing possible conflicts of interest.
- Take immediate action with reports of breaches of the Standards of Conduct, or breaches of other district policies and procedures and advise their immediate supervisor of the breach.
- With the support and guidance of the Human Resources department, investigate the alleged breach of this policy and provide a documented outcome to the employee(s) who has or has been alleged to have breached this policy.
- Ensure that applicable collective agreement provisions are adhered to with respect to any investigative processes and related disciplinary outcomes.

Employees

- Understand their obligations under the Standards of Conduct and the requirement to comply with it.
- Check with their supervisor when they are uncertain about any aspect of the Standards of Conduct.
- Objectively and loyally fulfill their assigned duties and responsibilities, regardless of persons in power or their personal opinions.
- Disclose and cooperate with the employer to resolve situations in which they find themselves a party to a breach of this policy.
- Maintain appropriate workplace behaviour at all times.
- Report breaches of the Standards of Conduct to their supervisor, or to the next level of management not involved in the matter.

PROPOSED TO BE APPROVED: June 18, 2025

**SD 42 POLICY: 7213****CONFLICT OF INTEREST – DISTRICT STAFF****PHILOSOPHY**

The Board expects the highest standards of conduct from its employees and views such behavior as paramount in developing and maintaining the public's trust and confidence in the District. The requirements for compliance with the high standards of conduct established by the Board are a condition of employment. Employees are expected to comply with the standards and expectations expressed in this policy and to generally exhibit these qualities and values within their daily activities as they relate to District business. Employees should contact their immediate supervisor for advice and assistance regarding the interpretation or application of this policy.

AUTHORITY

The Board assigns the responsibility for the implementation of this policy to the Superintendent of Schools and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to establish procedures that will guide the implementation of this policy.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The issue of conflict of interest is a delicate one that must be handled with the utmost care and consideration for employees while adhering to an unwavering commitment to high standards of employee conduct including but not limited to the following:

- 1.01 District employees have a duty of loyalty to the District as their employer. This duty requires employees to provide services to the best of their ability regardless of their own personal perspectives of Board direction or policy. The honesty and integrity of District employees must be above reproach and coupled with impartiality in the conduct of their duties to ensure that their actions are above public suspicion. The actions and conduct of employees must be such as to instill within the public a sense of trust and confidence in the District.
- 1.02 It is essential that employees recognize their responsibility to ensure that confidential information received as a result of employment with the District remain confidential, and not be divulged to anyone other than individuals authorized to receive such information. Disclosure of confidential information may put employees in a position of conflict of interest, and great care must be taken when communicating with individuals inside and outside the District.
- 1.03 A conflict of interest may also occur when an employee's private affairs or financial interests are in conflict, or could result in a perception of conflict, with the employee's duties or responsibilities in such a way that:
 - the employee's ability to act in the public interest could be impaired; or
 - the employee's actions or conduct could undermine or compromise:
 - the public's confidence in the employee's ability to discharge work responsibilities;
 - or
 - the trust that the public places in the public service.

~~While the Board recognizes the right of public service employees to be involved in activities as citizens of the community, conflict must not exist between employees' private interests and the discharge of their job related duties. Upon accepting a position in the District, employees must arrange their private affairs in a manner that will prevent conflicts of interest, or the perception of conflicts of interest, from arising.~~

~~Examples of conflict of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:~~

- ~~— an employee uses District property or the employee's position to pursue personal interests;~~
- ~~— an employee is under obligation to a person who might benefit from or seek to gain special consideration or favor;~~
- ~~— an employee, in the performance of duties, gives preferential treatment to an individual, corporation or organization, including a non-profit organization, in which the employee, a relative, or friend, of the employee, has an interest, financial or otherwise;~~
- ~~— an employee benefits from, or is reasonably perceived by the public to have benefited from, the use of information acquired solely by reason of the employee's employment;~~
- ~~— an employee benefits from, or is reasonably perceived by the public to have benefited from, a government transaction over which the employee can influence decisions (for example, investments, sales, purchases, borrowing, grants, contracts, regulatory or discretionary approvals, appointments);~~
- ~~— an employee requests or accepts from an individual, corporation or organization, directly or indirectly, a personal gift or benefit that arises out of their employment in the District, other than:
 - ~~○ the exchange of normal hospitality between persons doing business together;~~
 - ~~○ gifts exchanged as part of protocol, including the normal presentation of gifts to persons participating in public functions.~~~~

