



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
The Board of Education  
School District #33 (Chilliwack)**

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday, January 29, 2019

**Location:** School District Office

**Members Present:**

Chair	Mr. D. Coulter
Vice-Chair	Ms. W. Reichelt
Trustee	Dr. D. Furgason
Trustee	Mrs. H. Maahs
Trustee	Mr. B. Neufeld
Trustee	Mr. D. Swankey

**Regrets:**

Trustee	Mr. J. Mumford
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**Staff Present:**

Acting Superintendent	Mr. R. Arul-pragasam
Secretary Treasurer	Mr. G. Slykhuis
Executive Assistant	Ms. D. Vogel

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**1. CALL TO ORDER - School District Office**

**1.1. Call to Order**

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. - **Welcome and Acknowledgment of Traditional Stó:lō Territory.**

**1.2. Adoption of the Agenda**

**23.19** Moved by: Trustee Reichelt  
Seconded by: Trustee Maahs

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**1.1. Approval of the Minutes**

**24.19** Moved by: Trustee Neufeld  
Seconded by: Trustee Swankey

THAT the minutes of the January 15, 2019 Regular Public Board meeting be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**2. QUESTION PERIOD**

The Chair called for questions from the public.

Questions were received regarding:

- Mental health awareness in the District.
- School lock down procedures and student mental health.
- Lock downs and hold & secure in school – notification of independent schools and childcare centres.
- Agriculture Safety Days.
- Delegations to the Board of Education.
- Accessibility of Early French Immersion.
- Updates on Middle School Reconfiguration.
- Nutritional guidelines in schools.
- Construction at GW Graham Secondary.
- Freedom of Information.
- Use of Round Up on school fields.
- Opportunities for gifted children in the District.
- Linking Early and Late French Immersion.
- Reserving seats in the Board Room for meetings.
- Board responses to parent letters.

### 3. **PRESENTATION – STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA**

Acting Superintendent Rohan Arul-pragasam provided a report on student achievement data as it relates to the Strategic Plan and the following priority:

<b>Priority</b>	Improving student achievement and well-being through high quality instruction. <b>(Instruction)</b>		
<b>Goal</b>	All students to meet or exceed grade level expectations in literacy and numeracy.		
<b>Outcome/Measure</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Baseline Value</b>	<b>Target Value</b>
	Graduation Rates	Current District & School Graduation Rates	Achievement At or Above Provincial Average

### **BACKGROUND – SIX-YEAR COMPLETION RATES:**

The District Six-Year Completion Rates are updated to include 2017/2018 data.

Student graduation rates are one of the Ministry of Education's key measures of educational success. The Six-Year Completion and Graduation Rates are calculated by:

- The percent of students who graduated with a British Columbia Certificate of Graduation or British Columbia Adult Graduation Diploma within six years from the first time they enroll in Grade 8, adjusted for migration in and out of British Columbia. A six-year rate provides students with an additional year beyond the five years required to move through Grades 8-12.
- The cohort is fluid, which means students leave and enter the cohort at any time, and each year the cohort count is verified on September 30 when the Ministry requests enrollment counts from school districts.
- The Chilliwack completion rate also includes students from other school districts that took one or more courses at the Fraser Valley Distance Education school after their grade 12 year, which makes them part of the Chilliwack graduation cohort.
- The count includes all students – residents and non-residents.

