



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 6:00 pm

School Board Office

1040 Hollywood Road S

Kelowna, BC

- Board of Education: Trustee L. Tiede, Chair
Trustee W. Broughton
Trustee C. Desrosiers
Trustee J. Fraser
Trustee A. Geistlinger (*by telephone*)
Trustee L. Guderyan
Trustee V. Johnson
- Staff: Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO
Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Mona Essler, Executive Assistant
Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
- Absent: Terry Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
(*attending Indigenous Graduation Ceremony, Mount Boucherie Secondary*)
- Partner Groups: Susan Bauhart, COTA President
Teri Wishlow, CUPE President
Jen Adamson, COPVPA Executive
Simon Adams, COPAC President
Nicola Baker, COPAC Vice President
Zach Johnson, DSC Co-President

The Central Okanagan Board of Education acknowledged that this meeting was being held on the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

AGENDA

Add: Motion by Trustee Broughton - Item 13.8

Main 23P-075

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

**THAT: The Agenda for the Public Board Meeting of June 14, 2023 be adopted, as amended.
CARRIED**

MINUTES

Public Board Meeting - May 24, 2023

Main 23P-076

MOVED by Trustee Johnson

SECONDED by Trustee Fraser

**THAT: The Minutes of the Public Board Meeting of May 24, 2023 adopted as presented.
CARRIED**

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS – "INSIDE 23"

Creating Caring Communities in French Immersion

In attendance:

- Tonia MacGregor, Vice-Principal, École H.S. Grenda Middle School
- Shannon Bracken, Teacher, École Kelowna Secondary School
- Students from École Kelowna Secondary School (Dîner en Blanc)
 - Zach Johnson
 - Kyleigh Holland
 - Katie Jones
- Students from École H.S. Grenda Middle School (Faisons un Boeuf)
 - Avalyn Block
 - Elena Eikenaar
- Student from École KLO Middle School (Faisons un Boeuf)
 - Keaton Burgess

The first annual Dîner en Blanc was held to celebrate graduating French Immersion students. Students dressed in white and conducted a promenade along the downtown boardwalk before meeting at the surprise location to enjoy a delicious French meal and be toasted by their teachers,

all en français. The grade 12 French Immersion students from École Kelowna Secondary School will be receiving a dual dogwood upon graduation.

Faisons un Boeuf - Over 600 students and teachers from the French Immersion middle schools (École Dr. Knox Middle, École Glenrosa Middle, École H.S. Grenda Middle and École KLO Middle) came together to celebrate their appreciation of French music and culture. Students showcased their audio-visual talents with the creation of original music videos for the enjoyment of all.

RECOGNITION

Kelowna Civic and Community Award Winners – Students

The Board of Education congratulated the following students on winning their respective categories for the Kelowna Civic and Community Awards:

- Female Athlete of the Year: Kanani Coon, Student, École Okanagan Mission Secondary School
- Young Citizen of the Year: Liam Sisson, Student, École Okanagan Mission Secondary School
- Augie Ciancone Memorial Award – Youth Female Athlete of the Year: Brooklyn Widdess, Student, École Kelowna Secondary School
- Augie Ciancone Memorial Award – Young Male Athlete of the Year: Walker Sodaro, Student, École Kelowna Secondary School
- Teen Honour in the Arts: Riegar Marks, Student, École Okanagan Mission Secondary School (not in attendance)

School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) – Recognition of 35-Year Employees

The Board of Education congratulated the following employees on their 35 years of service with Central Okanagan Public Schools:

- Kim Mortenson, Teacher, Davidson Road Elementary School
- Jenny Reitsma, Teacher, École Kelowna Secondary School (not in attendance)
- Ksenia Morden, Teacher, École Dorothea Walker Elementary School (not in attendance)
- Miles Ryan, Mechanical Coordinator, Operations Department (not in attendance)

MEETING RECESS

6:45 pm: The meeting recessed.

6:51 pm: The meeting reconvened.

DECLARATION

National Indigenous History Month - June and National Indigenous Peoples Day - June 21, 2023

The Central Okanagan Board of Education recognized that June is 'National Indigenous History Month' and declared June 21, 2023 as 'Indigenous Peoples Day' in Central Okanagan Public Schools.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public questions/comments.

TRUSTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS

Trustee Fraser spoke of the incident at the District track and field event involving a grandparent making accusations against a Grade 4 student and reiterated her support of 2SLGBTQ+ students and staff in the District. Trustee Fraser stated she was shocked by the bullying behavior, and that adults in the community could stand to learn from our students who celebrate diversity and inclusivity.

Trustee Broughton also spoke of the incident and the disruption of the District event which was greatly concerning. The grandparents aggressively harassed and intimidated staff and upset the young students and families. He stated that it was appalling that the gender of nine-year olds was being discussed and that this kind of behavior and rhetoric appears to be a natural outgrowth of the propaganda which is being spread.

Trustee Guderyan attended the District track event where this incident unfortunately occurred. While she did not witness the incident, she was disheartened to hear of the negative impact after such a positive and fun day seeing incredible athletes from Grades 4 and 5 compete. Trustee Guderyan reiterated that school should be a safe place to compete, learn and grow.

Trustee Desrosiers stated that the District's purpose is to educate students in a safe, inclusive, equitable and inspirational learning environment. The Board of Education upholds the values of responsibility, respect, empathy, and equity. Trustee Desrosiers thanked teachers, support staff, administrators, and the senior admin team for their support in this unfortunate incident.

Trustee Tiede stated that there is never an appropriate time for an adult to bully a child, ever. The Board's focus is to establish a safe environment and focus on the successes of our District, and it is disheartening to have this make international news when there is so much else to celebrate.

ACTION ITEMS

Travel Expense Rates Update

Recommendation from the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting - May 17, 2023.

Main 23P-077

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education approve the recommended Travel Expense Rates effective July 1, 2023, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

2023/2024 CommunityLINK Allocations

Recommendation from the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting - May 17, 2023.

Main 23P-078

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education approve the recommended CommunityLINK Allocations for 2023/2024, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

ABSTAINED: Trustee Johnson (due to conflict of interest)

2024/2025 Five Year Capital Plan Submission

Recommendation from the Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting - June 7, 2023.

Main 23P-079

MOVED by Trustee Desrosiers

SECONDED by Trustee Broughton

THAT: The Board of Education approve the Capital Plan Resolutions for the 2024/2025 Capital Plan as outlined on the attached summary, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

New Policy 162 - Financial Planning and Reporting

Recommendation from the Policy Committee Meeting - June 7, 2023.

Main 23P-080

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Broughton

THAT: The Board of Education approve new Policy 162 – Financial Planning and Reporting, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

Amendments to Policy 335 - Occupational Health and Safety

Recommendation from the Policy Committee Meeting - June 7, 2023.

Main 23P-081

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board of Education approve the amendments to Policy 335 - Occupational Health and Safety, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

Amendments to Policy 425 - Student Fees and Regulations 425R - Student Fees

Recommendation from the Policy Committee Meeting - June 7, 2023.

Main 23P-082

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The Board of Education approve the amendments to Policy 425 - Student Fees and Regulations 425R - Student Fees, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

Amendments to Policy 621 - Protocol for Flying Flags at Half Mast

Recommendation from the Policy Committee Meeting - June 7, 2023.

Main 23P-083

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Guderyan

THAT: The Board of Education approve the amendments to Policy 621 - Protocol for Flying Flags at Half Mast, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting.

CARRIED

Public Statement – Reaffirming Commitment to Safety and Inclusion

Main 23P-084

MOVED by Trustee Broughton

SECONDED by Trustee Desrosiers

THAT: The Board prepare a public statement reaffirming our commitment to the safety and inclusion of all our students and staff and to counter some of the misinformation that is being distributed.

CARRIED

INFORMATION ITEMS

Superintendent’s Emergent Issues

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO spoke of the incident which occurred at a recent District-led elementary track meet which included participants from District, Francophone and independent schools. The shotput event was disrupted by a couple questioning the gender of two of the grade 4 student athletes. The couple were not related to students in Central Okanagan Public Schools, their granddaughter attends another district. The couple behaved belligerently and did not follow staff directions. Staff at the event responded professionally and intervened, eventually moving the event across the field. The District has provided support to families who witnessed this interaction. The District has investigated the incident and will be issuing letters to the event disruptors, according to Section 177 of the School Act. The letters will state that they are prohibited from entering the land or premises of any School District property of District sponsored events.

Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary – 2022/2023

The Board reviewed the information.

Level 4 and 5 Field Study Summary - 2023/2024

The Board reviewed the information.

General Statement – May 24, 2023

The Board reviewed the information.

Financial Update - International Education Program

The Board reviewed the information.