~~1.04 Employees are in a conflict of interest when dealing with direct relatives or individuals who permanently reside with them when the following working relationships exist:~~

- ~~— a reporting relationship exists where one employee has influence, input or decision-making power over the other employee's performance evaluation, salary, premiums, special permissions, conditions of work and similar matters; or~~
- ~~— the working relationship affords an opportunity for collusion between the two employees that would have a detrimental effect on the Employer's interest.~~

~~The above restriction on working relationships may be waived provided that the Superintendent or Secretary Treasurer are satisfied that sufficient safeguards are in place to ensure that the Employer's interests are not compromised.~~

~~1.05 Employees are to disqualify themselves as participants in personnel decisions when their objectivity would be compromised for any reason, benefit or perceived benefit, could accrue to them. For example, employees are not to participate in staffing actions involving direct relatives or persons living in the same household.~~

~~1.06 Employees may engage in remunerative employment with another employer, carry on a business, receive remuneration from public funds for activities outside their position, or engage in volunteer activities without there being a conflict of interest, provided it does not:~~

- ~~• interfere with the performance of their duties as an employee of the District;~~
- ~~• bring the District into disrepute;~~
- ~~• represent a conflict of interest or create the reasonable perception of a conflict of interest;~~
- ~~• appear to be an official act or to represent District direction or policy;~~
- ~~• involve the unauthorized use of work time or District premises, services, equipment or supplies to which they have access by virtue of their employment with the District; or~~
- ~~• gain an advantage that is derived from their employment with the District.~~

~~APPROVED: February 13, 2013~~

~~AMENDED: December 11, 2019~~

RETIRED June 18, 2025



SD 42 POLICY: 7220

DANGEROUS WEAPONS

~~It is the policy of the school district to maintain a positive, safe, secure learning and working environment. In striving to attain such an environment, the district takes the position of no tolerance for weapons in our schools. All weapons or instruments that have the appearance of a weapon are prohibited within all school environments and the school zone, except for educational purposes as authorized in advance by the school principal or designate. School environments include, but are not limited to, district-owned buildings; leased or rented facilities; school sponsored activities; field trips; school vehicles and school buses rented or owned. Anyone found to be in possession of a weapon in any area defined in this policy, before, during, or after school hours is subject to administrative and/or legal action.~~

~~The school administration shall ensure that this policy is brought to the attention of all students, parents and staff members on a regular basis.~~

~~Students and non-students, including employees and other adults, are forbidden to knowingly or voluntarily possess, store in any area subject to one's control, handle, transmit, or use any instrument that is considered a weapon or "look-alike" weapon in any of the school environments listed above.~~

~~"Weapon" means any firearm whether loaded or unloaded; any chemical, substance, device, or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or death; or any device or instrument that is used to threaten, strike terror, or cause bodily harm or death.~~

A. Category 1 Weapons

~~The district does not tolerate the following objects:~~

~~1.00 — All firearms, whether loaded or unloaded, etc.~~

~~1.01 — Other guns of all types including pellet, B-B, stun, look-alike, and non-functioning guns that could be used to threaten others, etc.~~

~~1.02 — Knives, switchblades or automatically opening blades, daggers, swords, — razors, etc.~~

~~1.03 — Artificial knuckles or other objects designed to be worn over the fist or knuckles, etc.~~

~~1.04 — Blackjacks, clubs, numchucks, throwing stars, etc.~~

~~1.05 — Explosives~~

~~1.06 — Poisons, chemicals, or substances capable of causing bodily harm~~

~~1.07 — Bow and arrows, sling shots, etc.~~

~~1.08 — Any other device or instrument used to intimidate, threaten or inflict harm.~~

~~B. Category I Violation by Youths and Adults, Including Employees~~

~~1.00 — Immediate police involvement with recommendation to charge.~~

~~1.01 — Employees will also be subject to district investigation and application of relevant disciplinary procedures.~~

~~C. Category 2 Weapons Possession of Objects That May or May Not Be Considered Weapons~~

