

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**November 28, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.**

---

**TRUSTEES:** Amanda Dowhy, Board Chair  
Cendra Beaton  
Christine Lervold  
Allison Watson

Ebony Logins, Vice Chair  
Russ Chipps (virtual)  
Trudy Spiller

**STAFF:** Scott Stinson, Superintendent  
Harold Cull, Secretary-Treasurer  
Paul Block, Deputy Superintendent  
Monica Braniff, Associate Superintendent  
David Strange, Associate Superintendent  
Fred Hibbs, Executive Director, HR  
Farzaan Nusserwanji, Executive Director, IT  
Steve Tonnesen, Manager, IT Operations

**REGRETS:**

**SECRETARY:** Kristina Ross

---

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES**  
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board Chair, who acknowledged the traditional territories of the First Nations.
2. **AGENDA**
  - 2.1 Call for amendments and additional items
    175. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Christine Lervold  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the public meeting agenda of November 28, 2023, as presented.  
**CARRIED**
  - 2.2 Report on In Camera Meeting – Amanda Dowhy



This notice is to inform the public that prior to this meeting an “in-camera” meeting of the Board was held where issues of legal, land and personnel were discussed.

### 3. MINUTES

#### 3.1 Call for amendments to minutes

176. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Allison Watson  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the public meeting minutes of October 24, 2023, as presented.  
CARRIED

### 4. INFORMATION ITEMS AND ANNOUCEMENTS

#### 4.1 Board Chair Update – Amanda Dowhy

The Board Chair shared her condolences and support to the District of Sooke community after the passing of two members. She spoke work completed by the BCSTA Climate Action Working Group and shared a report from the working group along with several questions that they require feedback on. The Board Chair asked trustees to review the questions and for leadership to engage the staff. Further, she spoke about the introduction of holocaust education in the Grade 10 curriculum, the passing of Bill 40-2023: School Amendment Act, 2023, and how it affects SD 62 and passed on her congratulations on to the Royal Bay Secondary School Senior Soccer Team, who placed second at the B.C. High School Soccer Championships.

### 5. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

#### 5.1 Governor General Awards – Scott Stinson

The Governor General Academic Award is awarded to the student who achieves the highest academic average upon graduation from a Secondary School.

- a. Belmont Secondary School Recipient – Katelyn Vandermark
- b. Edward Milne Community School Recipient – Rylan Domenichelli
- c. Royal Bay Secondary School Recipient – Naomi El-Nahas

#### 5.2 Play & Learn Camp at Edward Milne Community School – Anne Bell

EMCS Society staff spoke about the Sooke Play and Learn Summer Camp, which helps students who are not yet meeting grade expectations through play-based learning activities targeting literacy and numeracy. They provided an overview of the program, and asked the Board of Education to consider the society during its budget planning cycle.

### 6. CORRESPONDENCE & DELEGATIONS



6.1 Correspondence

- a. Letter from Deputy Minister Zacharuk, dated October 12, 2022: FortisBC

177. MOVED Ebony Logins/Allison Watson  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the letter from Deputy Minister Zacharuk, dated October 12, 2022: FortisBC.  
CARRIED

6.2 Standing Delegations (STA, CUPE, PVP, SPEAC) – 5 minutes each

STA – Jennifer Anderson

Jennifer Anderson suggested that despite terminating the additional PRO D funding, the STA hosted its PRO D conference with keynote speaker Jo Chrona. She expressed concern about the portable at EMCS, one was removed and the other is empty waiting for an occupancy permit from the District of Sooke before it can be used.

CUPE 459 – Lou Leslie

Vice President Lou Leslie congratulated the Governor General Academic Awards winners, their families and school communities. CUPE recently hosted the provincial trustees at the BCSTA Fall Academy where they were able to thank School Trustees for their work and dedication. She spoke of the need for affordable before and after school care in our school community and asked the Board of Education to again consider a Staff Affordability Fund, that would help staff weather the current increase in the cost of living.

PVP – Karen Sjerven

Karen Sjerven indicated that Remembrance Day Ceremonies were held District wide the week of November 6<sup>th</sup>. Elementary, Middle and Secondary Schools are participating in the 10,000 Tonight Initiative which will help feed the Western Communities in addition to Sooke and Port Renfrew. Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School celebrated its first anniversary with 700 cupcakes, and the Intramural Fall Sports schedule is underway.

SPEAC – Nevada Kaludjar

SPEAC thanked the presenters that participated in the November SPEAC Meeting. Topics included a presentation from Matthew Kemshaw on Growing Food and Promoting Health, Emergency Preparedness in SD 62, and the prefabricated additions at David Cameron and Ruth King Elementary Schools. SPEAC indicated that their next meeting will occur January 17, 2024, in addition to some workshops for parents.



