



## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**4:00 pm, Wednesday, June 10, 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.

### **PRESENTATION**

#### Indigenous Education Council (IEC) Delegation

Representatives of the Indigenous Education Council (IEC), including Chair B. Louie, Vice-Chair T. Berggren, and members T. Bellmane and D. McKenzie, presented to the Board regarding the Council's priorities and vision for strengthening collaboration with the District and Board. The delegation emphasized the importance of relationship-building, proactive planning, and leveraging legislative opportunities to support Indigenous student success. Members highlighted the significance of Tla'amin territory and the Ayajuthem language, expressing a desire to see Indigenous language and culture continue to be elevated within the District.

The delegation spoke to the value of ongoing dialogue, shared planning, and addressing challenges collaboratively. Discussion included opportunities for a future Board-IEC retreat, improving orientation and onboarding for future trustees, and ensuring the IEC is meaningfully engaged in planning processes. Trustees expressed support for continued relationship-building and interest in participating in a future retreat. Superintendent McKenzie thanked the delegation for their presentation and indicated that staff would provide a written response outlining proposed next steps and opportunities for collaboration in the coming year.

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

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**SECONDED: M. MASON**

**THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda of June 10, 2026, be adopted as amended.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

The agenda was amended to add discussion of the Mini-Peak Legacy Project as Item 4.e.

## 2. **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### 2.a) Finance and Facilities

#### 2.a.i) Annual Budget

Secretary-Treasurer S. Hopkins presented the 2026–2027 Preliminary Budget, providing an overview of the budget planning cycle, provincial funding model, enrolment trends, budget assumptions, accumulated operating surplus, budget pressures, and mitigation strategies. The presentation highlighted planned capital projects, strategic priorities guiding resource allocation, and the District's reliance on enrolment-based funding. Trustees also received information regarding the distinction between internally restricted and unrestricted surplus, projected enrolment trends, and the financial implications of staffing, inflationary pressures, and increasing student support needs.

Secretary-Treasurer Hopkins outlined several proposed service and staffing adjustments for 2026–2027, including changes to the allocation of classroom composition remedy supports, revisions to elementary literacy intervention and learning assistance services, expansion of Feeding Futures and child care programming, and the addition of a second Vice-Principal at Brooks Secondary School. Discussion focused on enrolment forecasting, the rationale for proposed changes to remedy and literacy support models, the District's approach to balancing service levels with available resources, and funding sources for specialized programs.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board of Education approve the 2026/2027 Annual Budget.

#### 2.a.ii) Carbon Neutral Action Report

Secretary-Treasurer S. Hopkins presented the Carbon Neutral Action Report and provided an overview of the District's ongoing sustainability initiatives. Discussion included opportunities to utilize Carbon Neutral Capital Program funding to support future fleet electrification projects, including electric buses and maintenance vehicles. Trustees discussed recent changes affecting ferry transportation of electric buses and the infrastructure requirements associated with fleet electrification. Trustees also commented on paper consumption and the continued role of paper-based learning resources in supporting student learning.

### 2.b) Education and Strategic Planning

#### 2.b.i) Tier 1 Instructional Coaches and Targeted Student Success Teachers Update

Directors of Instruction V. Kintzinger and K. Brach provided an update on the District's planned transition to a district-based Learning Success model and the introduction of Tier 1 Instructional Coaches and Targeted Student Success Teachers. Staff reviewed the rationale for the changes, noting that while previous literacy intervention models had supported some students, student outcome data and a recent literacy review identified a need for a more responsive and equitable approach to supporting literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional learning across elementary schools. The new model will utilize assessment data and ongoing monitoring to deploy supports where they are most needed, while also strengthening Tier 1 classroom instruction through instructional coaching and professional learning.

Trustees discussed implementation plans, support for teachers and students, opportunities for collaboration and professional learning, the role of assessment data in determining service levels, and measures that will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the new model over time. Staff advised that the new positions will begin working with schools in September, with student needs reassessed throughout the year and adjustments made as required. The Board was advised that implementation will be monitored closely and that updates on progress and outcomes will be provided as part of ongoing reporting.

2.b.ii) School Supplies

Superintendent P. McKenzie presented a proposed elementary school supply service for the 2026–2027 school year. The optional program would allow families to purchase classroom supplies through their school for a flat fee, with materials selected by teachers to align with classroom learning needs. Staff noted that the initiative is intended to improve consistency, reduce waste, simplify purchasing for families, and support student readiness at the beginning of the school year, while ensuring that no student goes without supplies due to financial circumstances. Families who choose not to participate would continue to receive teacher-specific supply lists.