~~While this policy represents a “no tolerance” position on weapons and/or look-alike weapons, there are several objects that are questionable regarding whether they are considered weapons and whether the presence of these objects requires activation and enforcement of this policy. The administrator may use his or her discretion when interpreting use and intent with such objects. Such potentially dangerous objects may include, but are not limited to:~~

~~1.00 — Small pocket knives~~

~~1.01 — Fireworks, fire crackers, and smoke bombs~~

~~1.02 — Throwing darts~~

~~1.03 — Nuisance items and toys~~

~~1.04 — Unauthorized tools~~

~~1.05 — Mace~~

~~**APPROVED: February 13, 2013**~~

~~**RETIRED June 18, 2025**~~

From: Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools
Topic: **Board Engagement with Secondary Students**

BACKGROUND

Through the Annual Work Plan the Board of Education commits to engage with secondary students. This year the board engaged students from Samuel Robertson Technical School (**Attachment A**) and Maple Ridge Secondary School (**Attachment B**).

The topics for the discussion were:

1. mental wellness
2. diversity, equity, and inclusion
3. career development and future planning

During the meetings notes were taken at each table, then the notes were collated and summarized. The summary documents from each session are provided to trustees as a record of each session. They will also be shared with the school principal and members of the senior team to help inform our ongoing work for every individual to feel valued and for all learners to reach their potential.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive the summaries from the Board engagement with secondary students for information.

**Board Meeting with Samuel Robertson Technical Students
Wednesday May 7, 2025**

Page 1 of 1

Summary of Feedback Themes with Samuel Robertson Tech. Students

Overall feedback:

1. Mental Wellness - Students value existing supports like counselors, EPIC rooms, and caring staff, but accessibility and awareness are major issues.
2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) - Students appreciate existing diversity initiatives, but many feel diversity efforts are uneven or superficial.
3. Career Development and Future Planning - Programs like CLC and CLE are a good start, but career and life readiness feels underdeveloped.

Based on the detailed feedback received, the key themes from the SRT Student Meeting with the Board of Education are as follows:

1. Mental Wellness:

Key Themes:

- Students broadly recognize mental health as critical, and they appreciate existing supports (e.g., EPIC rooms, counselling, staff efforts).
- There are major gaps in access to mental health professionals and lack of visibility or consistency of counsellors were common issues across all groups.
- There is a need for peer-based and culturally diverse mental health approaches, particularly targeted at transitions (Grade 8, Grade 12) and students facing systemic barriers.

2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI):

Key Themes:

- There is strong support for celebrating diversity, with many students noting the value of cultural days, SOGI clubs, and inclusive classrooms.
- Students want more balanced cultural education—feeling current efforts may focus heavily on certain groups (e.g., Indigenous) to the neglect of others.
- There were concerns about staff bias, underrepresentation of staff diversity, and a lack of meaningful accountability for exclusionary behavior.

3. Career Development and Future Planning:

Key Themes:

- Students appreciate existing structures (CLC, CLE, Capstone) but feel career preparation is uneven, too late, or not practical enough.
- There is a clear desire for more experiential, hands-on learning, mentorships, field trips, and exposure to diverse career paths.
- Students want better preparation for life skills like taxes, budgeting, applications, and communication with adults.

**Board Meeting with Maple Ridge Secondary Students
Wednesday, June 4, 2025**

Page 1 of 1

Summary of Feedback Themes with MRSS Students

Based on the detailed feedback received, the key themes from the MRSS Student Meeting with the Board of Education are as follows:

1. **Mental Wellness**

Key Themes:

- **Support & Connection:** Students benefit from youth workers, counsellors, peer groups, and safe spaces like support rooms. Programs such as Link Crew and cross-grade opportunities foster connection, while staff who build one-on-one relationships and create safe classroom environments are highly valued.
- **Barriers & Challenges:** Limited awareness and accessibility of available supports remain a concern. Judgment, favoritism, and inconsistency in student treatment contribute to stress and discourage openness. Additionally, academic pressure and rigid classroom structures negatively impact mental health.

2. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)**

Key Themes:

- **Recognition & Inclusion:** Events like Pride Day, Orange Shirt Day, and CIYA-led walks demonstrate a commitment to diversity. Many students feel accepted and appreciate the role of clubs and inclusive classrooms in fostering belonging.
- **Challenges & Barriers:** Some students perceive LGBTQ+ inclusion as surface-level and met with discomfort or avoidance. Staff may hesitate to discuss topics like gender identity due to concerns about saying the wrong thing. Social cliques and stereotyping persist across different interest groups and cultural backgrounds, leaving international and marginalized students feeling isolated or misrepresented.

3. **Career Development and Future Planning**

Key Themes:

- **Existing Supports & Resources:** Career 12, the firefighting course, and career centre staff are recognized as valuable supports. Microsoft Teams, job fairs, and TV bulletins help share opportunities, though awareness and engagement vary among students.
- **Opportunities for Improvement:** Life skills education—covering topics like taxes, credit, loans, mortgages, and resumes—is insufficient. Many students find career education lacks engagement and real-world relevance. Hands-on learning and exposure to diverse career paths remain limited, especially beyond trades and common professions. French Immersion students experience restricted course options, leading to missed opportunities.

From: Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools

Topic: **District Financial Allocation to DPAC**

BACKGROUND

In 2006, the Board approved an annual allocation of \$65 per school PAC to support membership in the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC). In the 2016/2017 school year the overall funding for PAC and DPAC increased from \$2,143 to \$3,921.

During the pandemic the funds were not provided (2019/20 to 2022/23). For the 2023/24 school year, as school activities resumed post-pandemic, the \$3,921 allocation to DPAC was reinstated. These funds are provided directly to DPAC to support activities for PACs and parents/guardians. This funding is contingent on DPAC submitting an annual report to the Board each June and a funding request to the Superintendent.

DPAC's funding report for 2024/25 and proposed spending plan for 2025/26 (**Attachment**) is presented to the Board for information.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive the District Parent Advisory Council's funding report for 2024/25 and proposed spending plan for 2025/26, for information.

ATTACHMENT



District Parent Advisory Council Funding Report 2024-25 and Proposed Spending Plan for 2025-26

	2024-25	2025-26
Carry Fwd	1,042	2,783
FY District Funding Received	3,921	
Expenditures		
<i>BCCPAC Memberships (31 PACs)</i>	1,900	3,100
<i>Education and Appreciation (budgeted at \$5000)</i>	280	2,321
<i>Subtotal</i>	2,180	5,421
FY District Funding Request	3,921	3,921

The funding received from School District 42 (SD42) for the 2024–25 fiscal year was allocated to cover the costs of BCCPAC memberships for all Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) within the Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows district. These memberships are a strategic investment in strengthening SD42’s collective voice at the provincial level. By ensuring representation within BCCPAC, SD42 enhances its advocacy efforts and contributes to shaping province-wide education policy, directly advancing district priorities and parent-led initiatives.

Expenditures for the 2024–25 fiscal year reflect a responsive shift toward meeting immediate needs through significant DPAC volunteer hours, primarily focused on supporting PAC governance and advocacy. These efforts were essential in addressing emerging priorities in parent and community engagement.

Looking ahead, DPAC is preparing to balance ongoing PAC and community support with a renewed focus on allocating resources toward expanded education programming for parents and PACs, as well as the renewal of BCCPAC memberships for SD42 PACs.



Public Board Meeting
June 18, 2025
Information Memo
Item #10

From: Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools

Topic: **Superintendent's Update**

BACKGROUND:

The Superintendent will provide the Board with a verbal update. The update will include the following topic(s):

- 2024/2025 School Year in Review

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive the Superintendent's Update, for information.

From: Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer

Topic: **Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025/26**

BACKGROUND

At the March 5, 2025, public board meeting, the Board approved the Regular Board Meeting Schedule for 2025/26. The schedule was later amended at the May 14, 2025, public board meeting to reflect the following regular board meeting dates:

- Wednesday, September 17, 2025
- Wednesday, October 22, 2025
- Wednesday, November 12, 2025
- Wednesday, December 3, 2025
- Wednesday, January 14, 2026
- Wednesday, February 11, 2026
- Wednesday, March 4, 2026
- Wednesday, April 15, 2026
- Wednesday, April 29, 2026
- Wednesday, May 13, 2026
- Wednesday, June 17, 2026

To support the Board Annual Work Plan (**Attachment A**), which was approved on November 13, 2024, a full calendar for the 2025/26 school year has been prepared (**Attachment B**) that includes public and closed board meetings for the dates above, along with planned committee meetings and workshops on alternate Wednesdays.

Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted by the Agenda Preparation Committee to align with the Board priorities and evolving timelines for bringing items to forward. These dates remain subject to change as circumstances require.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive the Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025/26, for information.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNUAL WORK PLAN

SEPTEMBER

- ☑ Approve Audited Financial Statements
- ☑ Approve Five-Year Capital Plan for Minor Capital Programs
- ☑ Approve Supporting All Learners: Enhancing Student Learning Annual Report
- ☑ Receive Audit Findings Report
- ☑ Receive Student Transportation Update
- ☑ Receive Summer Learning Update
- ☑ Receive Executive Compensation Disclosure Report
- ☑ Receive Board Policy Development Committee Work Plan
- ☑ Receive Whistleblower Protection Policy Annual Report
- ☑ Complete Conflict of Interest Declarations
- ☑ Consider Motions for BCSTA Provincial Council

OCTOBER

- ☑ Approve Statement of Financial Information
- ☑ Complete Board Self Evaluation
- ☑ Represent Board at BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting
- ☑ Consider Motions for BCSTA Annual General Meeting

NOVEMBER

- ☑ Issue Annual Chairperson Report
- ☑ Elect Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
- ☑ Receive Enrolment Update
- ☑ Represent Board at BCPSEA Symposium
- ☑ Attend BCSTA Trustee Academy

DECEMBER

- ☑ Approve First Quarter Financial Statements
- ☑ Approve Preliminary Budget Process and Consultation Timeline
- ☑ Receive Chairperson's Trustee Appointments to Committees and Community Liaison Groups
- ☑ Consider Motions for BCSTA Provincial Council and Annual General Meeting

JANUARY

- ☑ Approve School Growth Plans
- ☑ Approve Motions to BCSTA Annual General Meeting
- ☑ Receive Ministry Funding Update
- ☑ Complete Financial Disclosure Act Statement of Disclosure Forms
- ☑ Represent Board at BCPSEA Annual General Meeting

FEBRUARY

- ☑ Approve Board and Departmental Operational Plan Updates
- ☑ Approve Board/Authority Authorized Courses and Programs of Choice
- ☑ Approve Non-Resident Student Fees
- ☑ Approve Second Quarter Financial Statements
- ☑ Adopt Amended Annual Budget Bylaw
- ☑ Receive Three-Year Enrolment Projection
- ☑ Represent Board at BCSTA Provincial Council Meeting

MARCH

- ☑ Approve Facility Rental Fee Rates
- ☑ Approve Board Meeting Schedule
- ☑ Approve Trustee Remuneration
- ☑ Receive Ministry Funding Estimate for upcoming year
- ☑ Receive Input from the Indigenous Education Council on Budget Priorities
- ☑ Receive Input from Partner Groups and Students on Budget Priorities
- ☑ Receive Enhancing Student Learning Feedback Report
- ☑ Consider Updates to the Strategic Plan
- ☑ Represent Board at BCSTA Meeting
- ☑ Represent Board at Ministry of Education and Child Care Liaison Meeting

APRIL

- ☑ Receive Proposed Preliminary Budget
- ☑ Engage in Budget Consultation Process
- ☑ Approve Preliminary Budget Changes and Budget Bylaw
- ☑ Approve Annual Facilities Grant Spending Plan
- ☑ Attend the BCSTA Annual General Meeting

MAY

- ☑ Approve Third Quarter Financial Statements
- ☑ Approve School Fees and Specialty Academy Fees
- ☑ Approve Eligible School Sites Proposal
- ☑ Approve Joint First Nation Student Transportation Plan
- ☑ Approve Financial Statement Audit Plan
- ☑ Receive Environmental Sustainability Update and Climate Change Accountability Report
- ☑ Engage with Secondary Students for Input

JUNE

- ☑ Approve Five-Year Capital Plan for Major Capital Programs and Building Envelope Program
- ☑ Complete Superintendent Evaluation and Growth Plan
- ☑ Receive Annual District Parent Advisory Council Report

Continued on next page.