## 7. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND SERVICES

### 7.1 Resources Committee Meeting of November 14, 2023 – Amanda Dowhy

The Board Chair provided an overview of the Resources Committee Meeting of November 14, 2023, to the Board of Education.

178. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Christine Lervold

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the Quarter 1 Financial Forecast Report as presented at the Resources Committee Meeting of November 14, 2023.

CARRIED

179. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the Quarter 1 Minor Capital Report as presented at the Resources Committee Meeting of November 14, 2023.

CARRIED

180. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Christine Lervold

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) accept the proposed changes to the catchment area for SCIANEW STELITKEŁ Elementary School as presented at the Resources Committee Meeting of November 14, 2023.

CARRIED

181. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) provide a one-time contribution of \$5,000 from surplus funds to support the Garry Oak Meadows project as requested. The funds will be provided to the City of Colwood for use on this project.

CARRIED

182. **MOVED** Cendra Beaton/Christine Lervold

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Resources Committee Meeting of November 14, 2023.

CARRIED

## 8. EDUCATION PROGRAM

### 8.1 Education-Policy Committee Meeting of November 7, 2023 – Allison Watson

Trustee Watson provided an overview of the Education-Policy Committee Meeting of November 7, 2023, to the Board of Education.



183. MOVED Allison Watson/Trudy Spiller  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the Quarter 1 Report as presented at the Education-Policy Committee meeting of November 7, 2023.  
CARRIED

184. MOVED Allison Watson/Cendra Beaton  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Education-Policy Committee Meeting of November 7, 2023.  
CARRIED

8.2 Policy & Regulations Adoption – Scott Stinson

185. MOVED Allison Watson/Ebony Logins  
Given that the required period for Notice of Motion has been served, that the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt draft Policy C-210 “Placement of Students”.  
CARRIED

9. **STUDENTS**

10. **FOUNDATIONS AND GOVERNANCE**

10.1 School Naming – Paul Block

Paul Block provided an overview of the school naming process for Eagle Ridge Community Centre.

186. MOVED Cendra Beaton/Russ Chipps  
The Board of Education for School District 62 (Sooke) officially designate the secondary school located at Eagle Ridge Community Centre as QELENSÉN Á,LEN Secondary and that staff communicate this decision to the Ministry of Education and Child Care and the broader school community.  
CARRIED

187. MOVED Allison Watson/Christine Lervold  
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) write a Letter of Gratitude to Grandma Lavina Charles for the gifted name QELENSÉN Á,LEN Secondary.  
CARRIED



10.2 Na'tsa'maht Education Council Meeting of October 25, 2023 – Russ Chipps  
Trustee Chipps provided an overview of the Na'tsa'maht Education Council meeting. Highlights included a review of the Indigenous students 1701 Report, an overview of the new Indigenous Information Management System, a review of the Elder Program and Role Model Program schedule, and upcoming community events.

10.3 BCPSEA Symposium – Cendra Beaton  
Trustee Beaton provided a brief overview of the BCPSEA Symposium 2023: Insight and Opportunities, Human Resources in Education held November 2-3, 2023.

10.4 Trustee Liaison Reports – Board of Education  
Trustee Beaton indicated that she is The Village Initiative Representative, and recently attended a meeting in which the group discussed the impact of its partnership. She thanked Associate Superintendent David Strange and Cindy Andrews for their leadership in this group.

## 11. ADMINISTRATION

11.1 Board of Education 90 Day Work Plan – Amanda Dowhy  
The Board Chair provided an overview of the work plan to the Board of Education.

## 12. PERSONNEL

12.1 Superintendent's Report – Scott Stinson  
The Superintendent provided the Board of Education an update on Learning, Engagement and Growth. He indicated that he had met with Leadership in the District to review their professional growth plans and toured their respective schools. Further, he advised that the District had been extremely busy responding to media requests in September through October and is currently on par with large school districts (e.g. Surrey) in this respect.

## 13. UPCOMING EVENTS

December 5 – Education-Policy Committee Meeting  
December 12 – Resources Committee Meeting  
December 19 – Public Board Meeting  
December 25-January 5 - Winter Break  
January 8 – Schools Reopen

## 14. FUTURE ITEMS

## 15. QUESTION PERIOD

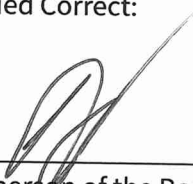


Members of the public have the opportunity to ask questions related to agenda items discussed at tonight's meeting using the QA function in MS Teams. Individuals must identify themselves and ask questions directed to the Chair. Members of the media can direct their questions to the Manager, Communications for response following the meeting.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Certified Correct:



---

Chairperson of the Board



---

Secretary-Treasurer

