



## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**4:00 pm, Wednesday, May 27, 2026**  
**School Board Office**

## **AGENDA**

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

#### **PRESENTATION:**

Texada Elementary School Presentation – A. Bella

### **QUESTION PERIOD**

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

#### **1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** "THAT the Regular meeting agenda of May 27, 2026, be adopted as circulated."

#### **2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** "THAT the Regular meeting minutes of April 22, 2026, be adopted as circulated."

#### **3. REPORT OF CLOSED MEETINGS**

3.a) April 21, 2026, April 22, 2026 and May 13, 2026 – The Board met in-camera to discuss items which included personnel.

#### **4. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE**

4.a) PRISMA Support Request – A. Rice

**MOTION:** "THAT the correspondence listed in item 4.a) be received."

#### **5. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE**

5.a) Board to A. Rice – PRISMA Support Draft Response

5.b) Board to J. Carlson and L. Gurney – Letter of Appreciation

#### **6. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORT**

6.a) Program Review: Partners in Education (PIE) Online Learning / Level 2 Report

6.a.i) Appendix: PIE Review Presentation

6.b) Suspension, Exclusion, and Seclusion Report – September 2, 2025, to April 30, 2026

**MOTION:** "THAT the Superintendent of Schools' Report be received as presented."

**7. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT**

7.a) N/A

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

8.a) Ad Hoc Committee Notes – May 12, 2026

8.b) Committee of the Whole Report for May 13, 2026

Recommended motions arising from the Committee of the Whole Meeting:

8.b.i) 2026-2027 Annual Facility Grant

**MOTION:** The Board of Education approve the proposed list of projects under the 2026/2027 Annual Facility Grant program

8.b.ii) Trustee Remuneration

**MOTION:** THAT 2026 trustee remuneration be increased by 2.5%

**9. OTHER BUSINESS**

9.a) N/A

**QUESTION PERIOD**

**MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** “THAT the Regular Meeting of May 27, 2026 be adjourned.”

SH/attachments



## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**4:00 pm, Wednesday, April 22, 2026**  
**School Board Office**

### **MINUTES**

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Present: Jaclyn Miller, Gretchen Conti, Dale Lawson, Maureen Mason

Also in attendance: Paul McKenzie (Superintendent), Steve Hopkins (Secretary-Treasurer)

Regrets: Kirsten Van't Schip

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The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by Chairperson J. Miller.

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

#### **PRESENTATIONS:**

##### qathet Festival of the Performing Arts - J. Carlson

Joyce Carlson, past Chair of the qathet Festival of the Performing Arts, presented to the Board, accompanied by Lisa Gurney. On behalf of the festival, appreciation was expressed for the Board's attendance at the Grand Concert and for the district's longstanding support of the organization.

The delegation shared an overview of the festival's history and impact, noting that it has operated continuously since 1945, with the exception of a virtual format during the COVID-19 pandemic. The festival supports amateur performers of all ages and includes adjudication across six performance areas, with participants regularly recommended to provincial festivals. The organization has also hosted two provincial festivals and remains an active member of Performing Arts BC.

For 2026, approximately 12,000 registrations were reported, with strong participation from school district students, including choral, vocal jazz, speech arts, and band. The delegation highlighted the significant volunteer effort required to support the two-week festival, with planning beginning each October and approximately 122 volunteers contributing annually. Appreciation was also expressed for the district's continued partnership and support in helping sustain arts opportunities for students and the broader community.

##### Kelly Creek Outdoor Adventure Program – A. Shostak

A. Shostak presented an overview of the Kelly Creek Outdoor Adventure Program, which has been offered at Kelly Creek Community School since 2011 for Grade 6 and 7 students. Originally developed to encourage students to explore outdoor opportunities available in the qathet region, the program has

evolved over time to build on students' existing outdoor experiences while encouraging new skills, confidence, and family engagement in outdoor recreation.

The program currently serves approximately 30 students and integrates outdoor learning across multiple areas of the curriculum. In addition to regular classroom integration, Thursdays are dedicated to small-group, skill-based outdoor experiences. Key areas of learning include teamwork, leadership, caring for others, first aid, AdventureSmart certification, outdoor cooking, and avalanche safety training, with a strong emphasis on collaboration and experiential learning.

Learning is being framed through a seasonal-round approach, with activities reflecting the local environment and opportunities throughout the year. Examples shared included kayaking, snorkeling, scuba instruction, humpback whale research and documentation, and student participation in the filming of a documentary project, Return of the Giants. Trustees were invited to view the documentary once completed. A short video showcasing student experiences throughout the school year was also shared.

#### Partners in Education School Presentation – S. Hall, A. Saugstad and I. Landry

S. Hall, A. Saugstad and I. Landry presented on Partners in Education's school growth plan, with a focus on student engagement as a key driver of learner success. The presentation outlined the school's inquiry question exploring how increased engagement may improve achievement in core and curricular competencies, alongside efforts to better understand and improve graduation outcomes for students who may be at risk of not completing the program.

