

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 82 (COAST MOUNTAINS)
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024 – 5:00 P.M.
BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE – HYBRID MEETING (IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL)**

PRESENT WERE:

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

Superintendent of Schools
Secretary Treasurer
Recording Secretary

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

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:

Director of Instruction, Learning Services
Director of Human Resources
Director of Instruction, Learner Support
Director of Facility Services
District Principal, Early Learning & French Immersion
District Vice Principal, Indigenous Education

- P. Barron
- K. Bath
- J. Nieckarz
- R. Schibli
- T. McDonald
- B. Azak

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 Jones, Maxim and Sundell attended the meeting virtually from Stewart, Thornhill and Prince George respectively. We are honoured to work with their children and privileged to live on these lands.

Board Chair Warcup welcomed guests who joined the hybrid meeting both in person and virtually. The meeting was also livestreamed via CMSD82's YouTube Channel.

Prior to the start of the Regular Board Meeting, an official Oath of Office or Swearing in Ceremony was held for new Trustee Angela (Angie) Maitland with introductions by Superintendent MacMillan. Ms. Maitland was elected Trustee by acclamation for Electoral Area 1 (Kitimat) on November 12, 2024 for Coast Mountains School District 82 in the recent Kitimat Trustee By-Election for a term ending November 2026. Ms. Maitland filled the Trustee position vacated by Kitimat Trustee Sonny Duncan-Green who resigned on September 17, 2024.

Coast Mountains School District is governed by a seven-member Board of Education elected by the public every four years. The Board sets policies and directions for the operation of the district and its schools. School Trustees are locally elected representatives of the public, and they are the community's advocate for public education. They are required to carry out their responsibilities in a manner that assists the Board in fulfilling its duties under the *School Act*.

The Oath of Office Regulation forms part of the *School Act* where a Trustee pledges their commitment to their roles and responsibilities which was conducted by Secretary Treasurer Ginger Fuller.

Congratulations were extended to Trustee Maitland on her appointment to the Office of Trustee for Electoral Area 1 (Kitimat) for Coast Mountains School District.

Board Chair Warcup shared the following reminder for meeting guests regarding 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.

Best wishes were extended on behalf of the Board to all for a safe, restful and joyous Holiday Season and a happy, healthy New Year!

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Warcup called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was declared.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion #8746

THAT the agenda be adopted with the addition of the following agenda item:

#7.4 Ministry Correspondence Addressed to Board Chairs re: Establishment of Ministry of Infrastructure

Carried
All in Favour

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

4.1 Regular Meeting, November 19, 2024

Motion #8747

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held November 19, 2024 be approved.

Carried
All in Favour

5. RECEIPT OF RECORDS OF IN CAMERA MEETING

5.1 Summary of In Camera Meeting, November 19, 2024

Motion #8748

THAT the Summary of the In Camera Meeting of the Board held November 19, 2024 be approved.

Carried
In Favour 6 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes to report.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Board Congratulations Letters to New MLAs for Skeena and Bulkley Valley-Stikine

Motion #8749

THAT the Board receive for information the congratulations letters issued to the newly elected Members of the Legislative Assembly within the ridings of Coast Mountains School District: Claire Rattee, Skeena Riding, and Sharon Hartwell, Bulkley Valley Stikine Riding, as presented.

Carried
All in Favour

7.2 Board Congratulations Letter to New Minister of Education and Child Care

Motion #8750

THAT the Board receive for information the letter of congratulations issued to B.C.'s new Minister of Education and Child Care, Honourable Lisa Beare, as presented.

Carried
All in Favour

7.3 Board Correspondence to New Minister of Infrastructure

Motion #8751

THAT the Board receive for information the letter of congratulations issued to B.C.'s new Minister of Infrastructure, Honourable Bowinn Ma, as presented.

Carried
All in Favour

7.4 Ministry Correspondence Addressed to Board Chairs re: Establishment Update of the Ministry of Infrastructure

Motion #8752

THAT the Board receive for information the letter dated December 16, 2024 addressed to Board Chairs from the Minister of Education and Child Care and the Minister of Infrastructure proving an update on the establishment of the Ministry of Infrastructure and what it will mean to school districts at this time.

Carried
All in Favour

Trustee Maxim joined the meeting virtually.

8. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' MONTHLY REPORT – DECEMBER 2024

Motion #8753

THAT the Superintendent of Schools' Monthly Report to the Regular Board Meeting of December 18, 2024 be received as presented.

