
MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC MEETING
April 28, 2026 – 7:00pm

TRUSTEES: Amanda Dowhy, Board Chair
Cendra Beaton (online via MS Teams)
Trudy Spiller
Christine Lervold, Vice Chair
Ebony Logins

STAFF: Paul Block, Superintendent
Brian Jonker, Secretary Treasurer
Monica Braniff, Deputy Superintendent
D’Arcy Deacon, Associate Superintendent
Lisa Leclerc, Associate Superintendent
Fred Hibbs, Executive Director, Human Resources (online via MS Teams)
Steve Tonnesen, Manager, Digital Solutions - Operations

REGRETS: Russ Chipps

SECRETARY: Jenny Seal

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by the Board Chair who acknowledged the territories of the First Nations.

The Chair provided guidance to trustees regarding meeting decorum and guidance to public regarding the Q&A function.

2. AGENDA

2.1 Call for amendments and additional items

There were two items added to the agenda:

11.1 Information Item - Trustee resignation

11.4 PACE production

100. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the public meeting agenda of April 28, 2026, as amended.

CARRIED



2.2 Report on In Camera Meeting – Amanda Dowhy

This notice is to inform the public that prior to this meeting an “in-camera” meeting of the Board was held where issues of legal, land and personnel were discussed.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Call for corrections to minutes

The minutes of the March 31st Public Board meeting were adopted by unanimous consent.

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.1 Board Chair Update – Amanda Dowhy

The Board Chair acknowledged:

- National Day of Mourning on April 28th, a day dedicated to honouring workers who have lost their lives, suffered injuries, or developed illnesses due to workplace-related tragedies.
- National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirit people on May 5th
- The District long-service and retirement recognition event on May 27th

5. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Royal Bay Secondary School Lacross Team Trips – Lucas MacNeil/Melissa Horner

- a. Royal Bay Secondary School Lacross trip to Tacoma, Washington, October 23-25, 2026.
- b. Royal Bay Secondary School Lacross trip to Long Island, New York, November 18-23/24, 2026
- c. Royal Bay Secondary School Lacross trip to Seattle, Washington, December 4-6, 2026

Highlights of the school trips for the lacrosse teams were presented. In addition to the experience, scholarship opportunities become available for students as a result of these trips.

101. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) approve the Royal Bay Secondary School Lacrosse trip to Tacoma, Washington, October 2026 subject to the oversight and direction of the Superintendent's office.

CARRIED

102. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) approve the Royal Bay Secondary School Lacrosse trip to Long Island, New York, November 2026 subject to the oversight and direction of the Superintendent's office.
CARRIED
103. **MOVED** Trudy Spiller/Christine Lervold
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) approve the Royal Bay Secondary School Lacrosse trip to Seattle, Washington, December 2026 subject to the oversight and direction of the Superintendent's office.
CARRIED

6. INDIGENOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL

- 6.1 Indigenous Education Council Update – No report

7. CORRESPONDENCE & DELEGATIONS

- 7.1 Correspondence – Amanda Dowhy
- a. Email from Jordyn A. dated March 12, 2026 RE Savory Bridge
 - b. Email from Tara F. dated March 14, 2026 RE Kindergarten Placement Concern

The above noted correspondence as listed in items a & b was received.

- 7.2 Standing Delegations (STA, CUPE, PVP, SPEAC) – 5 minutes each

STA - Rita Zeni

Professional development took place on April 20th and the next is May 11th. Spring staffing is underway, and May 14th is the STA AGM. There is a call for nominations for Executive positions for next year.

SPVPA – Ruchi McArthur

The term for Executive is ending making this the last co-presentation by Ruchi & Jen. May and June are busy with planning and reflection, looking back over the past year and forward to the start of the next. Year end celebrations are in the works as is transition planning for the upcoming year.

SPEAC – Tom Davis

The SPEAC AGM is on May 20th and there is a call for nominations for executive positions next year. The SPEAC summit takes place May 27th and is an annual opportunity to thank all of the volunteers in the District. The parent handbook is targeted for release at the end of the school year.

