

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
MINUTES**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 6:00 PM (PT)**

**Attendees:** All Trustees, Superintendent Dubinsky, Secretary-Treasurer McLellan

**Presenters:** Jenna Alstad (Primary Literacy), Jaime Sing (NSS Writing Club)

**Guests:** Keith Greenhalf (ALTA), Barb White (CUPE)

**1. Call to Order**

*The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM*

*We gratefully acknowledge that we live, work, and learn on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Sinixt Peoples, and we honour their ongoing presence on the land.*

**2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda**

There were none.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved:

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **ADOPTS** agenda for January 21, 2025, as circulated.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved:

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **ADOPTS** the minutes from the regular meeting held in public on December 17, 2024, as circulated.

**5. Presentations**

A. Good News Report

The Superintendent presented the good news report.

**6. Superintendent's Report**

A. Primary Literacy Initiatives

The Superintendent introduced the topic, noting there is a crucial focus on early learning initiatives in the District. Teacher Jenna Alstad provided an overview of the primary literacy work happening in the district, including developing a primary assessment drive, creating a writing continuum, and collaborating with early childhood educators.

B. NSS Writing Club

The Superintendent introduced District Vice-Principal Sing and the NSS' Writing Club, which is a Writers Workshop club at North Shore Secondary as part of the district's strategic plan to provide challenge and enrichment opportunities. Vice-Principal Sing note that the club has 21 students in grades 8-12 participating so

far. Activities have included attending the Vancouver Writers Festival and working on writing skills and strategies. The goal is to make the Writers Workshop an annual program, potentially expanding it to other schools. Future plans include hosting a community reading event and offering a dedicated creative writing elective course.

## **7. Trustee, Committee and Organization Reports**

## **8. Financial Report**

### **A. 2024-2025 Budget Update**

Secretary-Treasurer McLellan presented a 2024-2025 Budget update, noting that there is still 60% of revenues for the year to be received, the projected deficit is in line with the same period last year, and the District is roughly on track to run a balanced budget, which will be confirmed in the development of the amended budget at the next meeting.

## **9. Unfinished Business - Nil**

## **10. New Business**

### **A. School Board Office Refurbishment**

The Chair announced that the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) will move out of the school board office building. This opens up additional space for the board to refurbish and potentially use for board meetings rather than holding them at Nakusp Secondary. More details on the board's plans for the refurbishment will be forthcoming.

### **B. Policies**

- Policy 532 – Respectful Workplace & Employee Code of Conduct
- Policy 370 – Field Trips
- Policy 140 – Policy Development

The Secretary-Treasurer noted that the circulated Policy 140 was amended to delete “and be posted on the Board website” in the last paragraph. Thus, this change will be included in the policy to be considered at this meeting, and there will be no need to put forth a motion to amend the policy.

Policy 532 was first considered.

A motion was duly made and seconded:

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** Policy 532 – Respectful Workplace & Employee Code of Conduct.

A point of information was made. The motion was defeated.

It was decided to table the policy and send it back to the Policy Committee to review whether it should also cover Trustees and how it might conflict with the Trustee Code of Conduct policy.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved:

**THAT** the Board of Education send Policy 532 – Respectful Workplace & Employee Code of Conduct back to the Policy Committee for review.

The Chair made a notice of motion to amend Policy 532 – Respectful Workplace & Employee Code of Conduct at the Board's May meeting.

Policies 370 and 140 were then considered in turn.

Upon motions duly made and seconded, it was resolved:

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** Policy 370 – Field Trips.

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** Policy 140 – Policy Development.

C. Notice of Motions Regarding Policies

The Chair noted that a notice of motion is provided for adopting a policy or bylaw at future board meetings open to the public, with practice requiring a notice of motion be provided at two sequential meetings before a resolution is proposed for amendment of adoption.

The following three policies will be proposed for adoption at the board meeting open to the public on April 15, 2025:

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** its Communications & Public Relations policy.

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** its Inquiries & Concerns policy.

**THAT** the Board of Education hereby **AMENDS** its policy on Participation of Trustees at Public Meetings.

## 11. Questions from the Public

## 12. Next Meeting Dates

The Chair noted the following forthcoming meeting dates:

- A. Policy Committee Meeting: February 6, 2025
- B. Partner Group Advisory Meeting: February 10, 2025
- C. Board Meeting Open to the Public: February 25, 2025
- D. [2024-2025 Board Meetings](#) are posted on the [Board Meetings Information Page](#).

## 13. Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.*

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S. Gascon  
Chairperson

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M. McLellan  
Secretary-Treasurer