- The rate includes Dogwood Diplomas and Adult Dogwood Diplomas and excludes Evergreen Certificates.
- Evergreen Certificates (School Completion Certificates) can only be awarded to a students if they are students with special needs who have an IEP and who are enrolled in an educational program that is not designed to meet the graduation requirements set out in Ministerial Order 302/04, the Graduation Program Order.
- The Ministry also calculates an out-migration factor to take into consideration students who leave the province (student who leave the province are not accounted for as other provinces do not have the same information system, so no tracking of student transfers).
  - The Ministry estimates outmigration using a likelihood of migration. This is a measurement of the likelihood that a student will leave BC after entering a cohort AND will be out of BC in the last year of that cohort.
  - Because the Ministry cannot state with certainty which students actually out migrated (left the province), they use an estimate. To do this, they create a proxy group of students in Grades 2 through 4 to provide a basis for our outmigration estimate. These students, who are in the same district and present in the same school year as the students in the actual cohort, provide a reasonably sound basis for estimating actual outmigration because primary students cannot drop out.
- Overall the Chilliwack School District graduation rates have increased 4% over the last six years (from 78% to 82%) and 13% over the last twenty-one years (from 69% to 82%).
- Graduation rates for Aboriginal students have increased even more substantially, by 22% over the last six years and 24% over the last twenty-one years.
- The Chilliwack School District's Aboriginal student six-year completion rates are 10% higher than the province wide average for the 2017/18 school year.
- The District is extremely proud of this significant accomplishment and particularly the improvement for Aboriginal students, whose results are now within 3% of all students after lagging by 21% only six years ago in 2012/2013. The District aims to close this gap in the coming years.
- This improvement in student success is a direct result of a strategic focus by everyone in our school community including students, parents, teachers, District Office staff, support staff, community partners and our Board of Education, which developed both a vision and a strategic plan, setting the stage for improved student outcomes and success.
- An in-depth overview of actions and strategies that have contributed to the increasing six-year completion rates will be presented to the Board of Education at a future meeting along with the rest of the District achievement data.

#### **4. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **4.1. Student Achievement Data Audit**

**25.19** Moved by: Trustee Maahs  
Seconded by: Trustee Furgason

THAT the Board of Education instruct the Superintendent to do a review or audit of discrepancies that occurred regarding the ministry changes from "all students" to "writers only" and how it was missed.

**26.19** Moved by: Trustee Neufeld  
Seconded by: Trustee Maahs

THAT the Board of Education amend the motion to read "instruct the Superintendent to do an external audit of discrepancies that occurred regarding the ministry changes from "all students" to "writers only" and how it was missed."

**CARRIED**

For: Coulter, Furgason, Maahs, Neufeld, Reichelt  
Abstained: Swankey

- 27.19 Moved by: Trustee Neufeld  
Seconded by: Trustee Maahs

THAT the Board of Education instruct the Superintendent to do an external audit of discrepancies that occurred regarding the ministry changes from “all students” to “writers only” and how it was missed.

**DEFEATED**

For: Furgason, Maahs, Neufeld  
Opposed: Coulter, Reichelt, Swankey

**4.2. Budget Committee Report**

- 28.19 Moved by: Trustee Reichelt  
Seconded by: Trustee Swankey

THAT the Board of Education receive the Budget Committee Meeting Report of January 17, 2019 as presented.

**CARRIED****4.3. 2018 – 2019 Amended Annual Budget: 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

- 29.19 Moved by: Trustee Maahs  
Seconded by: Trustee Neufeld

THAT the Board of Education approve three readings of 2018-2019 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$158,828,055.

**DEFEATED**

For: Furgason, Maahs, Neufeld  
Opposed: Coulter, Reichelt, Swankey

- 30.19 Moved by: Trustee Neufeld  
Seconded by: Trustee Furgason

THAT the Board of Education approve the first reading of 2018-2019 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$158,828,055.

**CARRIED****4.4. Trustee School Liaison**

- 31.19 Moved by: Trustee Furgason  
Seconded by: Trustee Maahs

THAT the Board of Education assign Liaison Schools to Trustee Barry Neufeld.

**DEFEATED**

For: Furgason, Maahs, Neufeld  
Opposed: Coulter, Reichelt, Swankey

**4.5. Trustee Remuneration**

- 32.19 Moved by: Trustee Furgason  
Seconded by: Trustee Maahs

THAT the Board of Education increase the annual stipend for SD33 Trustees to \$25,000.