Staff shared the development of a school-wide student engagement framework, including a rubric to assess levels of engagement and targeted intervention strategies for students identified as needing additional support. Teachers have each identified specific students to focus on, using tailored engagement and communication strategies to strengthen connection, participation, and progress. The presentation highlighted PIE's ongoing commitment to using data-informed approaches to support student success and continuous improvement.

#### **QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Across our schools, this time of year brings a noticeable shift. Spring activities are well underway, and the final three months of the school year are full in all the best ways: cross country, theatre preparations, and a spike in outdoor excursions, to name a few. It is a busy and meaningful time for students, staff, and families.

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to attend the Annual General Meeting of the British Columbia School Trustees Association. Trustees from across the province gathered to discuss the key issues shaping public education and to bring forward motions that will guide advocacy in the year ahead. There was a strong focus on student well-being, classroom complexity, and the importance of supporting both students and staff in a sustainable way. It was valuable to hear directly from other districts and to bring those perspectives back to our work here in qathet.

That connection between provincial conversations and local priorities is reflected in the work underway by the teams in our district and brought forward in today's agenda as we continue to focus on student learning, well-being, and system improvement.

One example of that work is the progress underway to refresh and strengthen our child care offerings across the district. There has been significant effort internally to better align our approach to the needs of families, and we are pleased to be moving forward with summer child care programming this July, along with extended before- and after-school care hours for the coming school year. These are important steps in supporting families and creating more accessible, responsive services within our school communities.

Today also marks Earth Day, which feels especially meaningful in our community. In qathet, we are reminded every day, simply by virtue of where we live, how connected we are to the natural environment. Across our schools, that connection shows up in outdoor learning, in a focus on sustainability, and in helping students develop a sense of responsibility and care for the world around them. This is not separate from our work in education, it is a part of how we support the whole student and prepare young people for the future.

As we move through the spring months, I want to thank our staff, students, families, and partners for the care, effort, and collaboration that continue to support student success across the district.

**1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOVED: G. CONTI**

**SECONDED: D. LAWSON**

**THAT the Regular meeting agenda of April 22, 2026, be adopted as circulated.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**SECONDED: G. CONTI**

**THAT the Regular meeting minutes of March 11, 2026 and the Special Regular meeting minutes of March 31, 2026, be adopted as circulated.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

**3. REPORT OF CLOSED MEETINGS**

3.a) March 11, 2026 – The Board met in-camera to discuss items which include property and personnel.

**4. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE**

4.a) BCSTA Board Policy Review

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**SECONDED: G. CONTI**

**THAT the correspondence listed in item 4.a) be received.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

**5. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE**

5.a) N/A

**6. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' REPORT**

6.a) Suspension, Exclusion, and Seclusion Report – September 2, 2025, to March 31, 2026

Superintendent McKenzie provided a year-to-date update on student suspensions.

**MOVED: G. CONTI**

**SECONDED: D. LAWSON**

THAT the Superintendent of Schools' Report be received as presented.

**STATUS: CARRIED**

**7. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT**

7.a) 2025/2026 Capital Plan Response Letter and Bylaw

S. Hopkins noted that the 2025/2026 Capital Plan and Response Letter had been reviewed at Committee of the Whole and were being brought forward for Board consideration

**MOVED: G. CONTI**

**SECONDED: D. LAWSON**

**THAT Capital Bylaw No. 2026/2027-CPSD47-01 be adopted in support of the projects as outlined.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

7.b) Quarterly Fiscal Accountability Report

Secretary-Treasurer Hopkins presented the Quarterly Fiscal Accountability Report, noting that the district is in a stronger financial position compared to the same point in the previous year and remains on track to end the year in a positive financial position.

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**SECONDED: G. CONTI**

**THAT the Secretary Treasurer's Report be received as presented.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

8.a) Committee of the Whole Report for April 8, 2026

Recommended motions arising from the Committee of the Whole Meeting:

8.a.i) Policy 4 – Appendix: Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions

**MOVED: G. CONTI**

**SECONDED: D. LAWSON**

**THAT the Board approve the revisions to Policy 4 – Appendix: Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

8.a.ii) Policy 14 – School Closures/Grade Reconfigurations

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**SECONDED: G. CONTI**

**THAT the Board approve the revisions to Policy 14 – School Closures/Grade Reconfigurations.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **9.a) BCSTA AGM Report Back (Oral)**

Trustees shared reflections from their participation in the BCSTA AGM and associated learning sessions. Highlights included keynote remarks from Monique Gray Smith, sessions on ransomware preparedness, effective communications, governance, and creating expanded pathways and real-world learning opportunities for students.

Trustees also reflected on specific learning sessions attended, including school safety and emergency management, where ministry-led discussions focused on developing common language, emerging policy guidance, and communication practices during incidents. Trustees noted the importance of trusting senior staff to lead operational communications in emergency situations. Informal networking and learning opportunities, including sessions such as School Act 101, were also highlighted as valuable. Trustees also reflected on the experience of bringing forward a provincial motion, noting that while the motion was not successful, the process provided a valuable learning opportunity.

