

# MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 (6:00 PM)

Boardroom, District Education Office

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson – Elaine Yamamoto Vice Chairperson – Kim Dumore Trustee – Hudson Campbell Trustee – Mike Murray Trustee – Pascale Shaw 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:

Trustee - Gabriel Liosis

Trustee - Katie Sullivan

#### **GUESTS:**

Diane Wadden, Vice Principal, Riverside Centre Tricia McCuaig, Principal, Riverside Centre Ken Cober, Assistant Superintendent Louie Girotto, Director, Facilities

#### A. OPENING PROCEDURES

#### 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.

## 3. Correspondence

- 2025-07-02 Letter from Minister Beare to Board Chair re: Need for More Reliable and Equitable Funding Model
- 2025-07-08 Letter from Board Chair to Minister Kang re: Request for Update on Ridge-Meadows Post-Secondary Feasibility Study
- 2025-07-08 Letter from Minister Ma to Board Chair re: Site Acquisition and New School Construction in Silver Valley
- 2025-07-17 Letter from Minister Sunner representative to Board Chair re: Update on Post-Secondary Feasibility Study

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the correspondence, for information.

## CARRIED

## 4. Approval of Agenda

## Moved/Seconded

THAT the Agenda be approved as circulated.

#### 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 <a href="mailto:board@sd42.ca">board@sd42.ca</a> by no later than 30 minutes before the start of the meeting.

No public input was received.

## 6. Approval of Minutes

## Moved/Seconded

THAT the Minutes of the June 18, 2025, Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

## **CARRIED**

#### **B. PRESENTATIONS**

## 1. Summer Learning 2025

Ken Cober, Tricia McCuaig, and Diane Wadden provided the board with an update on Summer Learning 2025. The presentation included a review of the district's strategic priorities and goals, an overview of the summer program curriculum, enrolment trends, and the locations of summer program sites.

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive for information the presentation on Summer Learning 2025.

#### CARRIED

#### C. DELEGATIONS

#### D. DECISION ITEMS

- 1. Chairperson
- 2. Superintendent of Schools

## a) Student Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

The Superintendent briefed the Board on directives from two previous meetings:

- At the January 17, 2024 meeting, staff were tasked with reviewing the district's current student governance model and assessing the feasibility of introducing a student trustee for the 2026/27 school year.
- At the June 18, 2025 public board meeting, staff were directed to develop terms of reference for a student advisory committee, to be presented for consideration at the September public meeting.

The terms of reference were presented for approval and for staff to start the work to establish the Student Advisory Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding having a board workshop for further discussion and potential refinement.

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board recommend that the Student Advisory Committee Terms of Reference be forwarded to a board workshop.

## CARRIED

## b) Supporting All Learners: Enhancing Student Learning Report

The Superintendent presented the Supporting All Learners: Enhancing Student Learning Report, highlighting progress and data in three areas: Human and Social Development, Intellectual Development, and Career Development and contains currently available data and analysis of that data. Key data, trends, and strategies to support equity and student success were highlighted, along with ongoing and new initiatives aligned with district priorities and goals.

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board approve the Supporting All Learners: Enhancing Student Learning Report for submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

#### CARRIED

## 3. Secretary Treasurer

## a) Audited Financial Statements for 2024/25

The Secretary Treasurer presented the Financial Statements Discussion and Analysis Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. In accordance with the School Act, boards of education must prepare financial statements with respect to the preceding fiscal year and forward a copy to the Ministry of Education and Child Care by September 30, 2025, together with the auditor's report.

## Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board approve the Audited Financial Statements of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) for the year ended June 30, 2025.

## **CARRIED**

#### b) Five-Year Capital Plan for 2026/27 for Minor Capital Programs

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the submission deadline for the 2026/27 Minor Capital Programs is September 30, 2025 and that the projects included in the plan align with the selection methodology and prioritization principles outlined in the school district's Strategic Facilities Plan.

The Director of Facilities reported on the projects within the plan for the following major capital programs: School Enhancement Program, Carbon Neutral Capital Program, Playground Equipment Program, Food Infrastructure Program, Building Envelope Program, and the Child Care Minor Program.