Trustees discussed communication plans, payment options, and opportunities to share information with families throughout the summer. Trustees expressed appreciation to DPAC and school staff for their contributions to the initiative and their efforts to reduce barriers for families.

2.c) Audit

2.c.i) N/A

2.d) Policy Development

2.d.i) Superintendent Evaluation (Discussion)

Trustees discussed the current Superintendent evaluation process and the requirements outlined in Board policy. Discussion focused on the potential for a more sustainable evaluation cycle, including an annual growth plan and performance review process supplemented by a more comprehensive evaluation at key points during a Board term. Trustees also discussed the desirability of a process that is not tied to a specific external consultant and could be adapted to meet the needs of future Boards.

Trustees noted similar considerations regarding Board self-evaluation and professional growth. Staff were asked to explore potential policy revisions and bring options forward for future Board consideration. Support was expressed for utilizing available resources and frameworks, including those offered through BCSTA, to guide future evaluation processes.

**3. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

3.a) Ad Hoc Committee Notes – June 4, 2026

Trustees reviewed the draft Candidate Information Session presentation and expressed support for the content. Discussion focused on the timing and format of the information session, including whether to offer one or multiple sessions and the role of trustees in

delivering the presentation. Trustees emphasized the importance of ensuring that information about the trustee role is communicated clearly and objectively while avoiding any perception of election-related advocacy.

Trustees discussed making the presentation materials available online during the summer and hosting an in-person information session following the nomination period. Support was expressed for providing prospective candidates with accessible information early in the process while ensuring opportunities for questions and discussion closer to the election. Staff will continue planning and explore facilitation options for the session.

#### 4. **OTHER INFORMATION**

##### 4.a) AP 156 – Visit Protocol

Staff reviewed proposed revisions to AP 156 – Visit Protocol, which are intended to support school safety and emergency preparedness procedures. The proposed changes would require visitors to schools to be identified through the use of visitor badges. Committee members discussed the importance of maintaining safe worksites, and a suggestion was made to revise the order of content within the procedure to place greater emphasis on visitor expectations. Staff advised that implementation is anticipated for September 2026.

##### 4.b) Draft 2026-2027 Board Meeting Calendar

Staff presented the draft 2026–2027 Board meeting calendar, which follows the established pattern of Committee of the Whole and Regular Board meetings occurring on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. The draft calendar proposes no regularly scheduled meetings in October due to the local election period, while recognizing that special meetings could be called if required to address emergent matters.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To approve the 2026-2027 Board Meeting Calendar.

##### 4.c) Draft 2026-2027 Board Annual Work Plan

Staff presented the draft 2026–2027 Board Annual Work Plan. Trustees discussed the timing of annual agenda items, including a review of activities scheduled for October and the addition of program reviews and school presentations beginning in September. Discussion also focused on aligning routine program reviews with the trustee election cycle and Board orientation needs. It was noted that fewer program reviews may be scheduled during the first half of the school year to support the onboarding of a newly elected Board. A revised work plan will be presented for Board consideration in September.

**RECOMMENDATION:** To approve the 2026-2027 Board Annual Work Plan.

##### 4.d) Continued Advocacy Regarding Standard time (Discussion)

Trustees discussed continuing advocacy regarding the adoption of permanent standard time. Chair Miller expressed support for submitting a letter of advocacy on behalf of the Board, and trustees indicated unanimous support for the initiative. Staff were directed to prepare a draft letter for future consideration, drawing upon materials previously presented to the BCSTA Annual General Meeting in support of a similar motion.

##### 4.e) Mini-Peak Legacy Project (Discussion)

Trustees discussed the Mini-Pitch Legacy Project, a potential partnership opportunity involving FIFA and the Vancouver Whitecaps to establish a community mini-pitch. Discussion focused on potential local partnerships, including opportunities to collaborate

with the Tla'amin Nation and local community organizations. Trustees noted the potential recreational and community benefits of the project and suggested that the local soccer association may be well positioned to take a leadership role should the initiative proceed. Staff noted that Powell River's existing field inventory may present opportunities for consideration as discussions continue.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED: D. LAWSON**

**THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned.**

**STATUS: CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

SH/attachments