Community members can give feedback regarding parent education sessions by emailing SPEAC@sd62.bc.ca

CUPE 459 – Dana Savage

The CUPE 1st Vice president read UNDRIP call to action #11. The CUPE professional development day takes place May 11th and this year there will be a bus service for staff to Royal Bay Secondary. The Board is invited to attend.

CUPE requested any photos from events to mark the National Day of Mourning. Please email CUPE@sd62.bc.ca.

- 7.3 Other Delegations – 5 minutes each
There were no other delegations.

8. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND SERVICES

8.1 Resources Committee Meeting April 14, 2026 – Christine Lervold

The Committee Chair provided an overview of items addressed at the Resources Committee meeting.

104. MOVED Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) allow all three readings of the Capital Plan Bylaw 2026/27-CPSD62-01 at its meeting of April 28, 2026.
CARRIED unanimously

105. MOVED Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give first, second and third readings of the Capital Plan Bylaw 2026/27-CPSD62-01.
CARRIED

106. MOVED Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Resources Committee Meeting of April 14, 2026.
CARRIED



8.2 2026/27 Draft Budget – ECOW May 19, 2026 – Brian Jonker

The Secretary Treasurer provided an overview of the information contained in the meeting package.

107. **MOVED** Trudy Spiller/Christine Lervold

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) convene for an Education Committee of the Whole meeting on May 19, 2026 at 6:00pm for the purpose of considering the draft 2026/27 budget and providing advice and recommendations to the Board.

CARRIED

8.3 Child Care Minor Capital – Lisa Leclerc

New funding was announced by the Ministry of Education and Child Care. The overall one-time funding is up to \$384,000. There are wait lists and a mechanism in place to require expressions of interest each year. An online platform is being considered to improve efficiency.

108. **MOVED** Christine Lervold/Cendra Beaton

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) support application to the Ministry of Infrastructure minor capital child care program intake for projects to be completed by March 31, 2027.

CARRIED

9. EDUCATION PROGRAM

9.1 Education-Policy Committee Meeting of April 7, 2026 – Trudy Spiller

The Committee Chair provided an overview of the items discussed at the Education-Policy Committee meeting.

109. **MOVED** Trudy Spiller/Christine Lervold

That the Board of Education for School District 62 (Sooke) receive the 2026 – 27 Operational Plan as presented at the Education-Policy Committee meeting of April 7, 2026.

CARRIED

110. **MOVED** Trudy Spiller/Christine Lervold

That the Board of Education for School District #62 (Sooke) give Notice of Motion to draft revised Policy and Regulations C-329 “Field Trips”.

CARRIED

111. **MOVED** Trudy Spiller/Christine Lervold

That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) receive the report from the Education-Policy Committee Meeting of April 7, 2026.

CARRIED



10. STUDENTS

10.1 Superintendent's Report – Paul Block

The Superintendent has been visiting schools throughout the District for ½ days, witnessing the great learning and positive energy.

Associate Superintendents Lisa Leclerc and D'Arcy Deacon shared highlights from the Superintendent's report.

Deputy Superintendent Monica Braniff spoke to the importance of National Child and Youth mental health day hosted by Family Smart. Resources are available through www.familysmart.ca

The National Day of Mourning was observed at the Board Office on April 28th. The Superintendent invited the Board to join the breakfast being held for Bus Driver appreciation day on May 22nd.

11. FOUNDATIONS AND GOVERNANCE

11.1 Information Item – Trustee Resignation – Brian Jonker

The Secretary Treasurer notified the Board that written notice of resignation has been received from Trustee Logins, dated April 28, 2026, effective May 1st, 2026. As required in section 51 (1-3) of the *School Act*, the Board is hereby notified. A resignation is irrevocable after it is given to the Secretary Treasurer. As per Section 36 (2) of the *School Act*, if a vacancy occurs after January 1st in the year of a general school election, the board may hold the vacancy open until the election, as long as 3 trustees continue to hold office.