Carried
All in Favour

9. INDIGENOUS EDUCATION REPORT – DECEMBER 2024

Motion #8754

THAT the Board receive for information the Indigenous Education Report prepared by Interim Superintendent Janet Meyer including the addendum to the report for December 2024.

Carried
All in Favour

10. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Business Committee Report (Trustee Ed Harrison)

10.1.1 Business Committee Meeting Minutes, December 10, 2024

Motion #8755

THAT the minutes of the Business Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2024 be received for information.

Carried
All in Favour

10.1.2 2023-2024 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report

Motion #8756

THAT the Board approve the amended Statement of Financial Information Report for the year end June 30, 2024.

Carried
In Favour 6 / Against 1 (Trustee Maxim)

10.2 Education Committee Report (Trustee Karen Jonkman)

10.2.1 Education Committee Meeting Minutes, December 11, 2024

Motion #8757

THAT the minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held on December 11, 2024 be received for information.

Carried
All in Favour

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Board Standing Committee Trustee Appointments & Trustee School Liaisons

Board Chair Margaret spoke to her report on Board Standing Committee Trustee Appointments & Trustee School Liaisons follows:

The Board Chair appoints Trustee members to the two Standing Committees (the Education Committee and the Business Committee) typically following the Board Elections which are held annually in November. The Board Chair is a member ex-officio of the Standing Committees.

Trustees agreed to the following Board Standing Committee Trustee appointments:

Education Committee:

Trustee Karen Jonkman (Committee Chair)
Trustee Wayne Jones
Trustee Julia Sundell

Business Committee:

Trustee Ed Harrison (Committee Chair)
Trustee Angie Maitland
Trustee Margaret Warcup (Ex-officio)

Board Chairs throughout the province took part in discussion forum facilitated by BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) on the role of Trustee School Liaisons as there are different interpretations amongst school districts. One school district that participated the BCSTA discussion forum provides a full Board tour of their schools with the Director of Facilities. This provides Trustees with first-hand information about infrastructure needs and new or upgraded facilities.

Considering this input, the following was put forth by the Board Chair for discussion regarding Trustee School Liaisons effective January 1, 2025:

- Trustees must sign the acknowledgment of the amended Trustee School Liaison – Rationale, Purpose & Parameters prior to being assigned Trustee School Liaison responsibility and we follow the established protocol of being invited to the schools.
- Trustee Margaret Warcup and Trustee Harrison will share the Terrace and Thornhill schools with the exception of the Northwest Trades & Employment Training Centre which Trustee Jonkman will continue to be the liaison.
- Trustee Jonkman and Trustee Maitland will share the Kitimat schools. In the past, Trustees worked out who was available to attend and sometimes attended events/PAC meetings together.
- Trustee Wayne Jones will be the liaison for Stewart.

- For Hazelton and Kitwanga Schools, if Trustee Julia Sundell signs the amended Trustee School Liaison – Rationale, Purpose & Parameters, she will be the liaison. If not, other Trustees are asked to share visits to Hazelton. Board Chair Warcup was able to visit a month ago when travelling through Hazelton. If a Trustee is not assigned, the Board could consider when the Regular Board Meeting is held in Hazelton to visit schools.
- Trustee Maxim is ineligible to be appointed to the Board Standing Committees or assigned Trustee School Liaison responsibility as he is presently censured for misconduct.

Trustees were in agreement to the aforementioned Trustee School Liaisons effective January 1, 2025 except for Trustee Sundell who does not agree to signing the amended Trustee School Liaison – Rationale, Purpose & Parameters agreement which she stated from the beginning of her term. Trustee Sundell finds the agreement very limited and not conducive to building relationships with schools.

12. TRUSTEE REPORTS

12.1 Board Chair Report – December 2024

Motion #8758

THAT the Board receive for information the Board Chair Report for December 2024.

Carried
All in Favour

12.2 Trustee Reports

Trustee reported on activities they were involved in or updates for their liaison community(s) since the last Regular Board Meeting.

13. QUESTION PERIOD

Questions were received via email from a concerned parent of Mount Elizabeth Middle/Secondary School regarding the structural issues relating to the old/middle wings and courtyard areas including a request for further clarification on remediation plans. The questions were forwarded to the Director of Facility Services, Rob Schibli, for follow up and response to the parent following Winter Break.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The next hybrid Regular Board of Education Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at the Board of Education Office in Terrace.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.



Board of Education Chair



Secretary Treasurer