



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

March 17, 2025 6:00 PM

Present:	D. Christie N. Hazelton D. Albertson S. Davis R. Gratz R. Pooley A. McClinton M. Skinner K. Black M. Gauthier C. McKay H. Silver	Chairperson Vice Chair Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Superintendent Assistant Superintendent Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Director of Instruction Director of Instruction Recording Secretary
In-House Guests:	H. Thiessen B. Cross C. Smith Chloe 4 Members of the Public	Public Delegate Principal, EBUS Academy DPAC Representative Student Voice Representative
Present Online:	D. Turner Austin & Hadley 10 Members of the Public	Secretary-Treasurer Student Voice Representatives
Absent:	C. Walker	Trustee

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson D. Christie at 6:00 p.m.

2. RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL TERRITORY

Chairperson D. Christie 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. INTRODUCTIONS

The following guests were introduced:

- H. Thiessen, Public Presenter
- B. Cross, EBUS Principal
- C. Smith, DPAC Representative
- Chloe, Student Voice Representative
- Hadley & Austin, Student Voice Representatives

4. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda, including the following items, was approved:

- The Agenda for the Regular Meeting dated March 17, 2025.
- The Minutes of the Regular Meeting dated February 24, 2025.
- The Record of the In-Camera Meeting dated February 24, 2025.

25-17 *MOVED and SECONDED*

THAT the Consent Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2025, be approved as presented.

Carried

5. **APPOINTMENT OF ACTING SECRETARY-TREASURER**

25-18 *MOVED and SECONDED*

THAT Assistant Secretary-Treasurer K. Black be appointed as Acting Secretary-Treasurer for this meeting.

Carried

6. **PRESENTATIONS**

There was a public delegation presentation by H. Thiessen. There were no Trustee questions in response. Chairperson D. Christie noted that the Board would not answer questions as part of the presentation, but a written response would be provided to H. Thiessen at a later time.

7. **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

There were no Trustee reports.

8. **STUDENT VOICE**

Student Voice representatives Chloe, Austin and Hailey shared information about various student-led activities that have been happening around the District in the past month, as well as touched on some future initiatives and learning sessions that the Student Voice group has planned in the next while.

** Student Voice representatives Chloe and Austin and one member of the public departed the meeting at 6:28 p.m.*

9. **DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DPAC)**

DPAC Chairperson C. Smith shared current news from the District's Parent Advisory Council, including information about the following topics:

- January 30, 2025 DPAC meeting notes
- District-wide PAC fundraising ventures
- School cellphone restrictions

10. **EDUCATION DIVISION**

10.1 **EDUCATION UPDATE**

EBUS Principal B. Cross shared a portion of a recent 90-minute presentation that he and EBUS staff members had given at the Ministry of Education and Child Care level. This presentation is one of the requirements for EBUS to hold its Provincial Online School status, and it replaces the need for a school growth plan that is required by most other BC schools.

*** EBUS Principal B. Cross departed the meeting at 6:48 p.m.*

Superintendent A. McClinton reviewed her monthly report to the Board of Education, including highlights on the following recent events and activities:

- Pink Shirt Day
- Jen Kelly's professional development sessions for primary teachers
- Central Interior Science Exhibition (CISE)
- Sinkut View Elementary School's theme park project for grade 5 and 6 students
- Computer Club at William Konkin Elementary School
- Waffle Wednesday with RCMP members at Nechako Valley Secondary School

Director of Instruction C. McKay provided additional Honouring Diversity information, including:

- An update from the District's most recent Gender Sexuality Alliance (GSA) group
- This year's Share the Love Week theme is 'Gender Identity has Always Existed' and various activities are being planned around the District for the week of May 12-16, 2025.

10.2 **BC OMBUDSPERSON INVESTIGATION**

Assistant Superintendent M. Skinner provided an update about the ongoing, province-wide BC Ombudsperson's Investigation. After various provincial organizations advocated for an extension, the deadline has been shifted to the end of June 2025. The District's Inclusive Education team is working diligently to gather and organize the data required for SD91 to respond appropriately. This is a wide-scale investigation, and the Ombudsperson's office has indicated that it may take up to two years for them to complete the report of their findings.

10.3 DISTRICT SCIENCE FAIR

Chairperson D. Christie expressed gratitude towards EBUS Vice-Principal T. Clark and the committee of staff members who hosted another successful District Science Fair at Fraser Lake Elementary-Secondary School. It was noted that many SD91 student scientists had moved on to participate in the Central Interior Science Exhibition (CISE) at UNBC in Prince George, and that 56 SD91 students had received CISE awards. It was also noted that SD91 students have also qualified for the national science fair for the past few years.

11. OPERATIONS DIVISION

11.1 FINANCE

A. 2024-2025 AMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW

Acting Secretary-Treasurer K. Black acknowledged the work of many SD91 staff members who worked diligently to complete the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget. There have been no changes to the document since the first reading at the Board of Education's Regular Meeting on February 24, 2025.

25-19 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$80,240,885 be given second reading.

Carried

25-20 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$80,240,885 be given third reading and adopted.

Carried

B. 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS

Superintendent A. McClinton shared the District's newly created budget engagement webpage. SD91 anticipates 2025-2026 budget shortfalls due to declining enrolment trends across the District. There is a public survey open until April 9, 2025, as well as other opportunities for stakeholders and members of the public to learn and ask questions about and provide feedback throughout the annual budget building process.

12. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Member of the Public question:

Is SD91 genuinely committed to the open dialogue, transparency and public discourse that it aims to provide, and which would be demonstrated by easier public access, increased seating for the community in order to increase public confidence?

Chairperson D. Christie indicated that a response would follow via email.

Member of the Public comment:

The Nak'azdli Whut'en Education Department would like to have representation at the May 26 Feeding Futures meeting that was mentioned as part of the Student Voice presentation to the Board.

Chairperson D. Christie indicated that District staff will be in contact with this member of the public.

13. ADJOURNMENT

25-21 *MOVED and SECONDED*
THAT the Meeting of Monday, March 17, 2025, adjourn at 7:14 p.m.

Carried