ONGOING ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

- ☑ Engage in Trustee Professional Development
- ☑ Engage in Advocacy Initiatives
- ☑ Engage with Local Governments (municipal and first nations)
- ☑ Engage with Students, Staff, and School Communities
- ☑ Prepare and Issue Advocacy Letters
- ☑ Represent Board at BCSTA Branch Meetings
- ☑ Represent Board in Committees and Community Liaison Groups
- ☑ Recognize Students and Staff
- ☑ Attend School and District Functions
- ☑ Attend Employee Recognition Events
- ☑ Attend Community Events

OTHER ITEMS SCHEDULED AS NEEDED

- ☑ Develop and Approve Board Policies and Bylaws
- ☑ Approve Ad Hoc Capital Project Bylaws
- ☑ Approve Budget Changes
- ☑ Approve Collective Bargaining Plans
- ☑ Approve Disposition of Real Property (land and buildings)
- ☑ Approve Exempt Compensation Framework
- ☑ Approve Local Education Agreements
- ☑ Approve Motions to BCSTA Provincial Council
- ☑ Approve School District Calendars
- ☑ Approve Strategic Facilities Plan
- ☑ Appoint Financial Statement Auditor
- ☑ Ratify Collective Agreements
- ☑ Ratify Principal and Vice Principal Appointments
- ☑ Receive Indigenous Education Council Advice
- ☑ Receive Operational Updates
- ☑ Receive Principal and Vice Principal Cohort Placements
- ☑ Receive Student and Staff Presentations
- ☑ Hear Appeals
- ☑ Issue Chairperson Updates

September

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labour Day	2 School opens	3 9:00 Agenda Prep 10:00 Workshop	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 9:00 Facilities COTW 10:00 Finance COTW 11:00 BPDC	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 National Truth and Reconciliation Day				

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

October

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 12:30 Accessibility Advisory Committee	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 9:00 Agenda Prep 10:00 Workshop 11:00 BDPC	9	10 NID (SGP)	11
12	13 Thanksgiving Day	14	15 School Visit	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	23	24 Provincial NID	25
26	27	28	29 9:00 Agenda Prep 10:00 Workshop	30	31	

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

November

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 9:00 BDPC 3:00 EAC	6	7	8
9 NID	10	11 Remembrance Day	12 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 9:00 Agenda Prep 10:00 Finance COTW 11:00 Workshop	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

December

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	4	5 12:30 Accessibility Advisory Committee	6
7	8	9	10 9:00 Agenda Prep 10:00 Facilities Planning 11:00 Workshop 3:00 EAC	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

January

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5 Schools reopen	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 9:00 BPDC 10:00 Workshop 12:30 Engagement with PMSS Students	22	23	24
25	26	27 NID	28 9:00 Agenda Prep 3:00 EAC	29	30	31

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

February

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 9:00 Finance COTW	5	6 12:30 Accessibility Advisory Committee	7
8	9	10	11 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	12	13 NID	14
15	16 Family Day	17	18 9:00 Agenda Prep 10:00 Workshop 11:00 BDPC	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 9:00-3:00 Finance COTW (budget input)	26	27	28

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

March

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 9:00 Workshop 11:00 Facilities COTW	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Schools reopen	31				

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

April

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00 Agenda prep 10:00 Finance COTW (Budget update with partner groups)	2	3 Good Friday	4
5	6 Easter Monday	7	8 9:00 Workshop 10:00 BDPC	9 BCSTA AGM	10 BCSTA AGM	11 BCSTA AGM
12	13 4:00 Workshop (Budget)	14	15 Board of Education: 10:00 Finance COTW 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 6:00 Finance COTW (public input)	23 1:00 Finance COTW	24	25
26	27 4:00 Workshop (Budget)	28	29 1:00 Agenda Prep Board of Education: 6:00 public	30		

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

May

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 9:00 BDPC 10:00 Workshop 11:00 Finance COTW	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 NID Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	14	15	16
17 Victoria Day	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.

Board and Committees Meeting Calendar for 2025-26 (plan as of June 2025*)

June

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 9:00 Agenda Prep 10:00 Workshop 11:00 BDPC	4 12:30 Accessibility Advisory Committee	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Board of Education: 2:00 Closed 6:00 Public	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Last day for students	25 Administrative Day	26	27
28	29	30				

* Note: Committee meetings and workshop dates and times may be adjusted during the year to align with Board priorities and evolving timelines.



