

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.

BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE

HYBRID MEETING (IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL)

PRESENT WERE:

Chair - M. Warcup

- E. Harrison

- W. Jones

Vice Chair - K. Jonkman

(virtual) - A. Maitland

(virtual) - M. Maxim

(virtual) - J. Sundell

Superintendent of Schools

- T. MacMillan

Secretary Treasurer

- G. Fuller

Recording Secretary

- C. Gagnon

DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:

Director of Instruction, Learning Services

- P. Barron

Director of Instruction, Inclusive Education

- J. Nieckarz

Director of Instruction, Indigenous Education

- D. Mortimer

Director of Facility Services

- R. Schibli

Board Chair Warcup acknowledged with respect the school district's business being conducted on the unceded traditional territories of the Gitksan, Haisla, Nisga'a and Ts'msyen Peoples noting Trustees Angie Maitland, Mike Maxim and Julia Sundell attended virtually from Kitimat, Terrace and Vancouver respectively. We are honoured to work with their children and privileged to live on these lands.

Board Chair Warcup welcomed guests who joined the first meeting of the 2025-2026 school year, both in person and virtually. The meeting was also livestreamed via CMSD82's YouTube Channel. Introductions followed by Trustees and District staff in attendance at the meeting.

Board Chair Warcup shared the start of the new school year was smooth, however, a busy start-up with staff and students returning to welcoming, safe and inclusive schools. September is a month of getting to know one another – students, staff and parents/caregivers – in an effort to build meaningful relationships and establishing a sense of community within classrooms and schools.

Board Chair Warcup acknowledged and recognized the following events held during the month of September:

National Week for Truth & Reconciliation 2025

During this week, Canadians honour the survivors of residential schools in Canada and the thousands of children who did not return home, along with their communities and loved ones. Schools are engaging this week in ongoing learning about the impacts of the residential school system and furthering their understanding of the experiences and history of First Nations, Metis and Inuit people.

Flags at Half-Mast & Observance of National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

In Coast Mountains School District, flags will be flown at half-mast for schools' and in observance of the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day celebrated on Tuesday, September 30. Schools and work sites will be closed on Tuesday, September 30 in observance of National Day for Truth & Reconciliation.

Orange Shirt Day

September 30 is the National Day for Truth & Reconciliation in Canada. By wearing an orange shirt on this day, you commit to the enduring truth that EVERY CHILD MATTERS, every day and everywhere. Phillis Webstad, a Residential School Survivor, shares her story of her orange shirt that has inspired Orange Shirt Day (now in its 10th year), a national movement to remember and honour First Nation, Metis and Inuit children who attended Canada's Residential School System, including the thousands who never returned home.

In honour of the annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day video presentations resourced through the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, were presented for meeting attendees to support learning about the history and legacy of residential schools in Canada.

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Warcup called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m.

2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was declared.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion #8862

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

Carried

All in Favour

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING

4.1 Regular Meeting of the Board, June 18, 2025

Motion #8863

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held June 18, 2025 be approved.

Carried

All in Favour

5. RECEIPT OF RECORDS OF IN CAMERA MEETING

5.1 Summary of In Camera Meeting, June 18, 2025

Motion #8864

THAT the Summary of the In Camera Meeting of the Board held June 18, 2025 be approved.

Carried

All in Favour

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6.1 Follow-Up – 2025-2026 Hazelton French Immersion Consultation

Superintendent MacMillan provided an update to the Board regarding the sustainability of the French Immersion program in Hazelton, following the presentation made at the Board's Regular Meeting in February 2026.

Throughout the 2025-2026 school year, enrolment and retention in the French Immersion programs at Hazelton Secondary School and Majagaleehl Gali Aks Elementary School will be closely monitored. Consultation meetings will be scheduled in fall 2025 to engage the community, parents/caregivers, staff, and students.

Specific dates and times for these meetings will be communicated in fall 2025.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Letter Received from District of Kitimat Mayor, June 20, 2025 re: Budget Reductions/School District Response Measures and Board Response Letter, June 26, 2025

Motion #8865

THAT the Board receive the letter of June 20, 2025 from Mayor Germuth, District of Kitimat, regarding correspondence from the Village of Chase sharing their concerns of reduced funding for public education in the Village of Chase and throughout B.C. including the Board's response letter of June 25, 2026 to Mayor Germuth.