### **9.b) Policy 7 - Appendix - Trustee Election Bylaw**

Staff reported that additional feedback and requested revisions had been received from the City's Chief Elections Officer. Trustees requested that the bylaw be reviewed further in light of recent ministry communications regarding election bylaws and brought back for consideration at the next meeting, with the requested revisions from the current discussion incorporated into the updated draft.

## **QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions.

## **MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED: G. CONTI**

**THAT the Regular Meeting of April 22, 2026 be adjourned.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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J. Miller  
Chairperson

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S. Hopkins  
Secretary-Treasurer

SH/attachment



Pacific Region International Summer Music Association  
FESTIVAL & ACADEMY

Suite 9 – 4313 Alberta Avenue, Powell River, BC, V8A 5G7  
Toll-free: 1-855-5 PRISMA, 1-855-577-4762  
info@prismafestival.com

May 11, 2026

Board of Trustees and Superintendent of Schools  
qathet School District  
4351 Ontario Avenue  
Powell River, BC V8A 1V3

Dear Trustees and Superintendent,

On behalf of the Pacific Region International Summer Music Association (PRISMA), I would like to thank the School District for its support since the inception of the PRISMA Festival & Academy.

PRISMA is preparing for its 14th season, taking place June 15–27, 2026 in qathet. Since 2013, our organization has mentored more than 900 emerging classical musicians from 50 countries. Over 120 PRISMA alumni have gone on to positions in professional orchestras worldwide – including 54 in principal chairs – representing an exceptional success rate in one of the most competitive fields in the arts.

Locally, the festival welcomes audiences of more than 5,000 annually across nearly 50 events ranging from full symphony concerts to intimate masterclasses and recitals. Hundreds of K-12 students are engaged each season through accessible programming including free admission for youth ages 18 and under, an educational field trip to an instructed rehearsal, and multiple in-school visits that PRISMA's artistic director and orchestra conductor, Arthur Arnold, personally looks forward to doing every year.

Since 2015, these initiatives have been formally presented under the umbrella of *PRISMA for Kids*. Music education remains one of our highest priorities at PRISMA, and we deeply value the opportunity to share the benefits of live music with young people throughout the qathet region. Both research and lived experience continue to demonstrate the positive impact music can have on youth mental health and well-being, including stress reduction, social connection, confidence-building, mindfulness, and emotional expression.

PRISMA is once again counting on its longstanding partnership with qathet School District to help bring world-class music – and these associated benefits – directly into classrooms and the broader community. We are passionate about inspiring today's youth through music and look forward to continuing to share the joy and transformative power of the arts for many years to come.

Here is is the full content of our *PRISMA for Kids* programming for 2026:

- Spring visits to local SD47 schools by international orchestra conductor Arthur Arnold (this took place April 8, 9, 10, 13 & 14; several photos are attached)
- Wednesday, June 17: An instructed rehearsal of the PRISMA Festival Orchestra for SD47 students at the Evergreen Theatre, with students busing in to attend
- Tuesday, June 23 – *PRISMA for Kids* Evening Concert with the special theme, "Peter and the Wolf" – a free family-friendly event that starts with a fun fair in the lobby
- Wednesday, June 24 – A special performance by Sinfonietta, the flagship youth strings ensemble from the VSO (Vancouver Symphony Orchestra) School of Music
- Saturday, June 28: PRISMA on the Beach – A free family-friendly community celebration at Willingdon Beach Park, and showcasing local talent alongside international guest artists

# PRISMA

Pacific Region International Summer Music Association  
FESTIVAL & ACADEMY

PRISMA respectfully requests the following mixture of financial and in-kind support from the qathet School District for the 2026 *PRISMA for Kids* program:

- A financial contribution of \$7,500.00 CAD
- Access to borrow percussion instruments for the duration of the festival (as required, and with oversight by Mr. Steven Cramaro)
- Use of school busses and drivers for PRISMA for Kids instructed rehearsal visit (Wednesday, June 17)
- Advertising on the digital reader board at Brooks Secondary School

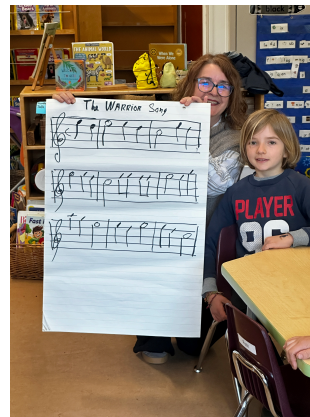
We also greatly appreciate the Superintendent's recent meeting with PRISMA transportation coordinator, Shaun Garvey, around usage and scheduling policy changes that are affecting audience transportation at the *Sail to the Symphony* matinée on Saturday, June 20 – an important regional tourism and economic initiative that brings nearly 350 visitors from Vancouver Island to qathet/Powell River for a day trip experience. Decisions made around transportation support at the District level have a direct impact on the viability and long-term sustainability of this event, as well as its reputation for delivering an exceptional audience experience year after year. Shaun was grateful for the opportunity to voice our concerns.

Yours sincerely,



Andy Rice  
Development Director, PRISMA (and proud SD47 alumnus!)  
development@prismafestival.com

CC: Erica Reimer, SD#47, Executive Assistant  
erica.reimer@sd47.bc.ca



May 28, 2026

PRISMA

Attn: Andy Rice, Development Director  
Suite 9- 4313 Alberta Ave.  
Powell River, BC, V8A 5G7

**Delivered Via Email**

Dear Mr. Rice,

On behalf of the Board of Education, thank you for your letter and for sharing details of PRISMA's planned 2026 programming, including the continued PRISMA for Kids initiatives that bring meaningful musical experiences to students across our district.

We value the longstanding partnership between PRISMA and the qathet School District and recognize the important role your organization plays in enriching student learning and strengthening arts engagement in our community.

As in previous years, we are pleased to offer the following supports for the 2026 season:

- Financial contribution of \$5,000 in support of the PRISMA for Kids program;
- Access to percussion instruments, as required and subject to district arrangements and oversight;
- Use of school buses and drivers for the PRISMA for Kids instructed rehearsal visit, subject to operational availability and scheduling; and
- Advertising on the Brooks Secondary digital reader board

We appreciate the opportunity to support this valuable initiative and understand that this partnership reflects a purchase of services rather than a donation or sponsorship.

Thank you for your continued commitment to arts education and for the positive experiences PRISMA brings to students and families in the qathet region. We wish you every success with the 2026 festival season.

Sincerely,

Jaclyn Miller  
Chairperson  
Board of Education



May 20, 2026

Joyce Carlson  
Lisa Gurney  
qathet Festival of the Performing Arts

**Delivered via Email**

Dear Ms. Carlson and Ms. Gurney,

On behalf of the Board of Education of School District 47 (qathet), thank you for your recent presentation and for sharing the history and impact of the qathet Festival of the Performing Arts with trustees.

We were pleased to learn more about the festival's longstanding contribution to our community and its continued support of amateur performers of all ages. The scale of this year's participation, including the strong involvement of students from across our schools, speaks to the lasting value of this work.

The Board is appreciative of the extraordinary volunteer commitment that sustains the festival year after year, as well as the continued leadership of the Rotary-sponsored organizing committee. Partnerships such as this directly support the Board's Strategic Plan by fostering student engagement, belonging, and enriching learning experiences that extend beyond the classroom while strengthening connections between schools and the broader community.

Thank you for your dedication to creating these opportunities for students and community members alike. We value the longstanding partnership between the festival and qathet School District and look forward to its continued success in the years ahead.

Yours truly,



Jaclyn Miller  
Chairperson  
Board of Education  
qathet School District

# MEMORANDUM



**Date:** May 27, 2026  
**To:** Board of Education  
**From:** Paul McKenzie, Superintendent  
**Re:** Partners in Education Review

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## 1.0 BACKGROUND

qathet School District recently completed a review of Partners in Education (PIE), a K–12 Provincial Online Learning School. This review took place between November 2025 and February 2026 and supports a shared understanding of how PIE is operating, growing, and evolving to meet the needs of students and families.

## 2.0 INFORMATION

The Board of Education recognizes that timely and relevant information determined through a review process that evaluates the quality of programs and services offered to the students in the qathet School District, will enable the Board to make decisions on:

- 1) The maintenance, modification or discontinuation of existing programs and services.
- 2) The ways in which existing or proposed objectives can be achieved in a more efficient manner

## 3.0 PROGRAM RATIONALE

The review was conducted to better understand/ review how PIE is:

- Supporting students and families;
- Operating across multiple regions;
- Adapting as it continues to grow.
- It also ensures alignment with:
  - The District Strategic Plan;
  - Provincial expectations;
  - Equity and student success goals.

## 4.0 OPTIONS FOR ACTION

- (A) Accept the review as presented; or
- (B) Request further information regarding the Partners in Education in the qathet School District.

## 5.0 STAFF RECOMMENDATION

**THAT:** The Board of Education accept the Partners in Education review and recommendations as attached and presented.

## 6.0 APPENDICES

- (A) Appendix – PIE Review Presentation

# PARTNERS IN EDUCATION (PIE) REVIEW

*May 27, 2026*



# Land Acknowledgement



čεčhašt k<sup>w</sup> ƛaʔamɪn qaymɪx<sup>w</sup>.  
ʔəsna tεʔε gɪʔε.

We would like to express our respect for and gratitude to the ƛaʔamɪn peoples whose traditional and treaty territory qathet School District resides on. We recognize the ongoing impacts of colonialism and are committed to our own learning and unlearning while courageously working towards decolonization and indigenization through truth, healing, celebration and reconciliation.



# qathet School District

The qathet School District recently completed an external review of Partners in Education (PIE) paired with the most recently completed AQA report to the Ministry of Education and Child Care, a K–12 Provincial Online Learning School. This review took place between November 2025 and February 2026 and supports a shared understanding of how PIE is operating, growing, and evolving to meet the needs of students and families.



# Why This Review?

The review was conducted to better understand/review how PIE is:

Supporting students and families;  
Operating across multiple regions; and,  
Adapting as it continues to grow.

It also ensures alignment with:

The District Strategic Plan;  
Provincial expectations; and,  
Equity and student success goals.

