

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 82 (COAST MOUNTAINS)**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.

**BEAR VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – COMMON AREA
HYBRID MEETING (IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL)**

PRESENT WERE:

Chair - M. Warcup
- W. Jones
(virtual) Vice Chair - K. Jonkman
(virtual) - A. Maitland
(virtual) - M. Maxim
(virtual) - J. Sundell

ABSENT WERE:

Superintendent of Schools
Secretary Treasurer
Recording Secretary

- E. Harrison
- T. MacMillan
- G. Fuller
- C. Gagnon

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:

Director of Instruction, Learning Services
Director of Instruction, Inclusive Education
Director of Facility Services
District Principal, Curriculum Support

- P. Barron
(virtual) - J. Nieckarz
(virtual) - R. Schibli
(virtual) - T. McDonald

Board Chair Warcup acknowledged with respect the school district's business being conducted on the unceded traditional territories of the Gitksan, Haisla, Nisga'a, Ts'msyen and Lheidli T'enneth Peoples noting Trustees Jonkman, Maitland Maxim and Sundell attended the meeting virtually from Kitimat, Thornhill and Prince George respectively. We are honoured to work with their children and privileged to live on these lands.

A warm welcome was shared with meeting guests who joined in person and virtually noting the Board was pleased to be in Stewart to conduct its Regular Board Meeting. Special thanks were extended to the staff and students at Bear Valley School for their wonderful hospitality and extra efforts in coordinating the Board's visit. Introductions followed by Trustees and District staff attending the meeting. The meeting was unfortunately not livestreamed via CMSD's YouTube Channel due to technical difficulties during the meeting.

Board Chair Warcup spoke to the following issues:

- National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls & Two-Spirit People: On Sunday, May 5, Coast Mountains School District recognized both Red Dress Day and the National Day of Awareness for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls & Two-Spirit People. This day serves as a reminder to honour the lives of those who have been lost and support those who are still searching for their loved ones.
- Mental Health Week: Mental Health Week in Canada, was celebrated during the week of May 6-12 and this year's theme is "healing with compassion". We joined the Canadian Mental Health Association during this Mental Health Week to show compassion to ourselves, others and our community.

The following reminder was shared by Board Chair Warcup for meeting guests regarding the Question Period:

- At the end of each Regular (Public) Board Meeting, there is a 10-minute question period for the public. Questions must pertain to the agenda and can be presented in person at the Regular Board Meeting or emailed no later than 4:00 p.m. on the day of the Regular Board Meeting to the attention of Carole Gagnon, Executive Assistant.
- Questions or comments about personal issues, individuals or property acquisitions are not appropriate for public meetings. A written response to questions to the Board will be provided as soon as practicable. Questions asked at the Regular Board Meeting are recorded for follow up by the Board in the event an answer is not provided during the Question Period.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Board Chair Warcup welcomed Ms. Terri Scott, Bear Valley School Teacher, and her Kindergarten-Grade 1 Class who shared a wonderful and engaging reading presentation for the enjoyment of Trustees and meeting attendees.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Warcup called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was declared. Regrets were extended on behalf Trustee Harrison who was unable to attend the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion #8823

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

Trustee Maxim submitted two emails on May 21 and 23, 2025 respectively with documents that contain various extracts from the *School Act*. A follow-up email was sent to Trustee Maxim on May 26, 2025 as we were unsure of these emails or what the subject matter he wished to address at the Board Meeting. Trustee Maxim was asked to provide clarification on the matter so that, if appropriate, it may be put on the agenda. An outline was asked of Trustee Maxim of what he wished to present, rather than just statute extracts that would be very helpful in making that decision. Trustee Maxim did not provide a response to our email of May 26.

Carried

In Favour 5 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

4.1 Regular Meeting, April 30, 2025

Motion #8824

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held April 30, 2025 be approved.

Carried

In Favour 5 / Against 1 (Trustee Maxim)

5. RECEIPT OF RECORDS OF IN CAMERA MEETING

5.1 Summary of In Camera Meeting, April 30, 2025

Motion #8825

THAT the Summary of the In Camera Meeting of the Board held April 30, 2025 be approved.

Carried

In Favour 5 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Response Letter from the Board to the Inter-Tribal Education Committee re: Change to Electoral Boundaries with Coast Mountains School District

Motion #8826

THAT the response letter from the Board dated May 21, 2025 issued to the Inter-Tribal Education Committee regarding recent correspondence and advocacy regarding a change to the electoral boundaries within Coast Mountains School District 82 be received for information.

Carried

In Favour 5 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

8. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' MONTHLY REPORT – MAY 2025

Motion #8827

THAT the Superintendent of Schools' Monthly Report to the Regular Board Meeting of May 28, 2025 be received as presented.

Carried

In Favour 5 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

9. INDIGENOUS EDUCATION REPORT – MAY 2025

Motion #8828

THAT the Board receive for information the Indigenous Education Report for May 2025 prepared by Superintendent Tracey MacMillan.

Carried

All in Favour

10. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Business Committee Report (Trustee Angie Maitland)

10.1.1 Business Committee Meeting Minutes, May 14, 2025

Motion #8829

THAT the minutes of the Business Committee Meeting held on May 14, 2025 be received for information.

Carried
All in Favour

10.1.2 Quarterly Financial Statements, March 31, 2025

Motion #8830

THAT the Board receive for information the Quarterly Financial Statements as at March 31, 2025.