#### Moved/Seconded

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

## **CARRIED**

- 4. Board Committees
  - a) Finance
  - b) Facilities Planning
  - c) Board Policy Development
  - d) Education Advisory
  - e) Accessibility Advisory
- 5. Indigenous Education Council
- 6. Trustee Motions and Notices of Motions

#### **E. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 1. Chairperson
  - a) Chairperson's Update

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the new school year and acknowledged the upcoming National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30, 2025. Appreciation was expressed for the new school zone safety measures provided by the City of Maple Ridge to promote safe driving in school areas. It was also announced that Trustee Liosis requested, and was granted, an unpaid leave of absence in accordance with the School Act. The Chairperson confirmed that this decision will not impact the ongoing work of the Board.

#### Moved/Seconded

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

#### CARRIED

- 2. Superintendent of Schools
  - a) Summer Learning Update

Ken Cober, Assistant Superintendent, provided an update on the school district's 2025 summer learning programs offered in July 2025 at four sites. He reported that overall enrolment exceeded budget projections, and that staffing adjustments were made to support program delivery. He also reported that expenses for the program continue to exceeded revenue, by a higher margin than projected, and emphasized that focus is needed to make the program financially sustainable.

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Summer Learning Update, for information.

#### CARRIED

#### b) District Operational Plan

The Superintendent presented the 2025-2026 District Operational Plan that outlines the intentional work that staff will undertake during the current school year in support of the revised strategic plan approved by the Board on June 18, 2025. It was noted that the Board will receive a progress report in January 2026 and a final accountability report in June 2026 to monitor progress toward each stated objective.

## Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the 2025-2026 District Operational Plan, for information.

#### CARRIED

# c) Superintendent's Update

The Superintendent presented an update on the following topics:

- Unexpected Health Emergencies at Schools
- Framework for Responding to Disruptions in Classrooms and Schools

## Moved/Seconded

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

#### CARRIED

# d) Whistleblower Protection Policy Annual Report for 2024/25

The Superintendent reported that, for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, there was one complaint filed under the policy, however the nature of the complaint did not meet the definition of a reportable activity as set out in the policy.

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Whistleblower Protection Policy Annual Report for 2024/25, for information.

#### CARRIED

## 3. Secretary Treasurer

# a) Secretary Treasurer's Update

The Secretary Treasurer provided the Board with an update on the National School Food Program funding.

Discussion ensued regarding the inequitable distribution of the funds.

A two-thirds vote of board members was achieved to consider the following trustee motion, which was introduced during the meeting and not on the agenda.

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the board chair be directed to forward a letter to the minister of education and child care, expressing concern about the recent announcement of National School Food Program funding allocation, and specifically, the inequitable distribution of those funds.

#### CARRIED

## Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's Update, for information.

## **CARRIED**

#### 4. Committee Business

- a) Finance
- b) Facilities Planning
- c) Board Policy Development
- i. Board Policy Development Committee Work Plan 2025/26

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the Board Policy Development Committee has met and developed a work plan for the 2025/26 school year.

## Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the Board Policy Development Committee Work Plan for 2025/26 for information.

#### **CARRIED**

#### ii. Policies for Consultation

The Secretary Treasurer and Superintendent reported that the Board Policy Development Committee met, reviewed, and is proposing updates to the following policies outlined in the agenda package: Policy 10820: Political Activities, proposed new policy 9400: Emergency Preparedness, and proposed new policy 9405: Unexpected Health Emergencies at Schools. Input from education partners and the public is invited from September 18 to noon on October 29, 2025.

## Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board receive the following policies for information and continuation of the consultation process:

- Draft updates to policy 10820: Political Activities
- Draft new policy 9400: Emergency Preparedness
- Draft new policy 9405: Unexpected Health Emergencies at Schools

#### CARRIED

- d) Education Advisory
- e) Accessibility Advisory
- 5. Indigenous Education Council
- 6. Trustee Reports

## City of Maple Ridge Engaged, Healthy Community Advisory Committee

Trustee Murray reported that additional materials were shared with trustees from the meetings held on June 29 and September 4, 2025.

#### F. QUESTION PERIOD

Questions were received and answered regarding teacher classroom assignment, options to address school enrolment changes, and long-term staffing plan for French Immersion programs.

#### G. OTHER BUSINESS

#### H. ADJOURNMENT

#### Moved/Seconded

THAT the Board adjourn the meeting.

#### CARRIED

The Public Board Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Elaine Yamamoto, Chairperson

Richard Rennie, Secretary Treasurer