- This reaffirms the District's commitment to continuous improvement and accountability

Community Connections Snow Day Event



# What We Know – Strengths

- Strong relationships between teachers and families
- Flexible, student-centered learning approaches
- Inclusive learning communities supporting diverse needs
- Dedicated and caring staff committed to student success

Families consistently value:

Personalized learning experiences;  
Flexibility to meet unique needs; and,  
Strong, ongoing connections with teachers.

These strengths align with the District's priorities for:

Student well-being; and,  
Inclusive and responsive learning environments.



**PIE Values:**  
**A Relational, Collaborative, Engaging  
Individualized School**



# Commitment to Equity

PIE plays an important role in:

Supporting students with diverse needs;

Reaching learners in a range of environments; and,

Creating inclusive learning pathways.

- The District remains committed to:  
Equitable outcomes; and,  
Targeted support for priority learners,



# Growth Brings New Opportunities

## As PIE has grown \* we are seeing:

More students choosing flexible learning pathways;

Programs spanning multiple communities; and,

Student needs becoming more complex.



- This growth creates opportunities to enhance supports for all students through:
  - Strengthened support and administrative systems within PIE; and,
  - Improved coordination within PIE and between the PIE sites and the District.

\*see appendix b)



# Supporting Student Success

Areas for continued focus include:

Consistent access to quality supports across regions;

Strengthening consistency in programming; and,

Enhancing connection to District services.

- This aligns with the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL), which emphasizes:
  - Equitable access;
  - Consistent supports; and,
  - Improved outcomes for all learners.



# Strengthening Learning Quality

Opportunities include reimagining:

Teacher presence in the online learning environment;

Course design and content; and,

Supports needed for deeper student engagement.

- This supports District goals for:  
Improving learning experiences; and  
Strengthening instructional quality.



# Building Strong Systems

Moving forward, the focus will involve:

Clear roles and processes across the District;  
(EX. Enhancing oversight of programs, partnerships, and facilities)

Shared and aligned approaches to student support; and,

Consistent planning and decision-making.

(EX. Strengthening budget alignment and consistency with provincial guidelines)

- District planning emphasizes:  
Coordination across schools and departments; and,  
Ongoing monitoring and adjustment.



# Commitment to Ongoing Improvement

Collaborative next steps will focus on:

Strengthening alignment with District plans;

Continuing to gather feedback;

Supporting staff and families through the improvement process; and,

Monitoring student outcomes and experiences.

- The District approach includes:

Regular review:

Use of data and evidence: and,

Continuous improvement cycles.