Public Board Meeting
June 18, 2025
Information Memo
Item #12

From: Accessibility Advisory Committee
Topic: **Receive Minutes of Meeting**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board receive the Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes for the meeting held on June 5, 2025, for information.

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

Thursday, June 5, 2025 - MRSS

12:30-2:30

In attendance:

Cheryl Schwarz, Michael Scarcella, Sherri Skerratt, Hilarie Ford, Caroline Gaudet, Dana Sirsis, Grant Frend

Regrets: Amanda Reber, Kim Dumore, Louie Girotto,

Acknowledgement of Territory

Meeting started at 12:30

New Business

1. Accessibility Updates

- Committee members provided updates of accessibility work completed and in progress.

2. Accessibility Concerns

a) New buildings:

- The committee discussed the importance of communicating accessibility needs during the planning and construction of new buildings.
- It was agreed that this item would be forwarded to the facilities department.

b) Cross-enrollment distributed learning:

- Committee members were provided with information regarding the cross-enrollment process with distributed learning.

3. 3-year Accessibility Plan: Year 2 Updates

a) Technology

b) Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

c) Self-Regulation/Calming Spaces

- The committee was provided with updates on technology, UDL and self-regulating/calming spaces.
- The committee discussed how to create designated calm areas in classrooms that could be accessible for all students.
- It was agreed that this item would be forwarded to the next meeting.

4. Accessibility Meetings for 2025-2026 (12:30-2:30)

- The committee members confirmed the following meeting dates would be set for 2025-2026;
 - October 3, 2025, December 5, 2025, February 6, 2026, and May 21, 2026.
- The committee members requested that meetings be offered in a hybrid format moving forward.

The meeting concluded at 1:45.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 3, 2025 (12:30-2:30 location TBD)

From: Mike Murray, Trustee

Topic: **Trustee Report: Ridge Meadows Education Foundation**

Date of Meeting: June 2, 2025

Items Discussed:

A grant request from DPAC was received and considered to support families in need whose children are participating in after school programs. A report was requested on the previous year's use of the same grant which was subsequently provided identifying full utilization. It was noted that the funding may not be possible in future years depending upon the available funding and extent of grant requests.

A detailed discussion was held on where potential donors are to be directed when they come to the school district. Those wanting to support a specific fundraising campaign for things like playgrounds will go directly to the school district. Those wanting to develop flow through bursaries/scholarships will also go to the school district while those over a certain financial threshold (to be determined) and those wishing to either

- A. donate to the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows School District (endowment) Fund, or
- B. establish an endowment fund

will be directed to RMEF. The specific wording will be finalized for both the school district and RMEF website.

Further discussion was held on the promotional events to be held this Fall (bursary, scholarship and grants night etc.)

Current investment results were also reported by the RMEF Treasurer who advised RMEF assets have exceeded \$2M for the first time.

Action Items referred to the Board of Education:

- None at this time. Staff will be working on finalizing the donor advice document over the next few weeks.

Date of Next Meeting: September 15, 2025

From: Mike Murray, Trustee
Topic: **Trustee Report: City of Maple Ridge Engaged, Healthy Community Advisory Committee**

Date of Meeting: June 5, 2025

Items Discussed:

Members were introduced with many new people having been appointed. Staff provided an orientation on how the committee is to function within the context of the City's Strategic Plan. Since the group will be meeting monthly there will be a greater opportunity to provide Council with advice based on a review of staff research and recommendations. The scope of the committee's work has to do with Parks, Recreation, Culture and Social Planning.

Steven Hall was elected Chair and Carolina Echeverri Vice Chair.

Staff provided information updates on the City's strategic plan (as part of the orientation), on the engaged community model and on the Public Art Program noting that a review of cultural programs will be discussed with a consultant at the July meeting. Public consultation on the proposed west end recreation facilities will be collated by that time as well.