2022/2023 Transportation Services Update

The Board reviewed the information.

Rutland Middle School Update

The Board reviewed the information.

ADVOCACY

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO and senior staff recommended that the Board continue to advocate for Rutland Middle School and the significant proposed addition and upgrades and encourages parents to do the same. The Board's General Affairs committee will have one dedicated part of the Agenda for Advocacy, for meetings starting in September.

BOARD/DISTRICT COMMITTEE QUERIES/COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Trustee Broughton reported that he attended the Health Promoting Schools Committee meeting. One of the items highlighted was the Middle Years Development Instrument Survey, which polled Grade 5 students for their experience in their school communities. This survey had a high participation rate in our District and a noticeable improvement as to how students were feeling compared to a few years ago.

The Board Chair advised that she had attended the COPAC meeting and expressed her appreciation to the COPAC President and Vice-President for their work. The Board Chair also attended the last District Student Council meeting of the year and offered a heartfelt thank you to graduating students Zach Johnson and Mehak Parihar for their incredible contributions and dedication.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Received:

- 2023-05-22 Email from Action4Canada re: Pride Month
- 2023-05-23 67 Form letters received: Ban Non-government and Special Interest Group Flags
- 2023-05-24 Email from L. Dueck re Pride Month Declaration
- 2023-05-25 Thank you email from Black Mountain Elementary - re: Inside 23 presentation
- 2023-05-29 Email from S. Bauhart with video link - celebrating our differences
- 2023-06-01 Email from S. Kootnekoff regarding busing
- 2023-06-05 Letter from Chute Lake Elementary PAC re: Action4Canada on School Property
- 2023-06-05 Letter from District Student Council re: Co-Presidents for 2023/2024

Sent:

- 2023-05-24 Letter to R. Delaney re: SOGI information
- 2023-05-25 Letter of condolence to Fiddler family

Main 23P-085

MOVED by Trustee Fraser

SECONDED by Trustee Broughton

THAT: At the June 14, 2023 Public Board Meeting, the Board receive the correspondence listed above.

CARRIED

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

The Board Chair, Trustees and Superintendent of Schools/CEO spoke of the following:

- Attendance at various events throughout the District including Graduation Ceremonies, Indigenous Education Graduation Ceremonies, the Mount Boucherie Secondary School Art Show, the Mount Boucherie Secondary School Walk for Mental Health, the results of the Mount Boucherie Secondary School Biking Academy at the Provincial Championships, Music Monday at Prospera Place, school appreciation events, along with various other school events.
- Caring Communities:
 - The École Okanagan Mission Secondary School Relay for Life, a school-wide fundraiser that raises money for groundbreaking research and vital services that

support Canadians currently living with cancer, raised over \$30,000 this year, and over \$100,000 the past 3 years.

- Over \$18,000 was raised through the École Dr. Knox Middle School Bald Falcon Day. Since this event was started 16 years ago, over \$500,000 has been raised for the BC Children's Hospital Foundation.
- The 8th Annual 2023 District Sumobot Competition was held at Hollywood Road Education Services on Thursday, May 25, 2023. Over 170 students between grades 4 and 9, competed on 70 different robot teams.
- Trustees and senior staff, along with representatives from partner groups, participated in the Kelowna Pride Festival held on Saturday June 10, 2023.
- The Together We Learn – Telling Our Stories – The Literacy Issue has now been published and is posted on the School District website (www.sd23.bc.ca). The Literacy issue features student writing from all levels, as well as an amazing collaborative art project.
- Staff recently presented at two National Forums. One Forum was on Exploring Pathways to Post Secondary in Toronto, and the other was exploring Nature, Biodiversity, Sustainability based education, in Winnipeg.
- The finale of the Central Okanagan Public Schools premier high school business competition, the Innovative Generation Challenge (iGen), will be taking place on Thursday, June 16, 2023 at the Innovation Center.
- Thank you and congratulations was expressed to the District Student Council Co-Presidents, Zach Johnson and Mehak Parihar, on their graduation. Also, appreciation was expressed to Simon Adams, COPAC President, who will be moving to the role of Vice-President starting July 1st.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings

Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

Board Standing Committee Meetings

Wednesday June 21, 2023

- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm

- Education and Student Services Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm

Wednesday September 6, 2023

- General Affairs Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm

- Planning and Facilities Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Road S.

MEDIA QUESTIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer/CFO