## PIE is:

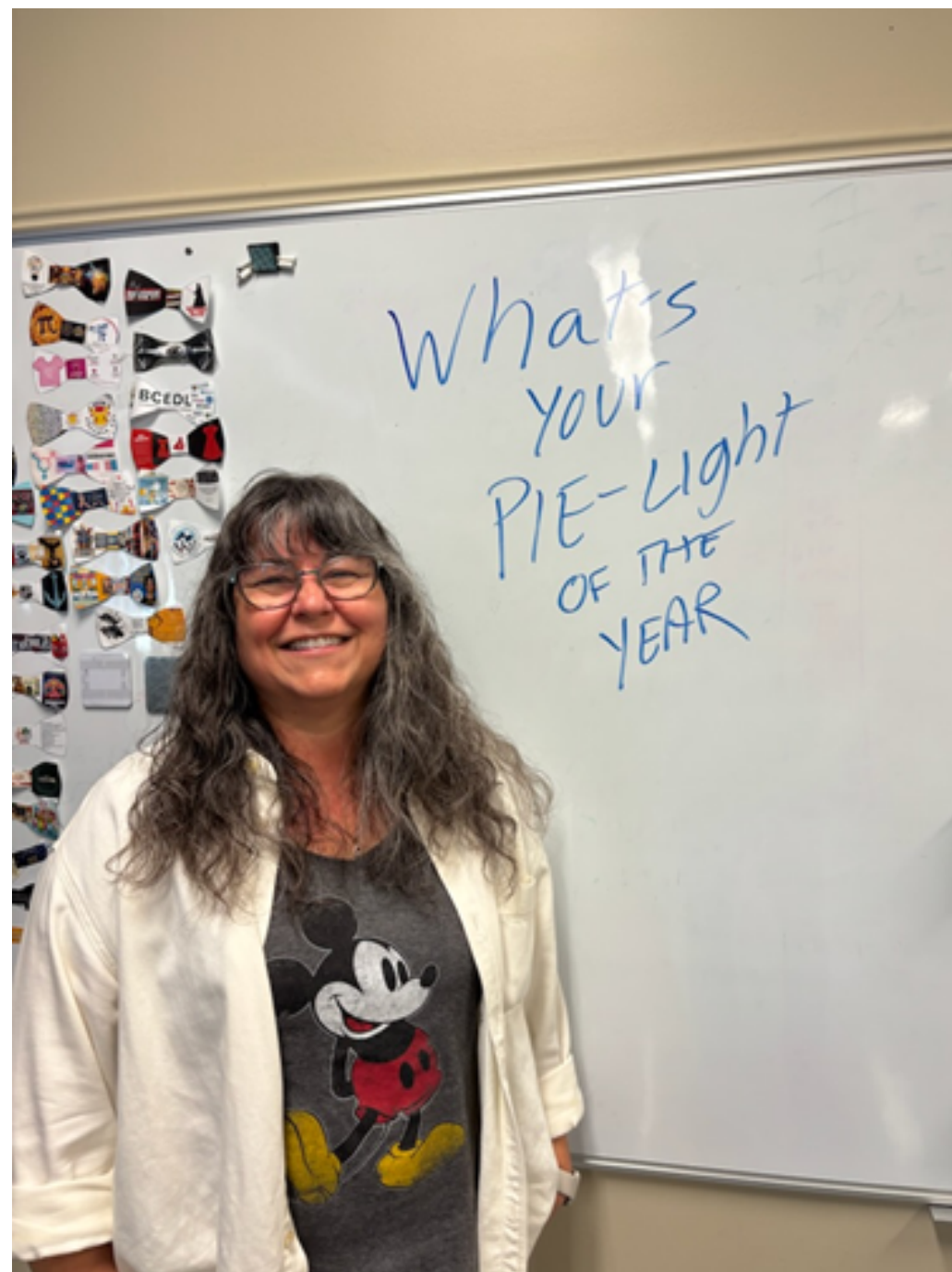


A valued and important part of the  
qathet School District  
With programs that meet the needs  
of many learners

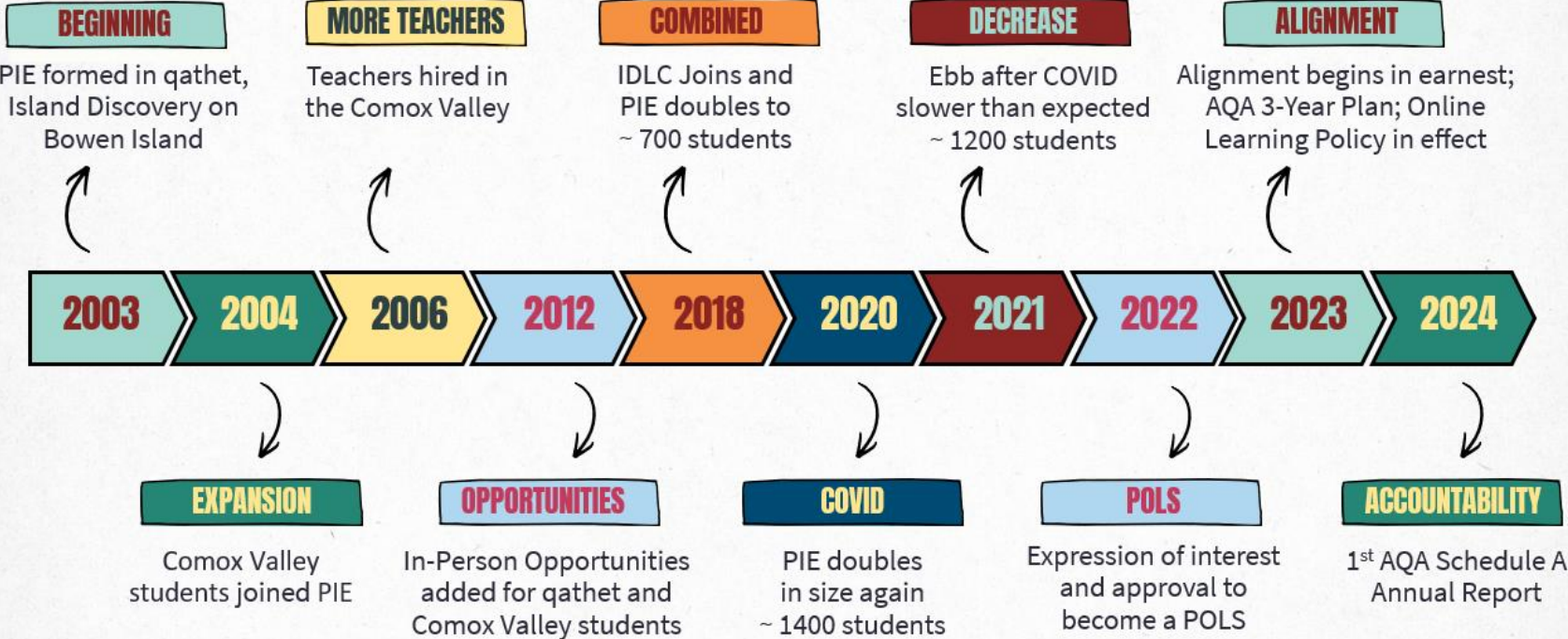


This review helps ensure PIE  
continues to:  
Grow responsibly;  
Align with district goals;  
and,  
Support all learners effectively!