**33.19** Moved by: Trustee Neufeld  
Seconded by: Trustee Maahs

THAT the Board of Education strike an Ad Hoc Ad Hoc Committee of community members to recommend a new annual stipend for trustees and report to the board by the first Board meeting in March 2019.

**CARRIED**

## **5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **5.1 Quarterly Financial Report**

Secretary Treasurer Gerry Slykhuis presented the Quarterly Financial Report – December 31, 2018.

### **5.2 BCSTA Report**

Trustee Swankey provided an update on the BC School Trustees' Association.

### **5.3 Trustee Reports**

#### **Trustee Furgason reported on the following:**

- Visited F.G. Leary Elementary, Strathcona Elementary and Greendale Elementary.
- Visited Chilliwack Middle School.
- Visited the former UFV site.
- Attended BCSTA/BCPSEA Trustee Orientation.

#### **Trustee Neufeld reported on the following:**

- Visited Cultus Lake Elementary.
- Visited new alternate program at Fraser Valley Distance Education.
- Attended the Child & Youth Mental Health Committee meeting.

#### **Trustee Reichelt reported on the following:**

- Visited Watson Elementary.
- Attended Yarrow Elementary PAC and toured school.
- Attended Budget Committee
- Tour of former UFV site.
- Attended Special Needs Advisory Committee meeting.
- Visited Robertson Elementary.
- Attended the CSS Hairstyling Graduation.
- Attended Ivan Coyote event.
- Attended BCSTA/BCPSEA Trustee Orientation.

#### **Trustee Swankey reported on the following:**

- Visited Little Mountain Elementary.
- Toured the new mid-town school site.
- Attended the City's Transportation Advisory Committee meeting – discussion of the problem of cars not obeying the school bus stop procedure.
- Attended Ivan Coyote event.
- Attended the BCSTA/BCPSEA Trustee Orientation.
- Attended Rosedale PAC meeting – discussion of the breakfast program that is supported by parents and volunteers.

**Trustee Maahs reported on the following:**

- Visited: Sardis Elementary, Vedder Middle and Ford Mountain Correctional Centre.
- Attended Special Education Advisory Committee meeting.
- Attended Budget Committee meeting.

**Trustee Coulter reported on the following:**

- Attended Chair/Vice Chair meetings.
- Attended Ivan Coyote event.

**5.4 January 15, 2019 In-Camera Board Meeting Summary**

Trustees: Dan Coulter, Willow Reichelt, Darrell Furgason, Heather Maahs, Jared Mumford, Barry Neufeld, David Swankey

Staff: Rohan Arul-pragasam, Gerry Slykhuis, Tamara Ilersich, Donna Vogel

1. School Act Section 15: Hearing
2. Student Achievement Data
3. Property Update
4. Human Resources Report
5. BCPSEA Report

**5.5 Next Board of Education Meeting Date**

**Tuesday, February 12, 2019  
7:00 pm  
School District Office**

**6. QUESTION PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS**

The Chair called for questions from the public regarding agenda items.

Questions were received regarding:

- Publication of responses to questions raised in question period that cannot be answered during the Board meeting.
- Data collection by the Ministry of Education regarding students with special needs.
- Having a DPAC member on the Ad Hoc Trustee Remuneration Committee.
- Budget figure for election recount.
- Students writing FSA examinations.
- Fraser Institute school rankings.
- Size of the District as an employer in Chilliwack.

**Motion to Extend Meeting**

**34.19** Moved by: Trustee Swankey  
Seconded by: Trustee Coulter

THAT the Board of Education extend the meeting by 30 minutes in order to allow for public participation via Question Period.

**CARRIED**  
**Abstained: Furgason**

**QUESTION PERIOD ON AGENDA ITEMS CONTINUED**

- Budget for the Aboriginal Education Department.
- Progress articles regarding District FSA results.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

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Board Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer