



Trustee Report

FROM: Rhonda Farrell
DATE: February 24, 2026
SUBJECT: Trustee Report, to SD10 Board, for Eastern Zone

For Information

PAC Meeting – February 10/26

Meeting minutes attached. Meeting highlights:

- Reports presented - principal, financial, district
- Battle of the Books, and Book Fair fundraising discussed
- 'Earth Embodied' funding requested, and approved
- Musical drumming workshop funding request - tabled

Respectfully,

Rhonda Farrell
Trustee, Eastern Zone

Lucerne School
Parent Advisory Council Meeting
MINUTES
6:00 p.m. February 10, 2026
Lucerne School Library

Present: LESS Principal Mitchell Hemphill, Vice Principal Justin Bisson, SD #10 Trustee Rhonda, Robert, Robin, Jason, Eva, Jana

Chair Eva called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

MOVED by Jason and seconded that the agenda for the February 10, 2026 LESS PAC meeting be adopted as presented. CARRIED

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

MOVED by Robert and seconded that the minutes of the January 13, 2026 LESS PAC meeting be adopted as presented. CARRIED

3. Reports

- Principal's Report
 - See attached
- Financial Report
 - See attached
 - RDCK grant \$1,500 that Jess Rayner applied for, got deposited. To go towards Skiing. Thanks Jess!!
- School District Report
 - See attached
- DPAC Report
 - Nothing to report

4. Old Business

- Donation for Battle of the Books: Nobody has seen a request for funds from Rachel. PAC will support Rachel if a form is submitted.

5. New Business

- Fundraiser for Book Fair Idea: request to community to make small donations so kids that couldn't otherwise buy a book, get "sponsored". Robin will write something for Kate to post on FB.
- Earth Embodied Funding Request to support K/1/2/3. Eva motioned to support the request for \$300, Jay seconded. All in favor. CARRIED.

- Request for funds for Musical Drumming Workshop (Sept). Patrick played at the Garlic Fest and was a big hit last year. LESS would like him to stay for Mon Sept 14th and hold workshops for the school, plus for the community in the evening. There is funding available through Slocan Arts Council but they need to fundraise an additional \$1,000. Eva will get Donna to send in a Request for Funds form to cover a part of this.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is March 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.



lucerne.sd10.bc.ca

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Box 130 New Denver, BC V0G 1S0

604-7th Avenue, New Denver

February 2026 Principal Report

Upcoming events:

February dates for skiing have been confirmed k-7 Feb 6th, 11th, 20th– there will be a \$10 charge per student per trip again this year. Majority of families have paid.

February/March dates for High School - Feb 27 and Mar 6 – there will be a \$30 charge per student per trip again this year.

Shakefest is happening February 24th to 27th – Mx Baker and Mr. Copley attending

School Dance February 10th – 3:30 till 5:30 K-7 – we had 38 students attend, 6 chaperones!

Pro D Day February 13th

Pink shirt Day Feb 25 – free t-shirts provided by SD8. Thank you!

March 10th – Scott from SaferSchools – Presentation for high students during the afternoon and parents possibly early evening

Spring Break March 16th – 29th

LESS PAC
Financial Report
February 2026

Gaming Account

Date	Notes	Amount	Running Total
01-Feb-26	Balance from previous month		4613.60
01-Feb-26	Place holder for Mural Project (United Church Grant)	-1000.00	3613.60
30-Nov-25	Interest	0.08	3613.68
31-Dec-25	Interest	0.07	3613.75

General Operating Account

Date	Notes	Amount	Running Total
01-Feb-26	Balance from previous month		4162.83
30-Nov-25	Interest	0.06	4162.89
30-Nov-25	Paper Statement Charge	-3.00	4159.89
31-Dec-25	Interest	0.10	4159.99
31-Dec-25	Paper Statement Charge	-3.00	4156.99
19-Nov-25	RDCK Grant	1500.00	5656.99



Trustee Report

FROM: Rhonda Farrell
DATE: February 10, 2026
SUBJECT: Trustee Report to PAC, Eastern Zone

For Information

The last regular meeting of the Board of Education was January 20/26.

Policy: A reminder that a notice of motion was announced at the regular December meeting, as recommended by the Policy Committee to amend/update the following policies:

Policy 301 – SOGI

Policy 320 – Participation in Graduation Ceremonies

Policy 330 – Child & Youth Protection

Policy 332 – Physical Restraint & Seclusion in Schools

Policy 510 – Recruitment & Selection of Exempt Staff

All are available for review on the District's website, and we welcome your comments and feedback. Please feel free to reach out to either me or Amanda Murphy, or email the Board office.

Budget Consultation: The 2026-27 budget development will begin soon. Dates to be determined and announced shortly. The most recent financial report is attached for perusal, current to the end of December, 2025.

Superintendent's Report: Attached is the superintendent's report as presented at the last regular board meeting containing interesting information on different initiatives and events happening at schools in our district.

Regular Board Meeting: The next regular meeting of the board is in Nakusp, in the newly renovated board office, board room, February 24/26, 6pm. There are Zoom links on the District website for alternate attendance options.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Farrell
SD10 Trustee, Eastern Zone



Memorandum to the Board of Education

Meeting in Public

FROM: Michael McLellan, Secretary-Treasurer
TO: The Board of Education
DATE: January 16, 2026
SUBJECT: Financial Report as of December 31, 2025

For Information

Introduction

This memorandum provides an update on the District's year-to-date financial results.

Attached are the Statements of Operations for all funds (Operating, Special Purpose, and Capital) for the period ended October 31, 2025.

Operating and Special Purpose Budgets

As noted in last month's financial report, lower enrolment than forecast will result in \$319,387 less operating fund revenue than in the 2025-2026 Annual Budget. The District has adopted various strategies to mitigate the potential deficit.

The use of operating fund services and supplies budgets has been limited, and potential discretionary expenditures will be deferred to 2026-2027. Using in-house staff for eligible minor capital projects and the school board office renovation has been cost-savings-productive. In conjunction with continued use of existing in-house staff, the new electrician hired this month will be funded through minor capital funding, thereby reducing potential cost pressures on the operating budget.

Cost mitigation efforts to minimize or eliminate a deficit will remain the primary focus of this year's budget.

All Funds Revenues & Expenditures

As of September 30, total revenues across all funds were \$6,138,211, while total expenses were \$6,903,395, resulting in a year-to-date deficit of \$735,184 (compared with \$643,776 at the end of October 2025). Despite the year-to-date loss, a balanced budget or a modest year-end deficit is anticipated, contingent on both the expense mitigation strategies noted above and confirmation of remaining operating grants later in the year.

Operating Fund Expenditures

As of December 31, revenues in the operating fund were \$5,096,790, while expenses were \$5,693,264. This results in a year-to-date deficit of \$596,474, which accounts for the majority of the total deficit across all funds and is typical at this point in the fiscal cycle. \$182,386 of the deficit is attributable to spending authorized by an appropriation of accumulated surplus. Without these surplus appropriations, the operating fund deficit would be \$414,088.



Memorandum to the Board of Education

Meeting in Public

Special Purpose Funds Expenditures

As of September 30, 2025, \$530,599 in expenditures had been incurred from Special Purpose Funds, out of a total annual budget of \$1,580,736. The special-purpose funds with the largest expenditures include \$85,804 from the Classroom Enhancement Fund and \$140,083 from the Feeding Futures Fund.

Capital Funds

For the 2025–2026 year, the District has approved capital budgets funded through the Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC), totalling \$2,282,715:

- Annual Facilities Grant (AFG)- \$375,858
- SEP & CNCP HVAC Upgrades, All Schools but mainly NSS the LESS - \$948,162
- SEP & CNCP Electrical Upgrades, All Schools but mainly NSS - \$327,339
- SEP Plumbing, All Schools - \$90,000
- SEP Interior Construction, NSS and LESS - \$450,000
- FIP Kitchen Upgrades at NES - \$91,356
- **TOTAL MECC-funded project budgets = \$2,282,715**

As of January 16, 2025, \$180,632 had been spent from AFG, and \$1,070,973 from other capital projects.

Additionally, the Board authorized the use of \$341,000 of surplus appropriations (from operating surplus or local capital) for capital expenses:

- Classroom Improvement Fund - \$15,000
- Technology Equipment - \$36,000
- School Board Office Renovation funded by Operating Fund and Local Capital - \$160,000
- Vehicles:
 - Skid Steer \$50,000
 - Van - \$80,000
- **TOTAL Authorized surplus-funded capital budgets = \$341,000**

As of January 16, 2026, the District had incurred \$65,348 related to the School Board Office renovation (excluding in-house trades staff), had purchased a skid steer for \$50,013, and a van for \$67,025, for a total of \$182,386 spent from combined local capital and operating surplus funds (these appropriations are also noted in the operating fund section above).

	2025-2026 At December 31, 2025				2025-2026 Budget		2024-2025 At June 30, 2025	
	Operating Fund	Special Purpose	Capital	Actual	Budget	Remaining	Actual	Variance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
ENROLMENT								
Elementary & Secondary				489,2823	484,0000		495,282	(6)
Online Learning				23,0000	30,0000		23,000	-
Home Schooling				6,0000	7,0000		7,000	(1)
TOTAL Ministry of Education (FTE)				518,2823	521,0000		525,282	(38)
REVENUES					519			
Provincial Grants				-				
Ministry of Education	4,902,854	458,979		5,361,833	13,334,619	60%	13,069,214	(7,707,381)
Other	57,265	11,060		68,324	151,318	55%	115,758	(47,434)
Other Revenue	105,104	60,560		165,664	381,250	57%	386,374	(220,710)
Rentals & Leases	2,020	-		2,020	5,260	62%	2,969	(949)
Investment Income	29,547	-	1,464	31,011	134,000	77%	121,576	(90,565)
Amortization of Deferred Capital Revenue			509,358	509,358	1,039,944	51%	968,455	(459,097)
TOTAL Revenues	5,096,790	530,599	510,822	6,138,211	15,046,391	59%	14,664,346	(8,526,135)
	83.0%	8.6%	8.3%					
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION	90.6%	9.4%						
Instruction	3,722,406	454,090		4,176,496	10,364,008	60%	10,363,215	(6,186,719)
District Administration	779,580	51,056		830,636	1,366,389	39%	1,550,016	(719,380)
Operations & Maintenance (Amortization + Interest)	897,412	25,453	491,275	1,414,140	2,573,341	45%	2,495,691	(1,081,551)
Transportation & Housing (Amortization)	293,866	-	158,257	452,123	934,339	52%	817,665	(365,542)
TOTAL Expenses	5,693,264	530,599	649,532	6,873,395	15,238,077	55%	15,226,587	(8,353,192)
	82.8%	7.7%	9.4%					
NET Revenue	(596,474)	-	(138,710)	(735,184)	(191,686)	-284%	(562,241)	(172,943)
Budgeted Allocation (Retirement of Surplus)	182,386			182,386	293,571			
Surplus (Deficit) for the year (to date)	(414,088)	-	(138,710)	(735,184)	101,885		(562,241)	(172,943)
ACCUMULATED SURPLUSES (DEFICITS)								Schedule 1
Opening Balance, Beginning of Year	1,953,310	-	1,844,647	3,797,957	3,797,957		4,360,198	
Prior Period Adjustments								
Opening Balance, Beginning of Year	\$1,953,310	-	\$1,844,647	3,797,957	\$3,797,957		\$4,360,198	
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	(414,088)	-	(138,710)	(552,798)	101,885		(153,709)	
Interfund Transfers								
Tangible Assets Purchased - Ops	(146,760)			(146,760)	(250,000)		(758,768)	
Tangible Assets Purchased - SP				-	(27,960)		(35,806)	
Tangible Assets Purchased - Cap			146,760	146,760	277,960		794,574	
Surplus (Deficit), for the Year (to date)	(560,848)	-	8,050	(552,798)	101,885		(153,709)	
Balance, End of Period/Year	1,392,462	-	1,852,697	3,245,159	3,899,842		4,206,489	

January 20, 2026, Superintendent's Report



COMPETENCY:

1. **Nakusp Secondary School Writers Club:**

The Writers Workshop Club is a literary enrichment opportunity for students that meets twice per month, offering writing challenges, skill-building, and travel opportunities to learn from professionals. The Creative Writing course is a supplement to this program, and the core group of students continues to grow. It is available to students in all grades, with feedback circles, performances, final chapbooks, and ongoing support applying to writing contests outside the district.

The club attended the Vancouver Writers Festival again this year. Eight students attended from grades 9-12. We were the only school district to send students for most of the festival. Students attended 2-3 sessions a day, plus group writing practice in the evenings, a trip to the Bloedel Conservatory for sensory writing and feedback circles, and daily review of literary devices and team building. These students and those who attended last year have since been leaders in our Creative Writing course, modelling vulnerability, constructive feedback, and culture. Special thanks to the sponsor teachers Naomi Smedbol, Ben Gehrels, Lisa Bjarnason, and Jaime Sing for their ongoing support.

2. **Arrow Lakes Distributed Learning School and Rural Education Academy for Cooperative and Hands-On Learning:**

Both the ALDL and the REACH program have had excellent starts to this year. There are 33 students enrolled in DL courses, with 2 more joining in February. Some are full-time DL, and others are cross-enrolled from NSS. Over 100 courses are being taken within our DL student community. Multiple students come to the DL classroom to work/get support 2-3 days a week, and some students also receive home visits. There is also outreach support in Lucerne and in the Southern Zone. With the closure of the Selkirk Nakusp campus, the DL program has moved to the portable at NSS.





The REACH program has grown significantly this year, and the students are thriving in it. There are 17 students in the program, predominantly in grades 8-9. So far this year, we have done activities such as: Indigenous bracelet beading, sledding and snowshoeing in Sandon, Mindful walking in nature with Chelsea Hanet, ice skating, curling, baking, yoga/sound bowl meditation, intergenerational programming with senior citizens, a tour of the fire hall in New Denver, a first aid certification course and many more. Students have been connecting with local community leaders and members to engage in a hands-on, experiential form of education. Many students have expressed that REACH has supported their academic learning and their ability to attend school.

COLLABORATION

3. District Shared Professional Development Day

The annual District Shared Professional Development Day will take place on January 23rd. This day is collaboratively planned between the Arrow Lakes Teachers Association and the District. This year, the themes will be around Artificial Intelligence and Technology in Education, as well as our strategic plan priorities. We will be joined by SD8 Director of Instruction Ben Eaton, who will present on AI in Education, along with District Learning Technology Teacher Erin Collison and District Vice-Principal Jaime Sing. In the afternoon, teachers will facilitate learning sessions on outdoor education, art, career education, and social-emotional learning that align with the strategic plan's priorities.