# GROWTH TIMELINE



### Suspension, Exclusion and Seclusion Report YTD Sept 2025 to April 2026

<b>SUSPENSIONS (BY INCIDENT)</b>	<b>SEPT</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>JAN</b>	<b>FEB</b>	<b>MAR</b>	<b>APR</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>
10 days or less (non-violent)	4	3	5	2				3			17
10 days or less (violent)	2		5			4		2			13
11-20 days (non-violent)											0
11-20 days (violent)											0
20 days or more (non-violent)											0
20 days or more (violent)											0
Indefinite (non-violent)											0
Indefinite (violent/threats of violence)											0
Indefinite (first drug offence)											0
Less than 20 days (first drug/alcohol offence)		5	2			3	1	4			15
Less than 20 days (second + drug/alcohol offence)						1		2			3
20 + days (first drug offence)											0
20 + days (second + drug offence)											0
Indefinite (second + drug/alcohol offence)											0
In-school suspension						3					3
<b>TOTAL SUSPENSIONS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>EXCLUSIONS</b>											
Exclusions - Elementary											0
Exclusions - Secondary											0
<b>SECLUSIONS</b>											
Seclusions - Elementary											0
Seclusions - Secondary											0

*(Violent incidents include: fighting, physical altercations, threats of bodily harm, etc.  
Verbal is considered violent if threatening)*

## **AD HOC COMMITTEE**

**11:00 am, Tuesday, May 12, 2026**

**School Board Office**

### **NOTES**

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Present: Gretchen Conti, Maureen Mason

Also in attendance: Paul McKenzie (Superintendent)

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The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

#### **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1.a) **MOTION:** “THAT the Ad Hoc Committee agenda of May 12, 2026, be adopted.”

#### **2. STANDING COMMITTEES**

2.a) Prospective Candidate Information Session Planning

2.a.i) Feedback from April Committee of the Whole

The Committee reviewed feedback arising from the April 3 Committee of the Whole discussion, which informed refinements to the draft presentation and broader planning related to trustee candidate and public education awareness efforts.

2.a.ii) Draft Presentation for Discussion

The Committee discussed enhancements to the draft presentation and broader public awareness efforts related to trustee governance and the upcoming election.

Suggestions and discussion points included:

- Adding information about the trustee election process, including key dates and nomination timelines (September 1–11).
- Involving trustees as presenters to ensure trustee perspectives are represented, rather than relying solely on senior staff.
- Considering potential sensitivities if participating trustees may be seeking re-election, including perceptions of self-promotion, while noting the session would likely occur prior to formal candidate declarations.

- Framing the presentation using a macro-to-micro approach, beginning with public education governance in British Columbia and narrowing to the local board context.
- Strengthening presentation content to include:
  - The role of a trustee, including links to relevant policies
  - Public education governance in BC, including the School Act and BCSTA resources
  - Election timelines and nomination processes
  - Trustee time commitments, including meeting schedules, BCSTA Academy, AGM, and the variable nature of the role throughout the year
  - The Board work plan and realistic scope of trustee influence
  - Clarification of “what the role is / what the role is not” to address common misconceptions
- Emphasizing collective decision-making, team governance, and that individual trustees do not act or speak independently on behalf of the Board.
- Being explicit that single-issue advocacy is unlikely to be effectively advanced through trusteeship.
- Developing a staged trustee orientation following the election, aligned with upcoming governance responsibilities (e.g., financial learning closer to budget season).
- Exploring opportunities to engage stakeholder groups (qTA, CUPE, DPAC) in helping share information about the trustee role and dispel misconceptions.
- Considering public engagement opportunities, including trustee question-and-answer sessions, possible DPAC-hosted forums, and community media features.
- Ensuring candidate forums and public questions appropriately reflect the trustee governance role rather than operational matters.
- Involving Communications staff in planning outreach, public awareness, and event coordination.

Staff were asked to revise the slide deck based on Committee feedback and bring the updated materials forward to the June Ad Hoc Committee meeting, with subsequent sharing at Committee of the Whole.

### **3. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**4:00 pm, Wednesday, May 13, 2026**  
**School Board Office**

**NOTES**

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Present: Jaclyn Miller, Gretchen Conti, Dale Lawson, Maureen Mason  
Also in attendance: Paul McKenzie (Superintendent), Steve Hopkins (Secretary-Treasurer)  
Regrets: Kirsten Van't Schip

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The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairperson Miller.

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**SECONDED: G. CONTI**

**THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda of May 13, 2026, be adopted as circulated.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

**2. STANDING COMMITTEES**

2.a) Finance and Facilities

2.a.i) 2026-2027 Annual Facility Grant

Secretary-Treasurer Hopkins spoke to the presentation summary and highlighted proposed priorities for the 2026–2027 Annual Facility Grant (AFG). Planned investments include work at Edgehill Elementary to complement the current addition project, including millwork upgrades throughout much of the school, updates to existing washrooms to align with the standard of the new addition, and the inclusion of a gender-neutral washroom. The full list of priorities is included in the agenda package.

Discussion also included planned HVAC upgrades at Brooks Secondary, and ongoing regular arsenic testing, and mechanical control improvements that would support off-site monitoring and management of building systems at Kelly Creek. Staff noted that project timing has been planned strategically, with some work scheduled for completion over the

summer months and other projects extending into the school year to minimize operational disruption.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Board of Education approve the proposed list of projects under the 2026/2027 Annual Facility Grant program.