Carried
All in Favour

8. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' MONTHLY REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2025

Motion #8866

THAT the Superintendent of Schools' Monthly Report to the Regular Board Meeting of September 24, 2025 be received as presented.

Carried
All in Favour

9. INDIGENOUS EDUCATION REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2025

Motion #8867

THAT the Board receive for information the Indigenous Education Report for September 2025 presented by Superintendent MacMillan.

Carried
All in Favour

10. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Business Committee Report (Trustee Ed Harrison)

10.1.1 Business Committee Meeting Minutes, September 17, 2025

Motion #8868

THAT the minutes of the Business Committee Meeting held on September 17, 2025 be received for information.

Carried
All in Favour

10.1.2 Draft 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements

Motion #8869

THAT the Board approve the 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statements and Notes Version: 1213-9468-7485 as presented.

Carried
All in Favour

Upon approval of the Financial Statements by the Board, the Independent Auditors' Report (pages 2-4) will be provided for inclusion in the Audited Financial Statements to the Ministry of Education and Child Care. The 2024-2025 appointed auditor, Steve Kietzmann of Vohora LLP (chartered professional accountants) presented a verbal report of the Financial Statements and accompanying Notes to the Board at the September 24, 2025 Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Kietzmann praised the district's Finance Team for their professionalism and the smooth audit process.

10.1.3 2024-2025 Indigenous Education Targeted Fund Carry Forward

Motion #8870

THAT the Board approve the carry forward of \$1,281,852 surplus in Indigenous Education targeted funds to the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Carried
All in Favour

10.1.4 Draft 2024-2025 School Year Financial Statement Discussion & Analysis Report

Motion #8871

THAT the Board receive the 2024-2025 School Year Financial Statement Discussion & Analysis Report for Coast Mountains School District 82 as presented.

Carried
All in Favour

10.2 Education Committee Report (Trustee Karen Jonkman)

10.2.1 Education Committee Meeting Minutes, September 17, 2025

Motion #8872

THAT the minutes of the Education Committee Meeting held September 17, 2025 be received for information.

Carried
In Favour 6 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 2025-2026 Annual Board Work Plan

Motion #8873

THAT the Board approve the 2025-2026 Annual Board Work Plan as presented.

Carried

In Favour 6 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

11.2 Informal Meetings with Municipal Council Liaisons to the Board

Board Chair Warcup addressed the Board's ongoing commitment to fostering strong relationships with local government partners by highlighting the intention to meet with the appointed Council Liaisons to Coast Mountains School District for both Terrace and Kitimat this fall. These informal sessions are designed to provide an informal open dialogue, enabling the Board and municipal representatives to collaboratively explore shared priorities, address emerging challenges, and identify opportunities for partnership in support of student success and community well-being. The Board is eager to engage in these meaningful conversations and looks forward to working closely with the Council Liaisons in the coming weeks to strengthen connections and advance common goals.

11.3 2024-2025 Draft Enhancing Student Learning Report

Motion #8874

THAT the Board approve the 2024-2025 Enhancing Student Learning (ESL) Report for submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care on October 1, 2025 with the inclusion of a Fine Arts addendum. Further, a letter from the Board will be addressed to the Minister of Education and Child Care, respectfully recommending that the Ministry consider incorporating Fine Arts data in future provincial ESL reporting requirements. The Board also agreed to refer the report, along with the addendum, to the Education Committee for review regarding the inclusion of music and arts in the student learning frameworks.

Carried

In Favour 6 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

12. TRUSTEE REPORTS

12.1 Board Chair Report – September 2025

Motion #8875

THAT the Board receive for information the Board Chair Report for September 2025.

Carried

In Favour 6 / Abstained 1 (Trustee Maxim)

12.2 Trustee Reports

Trustee Harrison reminded Trustees of the upcoming BCSTA North West and Northern Interior Joint Branch Meeting, which will be held October 17–19, 2025 in Terrace and hosted by Coast Mountains School District. The meeting will focus on important topics such as recruitment and retention, policy writing, early child care, and more.

13. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions received.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The next hybrid Regular Board of Education Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in Hazelton (venue to be confirmed).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.



Board of Education Chair



Secretary Treasurer