Carried
All in Favour

10.1.3 Ministry Adjusted Funding Allocations, February 2025

Motion #8831

THAT the Board receive for information the Ministry of Education and Child Care Adjusted Funding Allocations for February 2025.

Carried
All in Favour

10.2 Education Committee Report (Trustee Karen Jonkman)

10.2.1 Education Committee Meeting Minutes, May 14, 2025

Motion #8832

THAT the minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held May 14, 2025 be received for information.

Carried
In Favour 5 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

10.2.2 Board Approval in Principle – Level Five Field Trip

- **Out-of-Country Field Trip, Tour of Europe: Mainly Czech Republic & Poland, May 21-30, 2027, Hazelton Secondary School 2027 Grade 12 Graduation Class**

Motion #8833

THAT the Board approve in principle the Out-of-Country Field Trip Tour of Europe (mainly to the Czech Republic and Poland) for the Hazelton Secondary School 2027 Grade 12 Graduation Class to be held on May 21-30, 2027.

Carried

In Favour 5 / Against 1 (Trustee Maxim)

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 District Equity Scan of Secondary School Courses

Motion #8834

THAT the Board receive for information the District Equity Scan of Secondary School Courses in Coast Mountains School District as presented at the May 28, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Carried

All in Favour

12. TRUSTEE REPORTS

12.1 Board Chair Report – May 2025

Motion #8835

THAT the Board receive for information the Board Chair Report for May 2025 noting the following additions made to the report by Board Chair Warcup during the meeting:

1. I attended on behalf of the Board the Northwest Scholarship Foundation meeting. The meeting covered a review of financials, funds available for 2025 and review of past scholarship awards. The award of many scholarships is in process for this year.

2. I attended a meeting with the Coast Mountain Teachers' Federation led by their Professional Development Chairperson. This meeting reviewed school by school the extensive continuing education that our educators do. Attending this meeting by invitation is an annual commitment in accordance with an agreement with the teachers' union. Also shared at the meeting was how education funding for educators is being used.
3. The Superintendent and I met with two parents interested in supporting access to arts programs specifically focusing on access to music programs. This meeting covered conversations similar to when they and others presented to the Board last year. I did ask them to provide a write-up on how accessing music was so important in their education and I will submit this to the BCSTA Rural and Remote Network advocacy brief being developed for the fall of this year.

Carried

In Favour 5 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

12.2 Provincial Council Delegate Report - BCSTA 2025 AGM Disposition of Motions

Motion #8836

THAT the Board receive for information the BCSTA Provincial Council Delegate Report regarding the BCSTA Annual General Meeting 2025 Disposition of Motions.

Carried

All in Favour

12.3 Trustee Reports

There were no Trustee reports.

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Cathy Macintosh-Lambright, Executive member with the Coast Mountain Teachers' Federation referenced the D2L Brightspace preliminary discussions and suggested this would be a question for Director Barron. She expressed concerns as to where the teachers will have the time to find and learn another new program and get the technological support and in-service. This again is a huge concern, teachers who are working harder and harder with less and less, and this is not going to make their lives any easier. The concern is what kind of resource support and time will be given to teachers to use this program. Will they be able to just say, I am sorry, I have my own system, I really do not want to do this. Director Barron responded the school district will look into this definitely; the plan is not to force this on people.

Secretary Treasurer Fuller shared the school district is moving to the D2L Brightspace program to replace the current distance learning program, a far better program for that use, and a much more cost-effective program supported by the Minister of Education and Child Care. The school district will get more out of the new program than what we are now using. The main reason going to D2L Brightspace is to replace the old distance learning platform noting it comes with other opportunities for classrooms and teachers, if they so choose too. Its main purpose is to replace the old distance learning platform, be better supported, and it is way more cost effective.

Ms. Macintosh-Lambright noticed during Director Barron's presentation relating to the District Equity Scan for Secondary Schools that the school district is supporting English. Her understanding is we no longer support English as there is no longer a teacher. The person who was teaching English resigned in June 2024. Director Barron indicated at some point earlier in the year, English was on the list for distance learning which he will double check. Ms. Macintosh-Lambright thanked Director Barron for sharing the scan information.

Terri Scott, Bear Valley Teacher asked for clarification regarding the D2L Brightspace program. Director Barron indicated the initial intention was to replace the current Distance Learning program to a new platform as previously shared by Secretary Treasurer Fuller.

Secretary Treasurer Fuller noted the current Distance Learning program we are using is very expensive, and the person who runs the program resides in Nova Scotia. D2L Brightspace is run through the Ministry of Education and Child Care and is available 24/7 which is inclusive with the cost. D2L Brightspace offers more to the school district for those who wish to look into what the program offers such as lesson plans, collaborate with other personnel in the district, etc. We get more for less which does not happen very often. This initiative started as a cost-effective measure and the person running the current platform is aging and there is nobody to replace them. D2L Brightspace was recommended by the Ministry and other school districts.

Angela Brand Danuser thanked Director Barron for an excellent presentation relating to the District Equity Scan for Secondary Schools. Ms. Brand-Danuser asked whether there is any collaboration between schools so that courses such as the Emergency Responder Course offered at Hazelton Secondary School can be shared with all schools. Director Barron indicated the secondary principals do share information, however, Ms. Brand-Danuser shares a good point. The school district will look into sharing course knowledge with all schools.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

The next hybrid Regular Board of Education Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at the Board of Education Office in Terrace.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.


Board of Education Chair


Secretary Treasurer