2.a.ii) Budget Update (handout)

Secretary-Treasurer Hopkins provided an overview of the 2026–2027 budget considerations, noting that projected ministry funding and overall revenues remain largely stable, with most funding continuing to be tied to student enrolment. Conservative enrolment estimates suggest a potential decline in elementary enrolment, which may result in fewer divisions in some schools.

Discussion focused on planned adjustments to service delivery within existing resources, including a restructured elementary literacy and learning support model intended to strengthen Tier 1 classroom supports through district-based instructional and intervention roles, rather than fractional school-based assignments. Trustees sought clarification on the shift, and staff noted the intent is to provide more flexible, needs-based support while maintaining overall staffing levels.

Additional changes discussed included staffing and operational adjustments at Brooks Secondary, revisions to some school board office staffing, updates to summer learning and childcare programming, and the anticipated expansion of the Feeding Futures meal program to local elementary schools. Staff also noted that spring staffing may be more complex this year due to enrolment pressures, tenure and transfer processes, and the final year of transition related to continuing-status conversion processes

2.a.iii) Staffing Update (oral)

Secretary-Treasurer Hopkins provided a staffing update, noting that Mavi Magsaysay has been hired as the new Accounting Clerk at the School Board Office. An update was also shared on the Director of Operations recruitment, with a candidate secured and contract negotiations underway. The successful candidate is anticipated to begin in late summer or early fall. In the interim, Lisa McMurray will serve as Interim Transportation Manager.

2.b) Education and Strategic Planning

2.b.i) Summer Learning Program Update (oral)

Changes to summer learning were reported as part of the budget update.

2.b.ii) School Supplies (oral)

Superintendent McKenzie reported on a discussion at DPAC regarding school supplies, where concerns were raised about the current school supply list process. DPAC expressed interest in a model where schools would centrally procure supplies and families would contribute through a flat fee to help offset costs. The concept was subsequently shared with principals, who indicated support for exploring the approach.

Staff are working with school teams to develop a more consistent approach, with the goal of keeping costs reasonable, ensuring supplies are used effectively in classrooms, and

exploring procurement and payment structures that would avoid the model being perceived as a school fee.

Principals are also engaging with their PACs on the concept. Staff noted that participation would not be mandatory, that supports would remain available for families experiencing financial hardship, and that existing community supports, such as the Telus Backpack Program, would continue to help address identified needs. A preliminary estimated cost of approximately \$36–40 per student was referenced.

2.b.iii) 2028-2029 School Calendar

Staff provided an update on the draft 2028–2029 school calendar, noting that initial review with stakeholder groups has occurred and some early feedback has been received. qTA and CUPE have identified questions related to proposed changes to parent-teacher interview scheduling. The draft calendar will proceed to a broader public consultation period of at least 30 days, after which staff will return with a final version for Board consideration.

2.c) Audit

2.c.i) N/A

2.d) Policy Development

2.d.i) Trustee Remuneration

Secretary-Treasurer Hopkins noted that, with sector compensation mandates now established, the Board may wish to consider an adjustment to trustee remuneration. A potential increase of 2.5% was suggested to align with compensation adjustments provided to other non-union staff. Trustees expressed support for the proposed increase.

**RECOMMENDATION:** THAT 2026 trustee remuneration be increased by 2.5%.

2.d.ii) Policy 7 - Appendix - Trustee Election Bylaw

Staff provided an update on the proposed revisions to the Trustee Election Bylaw, noting that feedback had been received from the City and the draft had also been reviewed against recent BCSTA guidance. No additional changes were recommended at this time.

2.d.iii) Board Development Plan (discussion)

Trustees discussed the Board Development Plan in the context of the upcoming election year. It was noted that the combination of trustee orientation for the incoming Board and progress made by the Ad Hoc Committee may be sufficient to meet board development expectations for the year.

2.d.iv) BCSTA Policy Review

Staff reported on a review of BCSTA best practice samples related to the Role of the Board, Delegation of Authority, and Role of the Superintendent. It was noted that the district's current policies align with the guidance provided, and no additional policy changes were recommended at this time.

**3. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

3.a) N/A

**4. OTHER INFORMATION**

4.a) Upcoming Events

Trustees discussed availability and made tentative arrangements to attend upcoming events.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>qSD Retirement Dinner</b> Location: Seaside Restaurant	Thursday, June 4	6:00 pm
<b>Brooks Graduation</b> Location: Hap Parker Arena	Saturday, June 6	Doors at 4:00 pm Ceremony at 6:00 pm
<b>Long Service Recognition</b> Location: Brooks Grand Foyer	Thursday, June 11	4:00 pm
<b>PIE Graduation</b> Location: Crown Isle Resort and Golf Course	Thursday, June 18	Doors at 4:00 pm Ceremony at 6:00 pm
<b>qTA Retirement Celebration</b> Location: Cranberry Seniors' Centre	Thursday, June 18	4:00 pm
<b>Brooks Award Night</b> Location: Max Cameron	Wednesday, June 24	Gr 8-10 at 6:00 pm Gr 11-12 at 7:15 pm

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 13, 2026, be adjourned.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 5:24 pm.