A link was provided for the committee dashboard identifying broad goals, key performance indicators and initiatives in this area of the City's work:

<https://publish.clearpointstrategy.com/7588/MapleRidgeCommunityDashboard/layoutId=384704&object=scorecard&periodId=331958&scorecardId=161956.html>

Action Items referred to the Board of Education:

- None at this time

Date of Next Meeting: July 2025

From: Kim Dumore, Trustee
Topic: **Trustee Report: Municipal Advisory Committee on Accessibility & Inclusiveness**

Date of Meeting: May 14, 2025

Items Discussed:

1. Introduction to New Members and Committee Orientation

The meeting began with a welcome and introduction of new MACAI members. An overview of the committee's purpose was provided, including its role in advising the City of Maple Ridge on accessibility and inclusiveness matters.

2. What is MACAI?

MACAI (Municipal Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness) is a legislated advisory body under Bill 6, formed to promote and support accessibility initiatives within the city. The committee works under three main objectives:

- Establishing and maintaining the committee itself
- Developing an Accessibility Plan
- Supporting the implementation of the Plan

A communication portal is available for the public to bring forward accessibility-related concerns. If community members have any accessibility inquiries or suggestions, they are encouraged to email the committee clerk at: committeeclerk@mapleridge.ca

3. MACAI Accessibility Awards

The MACAI Awards, now in their 20th year, recognize individuals or organizations who have significantly contributed to accessibility and inclusiveness in Maple Ridge.

- For 2025, two awards will be presented at the Canada Day celebration
- The selection process is underway

4. Access Pass Program Expansion

There is ongoing discussion regarding expanding the Access Pass Program, which aims to improve financial access to recreation and city services for individuals with disabilities or other access barriers.

Action Items referred to the Board of Education:

- None

Date of Next Meeting: September 2025

From: Mike Murray, Trustee

Topic: **Trustee Report: District Parent Advisory Council**

Date of Meeting: May 22, 2025

Items Discussed:

- **Naloxone Training** – Superintendent Teresa Downs spoke to the group about the introduction of a new training program available for those staff and students who want to learn about first aid treatment for opioid emergencies and the supplies available in schools. She shared information on the materials prepared by a group of teachers which will be made available to all schools in the district.
- **Gaming Grants** – PACs were reminded about the deadlines for gaming grant applications and reporting with a full discussion of the approach needed to be successful. It was noted the Branch is looking more closely at applications and reporting.
- **Trustee Advocacy** – Trustee Murray shared information about a recent letter sent to the Ministry of Education and Child Care and to the Ministry of Infrastructure on the need for land acquisition and a new school in Silver Valley. It was noted a commitment was made during the recent provincial election for a new school in Maple Ridge.
- **Budget Response** – Trustee Murray also shared that the Board greatly appreciated the input received during the recent budget deliberations and noted some final adjustments made as a result of that input. He noted projections indicate the problem of insufficient funding will likely get worse over the next couple of years and that more difficult decisions will need to be made as a result. In the meantime all advocacy work being undertaken by all of the partners are greatly appreciated by the Board.

Additional Items included references to a variety of upcoming events and PAC activities.

Action Items referred to the Board of Education:

- N/A

Date of Next Meeting: June 19, 2025

From: Elaine Yamamoto, Board Chairperson

Topic: **Question Period**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Question period will be restricted to questions only – statements and debate will not be permitted. Questions, with the exception of Trustee questions, will be limited to one question per person. Members of the public can submit questions for the board by emailing them to board@sd42.ca by no later than 5:30pm on June 18, 2025. The email subject line should read: QUESTION PERIOD. All questions received before the start of the question period will be answered in the order they are received. This agenda item has a time limit of 10 minutes; extension is at the discretion of the board.

Topic: Public Board Record

R E C O R D

Pursuant to provisions of 72 (1) of the *School Act*, the following report is a general statement of: (a) matters discussed; and (b) the general nature of decisions resolved at the following meetings from which persons other than Trustees or officers of the Board, or both were excluded:

April 16, 2025 Closed

Territory Acknowledgement	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 2:09pm
Motion of Exclusion	Approved
Approval of Agenda	Approved
Approval of Minutes	Approved
Superintendent of Schools Decision Items	Approved
Superintendent of Schools Information Item	Received
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 2:48pm

April 16, 2025 Special Closed

Territory Acknowledgement	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 1:48pm
Motion of Exclusion	Approved
Approval of Agenda	Approved
Decision Item	Approved
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 2:07pm