



REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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

MINUTES

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm by Chairperson J. Miller

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PRESENTATION

Texada Elementary School Presentation – A. Bella

Principal A. Bella presented on behalf of Texada Elementary School, highlighting the school's ongoing literacy inquiry and efforts to strengthen student learning outcomes. The presentation outlined several initiatives implemented during the year, including restructuring the school schedule to provide dedicated literacy and numeracy blocks, embedding intervention time for students requiring additional support, consulting with district literacy staff, enhancing library access and circulation, and participating in professional learning and school visits to explore effective literacy practices. While DIBELS data showed limited movement in overall performance bands, Ms. Bella reported evidence of individual student growth, particularly among students with regular attendance, as well as increased student confidence and engagement in reading and writing. Library circulation also increased significantly over the previous year.

Trustees asked questions regarding support for students reading above grade level, the role of family engagement in literacy development, and the availability of high-interest reading materials. Ms. Bella described strategies used to guide students toward appropriate reading resources, noted the challenges some families face in supporting literacy at home, and shared observations that students whose families are actively engaged tend to demonstrate stronger literacy outcomes. Looking ahead, the school plans to continue strengthening literacy instruction, expand staff training related to intervention strategies, promote reading for enjoyment, and explore a future inquiry focused on student reading self-concept.

QUESTION PERIOD

A representative of the qTA asked whether the Board was aware of a request to delay the planned changes to reading intervention services. Trustee Miller confirmed that the Board was aware of the request and noted that the matter is currently being addressed through an established process.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

"Hello everyone, and welcome.

As we move into the final stretch of the school year, there is a tremendous amount happening across the qathet School District. Spring is always a busy and exciting time in schools, full of performances, outdoor learning, celebrations, transitions, and opportunities for students to demonstrate their growth in so many different ways.

Before highlighting some of those moments, I would first like to acknowledge the leadership of our Superintendent, Paul McKenzie, who has now been with the district for just over a year.

In a relatively short time, Paul has had a very positive impact across the district. Staff consistently speak about his thoughtful, human-centred approach and the strong sense of care, professionalism, and collaboration he brings to his work. At the same time, he has brought a strong focus to operational effectiveness and process, helping strengthen how we work together as a district while always keeping students at the centre. As we know, change can be challenging, and I appreciate the way Paul has built strong relationships and trust with staff so that when changes do occur, there is a shared understanding that they are thoughtful, purposeful, and always grounded in what is best for students. We are very fortunate to have leadership that values relationships, transparency, and continuous improvement, and I want to acknowledge the positive culture that continues to grow under Paul's leadership.

This month is filled with meaningful student events and learning opportunities across the district. The Outdoor Learning Centre continues to host exceptional experiences for students, including the recent Grade 7 cultural gathering, the long standing Story to Song cultural camp out, and the reimagined Métis Life program for Grade 4 students, developed collaboratively with Métis community members and Indigenous Education staff to centre Métis perspectives and lived experiences through hands-on learning on the land. And, starting this week and into early June, Grade 7 students from all schools will have an opportunity to attend an overnight camp at the OLC.

Early this month, students have also participated in the Grade 7 Mental Health and Wellness Conference, "Level Up," while Brooks Secondary recently hosted its International Food and Cultural Fair, both wonderful examples of learning that supports belonging, well-being, and connection.

And of course, there is still much more ahead. For example, later this week, the Brooks Theatre Company will present Macbeth, showcasing the incredible talent and dedication of our students and staff as well as the district track and field event happening on Friday.

We are also looking forward to celebrating the Brooks graduation class of 2026 on June 6 at the Hap Parker Arena, an important milestone for students, families, and the broader community.

Dr. Shannon Behan is welcomed back to our district as Principal of Texada School while all other administrative teams will remain in place for the coming school year. Thank you to staff for your continuity of leadership and for the work still underway in terms of preparing for next year's teaching and other staff assignments.

Finally, I would like to remind families and community members that the proposed 2028–2029 school calendar is now available for public review on the district website, with feedback open until June 20. We encourage anyone interested to take the opportunity to review the calendar and share their input."

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED: D. LAWSON

SECONDED: M. MASON

THAT the Regular meeting agenda of May 27, 2026, be adopted as circulated.

STATUS: CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED: G. CONTI

SECONDED: M. MASON

THAT the Regular meeting minutes of April 22, 2026, be adopted as amended.

STATUS: CARRIED

A correction to the spelling of I. Landy's name was noted.

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 include property and personnel.

4. INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

4.a) PRISMA Support Request – A. Rice

The outgoing letter will be revised to specifically address supports for the "Sail to the Symphony" events.

MOVED: D. LAWSON

SECONDED: M. MASON

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

STATUS: CARRIED

5. OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

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

The board directed staff to revise the draft response be revised to specifically address the support requested for PRISMA's "Sail to the Symphony" events.

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

V. Kintzinger and consultant K. Fello presented the findings of the Partners in Education (PIE) program review, which examined how the District's K-12 Provincial Online Learning School supports students and families, operates across multiple regions, and adapts to continued

growth. The review identified several strengths, including strong relationships between teachers and families, flexible and student-centred learning approaches, inclusive learning environments, and dedicated staff. Families consistently reported valuing personalized learning experiences, flexibility, and ongoing connections with teachers. The review also highlighted opportunities to strengthen consistency in programming and supports, enhance connections to District services, improve student engagement in the online learning environment, and further align systems, processes, and planning across the District.

Trustees discussed the importance of maintaining the strong relationships that families value, supporting diverse learners, measuring student engagement and success, and identifying practices from online learning that may inform traditional school settings. Staff noted that online learning serves a wide range of learners and communities and emphasized the importance of continuing to strengthen student supports, monitor outcomes, gather feedback, and align the program with District priorities while preserving the relational and flexible nature of the PIE program.

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

The report was provided for information.

MOVED: G. CONTI

SECONDED: M. MASON

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

STATUS: CARRIED

7. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

7.a) N/A

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

The Committee reported that a draft presentation will be brought forward to a future Committee of the Whole meeting for feedback.

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

MOVED: G. CONTI

SECONDED: D. LAWSON

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

STATUS: CARRIED

8.b.ii) Trustee Remuneration

MOVED: D. LAWSON

SECONDED: M. MASON

THAT 2026 trustee remuneration be increased by 2.5%.

STATUS: CARRIED

9. OTHER BUSINESS

9.a) N/A

QUESTION PERIOD

During the question period, the CUPE President noted that 17 support staff, including clerical staff, support the PIE program.

MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions from the media.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED: D. LAWSON

SECONDED: M. MASON

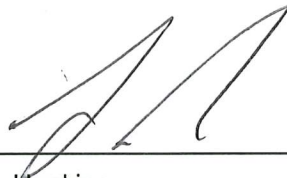
THAT the Regular Meeting of May 27, 2026 be adjourned.

STATUS: CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:22 pm.



J. Miller
Chairperson



S. Hopkins
Secretary-Treasurer