



MISSION:
Achieving Educational Excellence through
engaging and personalized learning

VISION:
Competent and confident learners making positive
contributions in an evolving global environment

Regular Board Meeting	MINUTES	February 24, 2025 6:00 PM
Present:	N. Hazelton D. Albertson S. Davis R. Pooley C. Walker M. Skinner D. Turner K. Black M. Gauthier C. McKay H. Silver	Vice Chair Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Interim Superintendent Secretary-Treasurer Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Director of Instruction Director of Instruction Recording Secretary
In-House Guests:	D. Carpenter C. Smith Chloe 4 Members of the Public	SD91 Careers Coordinator DPAC Representative Student Voice Representative
Present Online:	R. Gratz Austin & Ellie 1 Member of the Public	Trustee Student Voice Representatives
Absent:	D. Christie	Chairperson
1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> The Regular Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson N. Hazelton at 6:00 p.m.		
2. <u>RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY</u> Vice-Chairperson N. Hazelton acknowledged that we are grateful to live, work, and play on the unceded, ancestral territories of fourteen First Nations represented by the Dakelh, Nedut'en, and Wet'suwet'en Peoples; and we are working diligently towards creating equity for our learners through conscious Acts of Reconciliation. Specifically for this meeting, we feel honoured to gather in Saik'uz First Nation territory.		
3. <u>INTRODUCTIONS</u> The following guests were introduced: - Chloe, Student Voice Representative (in person) - Austin & Elli, Student Voice Representatives (online) D. Carpenter, SD91 Careers Coordinator C. Smith, DPAC Representative		
4. <u>APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA</u> The Consent Agenda was amended to remove the second reading for Item 9.1.A '2024-2025 Amended Budget Bylaw' and to adjust the dollar amount to \$80,240,885. The Consent Agenda, including the following items, was approved as amended: - The Agenda for the Regular Meeting dated February 24, 2025. - The Minutes of the Regular Meeting dated January 20, 2025. - The Record of the In-Camera Meeting dated January 20, 2025.		

25-08 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT the Consent Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Monday, February 24, 2025, be approved as amended.

Carried

5. **STUDENT VOICE**

Student Voice representatives Chloe, Austin, and Ellie shared details about various activities happening in SD91 secondary schools over the past month.

** Student Voice representatives Chloe and Austin departed the meeting at 6:09 p.m.*

6. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Trustee N. Hazelton shared information about a Board Chair's call last week with the Ministries of Infrastructure and Education and Child Care wherein government officials advised that capital projects for all sectors will now be managed the Ministry of Infrastructure.

Trustee N. Hazelton also shared information relating to the February 22 Provincial Council meeting that was led by the BCSTA's new Chief Executive Officer T. Davies. Trustees will soon receive an email from the BCSTA regarding proposed updates to three bylaws.

Trustee N. Hazelton reported about her experiences at the Francois Lake Elementary School and SD91 District Science Fairs on February 12 and 18, and she expressed gratitude to all the students, staff, parents, and judges who were involved in annual science fairs. Special thanks to SD91 administrative and teaching staff members T. Clark, R. Toth, and J. Soles for coordinating the District Science Fair.

7. **BCSTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

All Trustees were notified that the BCSTA Annual General Meeting will take place on April 24-25, 2025, and further information has been circulated via email.

8. **EDUCATION DIVISION**

8.1 **EDUCATION UPDATES**

A. **FRASER LAKE FARM-GARDEN INITIATIVE**

District Careers Coordinator D. Carpenter presented to the Board and answered questions about a new garden initiative at Fraser Lake Elementary-Secondary School that has recently received grant funding.

*** District Careers Coordinator D. Carpenter departed the meeting at 6:30 p.m.*

B. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD**

Superintendent A McClinton shared her regular monthly update, highlighting many visits to most SD91 schools and sites, introductory meetings with various staff members and stakeholder group representatives, a recent Indigenous group gala event, science fairs, and more. Special recognition was expressed towards staff members who devote so much time in and outside of class time to coach sports and coordinate special events for students.

Superintendent A. McClinton also reported to the Board about her attendance at the recent BCPSEA Annual General Meeting that included presentation from Minister Beare, discussions about bargaining and the trustee role in bargaining. BCPSEA will host a bargaining academy learning session from March 3-5, 2025.

C. **INITIAL 2025-26 ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

Assistant Superintendent M. Skinner reported that 2025-26 enrolment projections had been submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care prior to the February 14th deadline. SD91 anticipates that student enrolment will decrease by approximately 80 students, mainly due to the recent trend of fewer new Kindergarten registrations in comparison to graduating students.

D. SCHOOL GROWTH PLANS

The template and most current 'School Plans to Enhance Student Learning' for 14 of 16 SD91 schools were reviewed. It was noted that one school's plan would be submitted at a later date and that EBUS Academy was not required to provide a school plan due to their status as a provincial online school. Instead, EBUS Academy will present directly to the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

25-09 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT, pursuant to Section 8.3 of the School Act, the Board of Education of School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes) approve the 'School Plans to Enhance Student Learning' as presented.

Carried

8.2 OUT-OF-COUNTRY FIELD/SPORTS TRIP REQUESTS

A. INITIAL REQUEST

25-10 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT initial approval be given for selected FLESS Grade 8-12 students to travel to Greece from March 13 to March 24, 2026.

Carried

B. FINAL APPROVAL REQUEST

25-11 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT final approval be given for selected FSJSS Travel Club students to travel to Germany, Switzerland, and Austria from June 25 to July 5, 2025.

Carried

8.3 BOARD AUTHORITY/AUTHORIZED (BAA) COURSE

25-12 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT approval be given to the BAA Course - Financial Literacy 11 as presented.

Carried

9. OPERATIONS DIVISION

9.1 FINANCE

A. 2024-2025 AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW

Secretary-Treasurer D. Turner presented about the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget and a discussion followed.

25-13 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$80,370,076 be given first reading.

Carried

B. 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET

Superintendent A. McClinton indicated that district staff has begun planning for the 2025-2026 Annual Budget that will require Board of Education approval before the end of June 2026. The process will include a public survey, stakeholder engagement sessions and other opportunities for members of the public to learn and provide educated feedback.

9.2 **SCHOOL CALENDARS**

A. **AMENDED 2024-25 EARLY DISMISSAL REQUESTS**

25-14 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT approval be given to Fort St. James area schools to change the previously approved early dismissal day for the purpose of Professional Learning Communities (PLC) time from Friday, April 11 to Thursday, April 10, 2025.

Carried

B. **DRAFT 2027-2028 DISTRICT CALENDAR**

25-15 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT the 'Draft 2027-2028 School Calendar' be released for public consultation from February 25 to April 25, 2025, keeping the District in compliance with the School Act's requirement for a minimum 30-day public consultation period.

Carried

10. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Member of the Public question:

Is there a threshold for percentage of enrolment decline where a school may be considered for closure or amalgamation into another school?

Response:

SD91 staff will provide information via email.

Member of the Public comment:

With respect to the Fraser Lake farm-garden initiative and based on knowledge of how much work goes into the Vanderhoof Community Garden, be warned that operating such a project takes an awful lot of work.

Trustee D. Albertson question:

How can members of the public ask questions about presentations when presenters have usually departed before the public question portion of the meeting?

Response:

Responses to public questions are generally answered via email which allows district staff the opportunity to request further information from presenters.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

25-16 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT the Meeting of Monday, February 24, 2025, adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Carried