11.2 Motion Alignment – Paul Block

Work is underway to implement recommendations from the BCSTA Board Policy Review Report. Rescinding prior Board motion #29 aligns with best practice to implement Board motion #48.

11.2. MOVED Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller

That aligned with motion 48, the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) rescind prior motion 29 "That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) refer development of a Public Correspondence Policy and accompanying Regulations to the Governance Committee for consideration by the Board."

CARRIED

- 11.3 Adoption of Draft Revised Policy A-500, “Policy Development” – Paul Block
The Superintendent clarified foundational policy from administrative procedures. As per recommendations in the BCSTA Board Policy Review Report, board policy will address governance (currently category A, Foundations and Governance) and Administrative Procedures will address operational content. Governance policy changes will continue to be implemented via Board Motion and Administrative procedures fall under the Superintendent’s responsibility. Administrative procedures will still come through committee for feedback, and adjusted accordingly. Policies of the Board will not go through committee. Timelines for feedback have been adjusted to better align with monthly meetings.

The meeting was recessed at 8:41pm and reconvened at 8:47pm.

113. MOVED Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) adopt the revised policy A-500, “Policy Development” as presented at the Governance Committee meeting of April 13, 2026.
CARRIED

NOTE: After the meeting a determination was made that motion 113 is null and void resulting from a lack of quorum due to internet connectivity issues experienced by a Trustee attending virtually. The motion will be revisited at the May board meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 9:02pm to address internet connection issues identified by a trustee attending virtually and reconvened at 9:06pm.

114. MOVED Christine Lervold/Trudy Spiller
That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke), consistent with revised Policy A-500 “Policy Development”, rescind effective immediately, the A-500 regulation “Policies & Regulations” as presented at the Governance Committee meeting of April 13, 2026.
CARRIED

11.4 Trustee Liaison Reports – Board of Education

BCSTA AGM April 9-11, 2026 – Christine Lervold
Besides the AGM, other events to note from the conference were a mental health and wellbeing workshop, a presentation by Klara Hughes, Olympian, the Vancouver Island branch meeting, and a communication session.

Victoria Family Court Youth Justice Committee April 23, 2026 – Christine Lervold
An update was provided by the Mobile Youth Services Team (MYST). More information is available www.victoriafamilycourt.ca. Victoria Family Court & Youth Justice Committee

Open House takes place June 2nd between 1:00 and 4:00pm and is open to the public. The next meeting will be held June 25th.

SD62 PACE Musical – Trudy Spiller

Trustee Spiller praised Sandra Webster-Worthy’s direction of the PACE musical “*And the Tony goes to*” noting how valuable this program is for students and community members.

12. ADMINISTRATION

12.1 Board of Education Work Plan – Amanda Dowhy

The Board Chair summarized the Board Work Plan for May-July. Scheduling changes are underway for the MoU meetings as well as some ad hoc committee meeting dates.

13. PERSONNEL

There were no personnel updates.

14. UPCOMING EVENTS

- National Day of Mourning – April 28
- National Child and Youth Mental Health Day – May 1
- School Principals Day – May 1
- International Day for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – May 5
- National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls – May 5
- Education-Policy Meeting – May 5
- Mothers Day – May 10
- Non-instructional Day – May 11
- Resources Committee Meeting – May 12
- International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia – May 17
- Victoria Day – May 18
- Education Committee of the Whole (ECOW) – May 19
- SPEAC AGM – May 20
- Next Public Board Meeting – May 26
- SPEAC Summit – May 27

15. RISE AND REPORT

The Board Chair reported on the following:

- Audit Committee Meeting of April 15, 2026 – to inform the re-appointment of George Ambeault and approval of the Audit plan
- Trustee Information Session related to budget April 22, 2026
- In Camera Meeting of April 28, 2026

- Appointment of Neilane Mayhew as Chief Election Officer and Joan Axford as Deputy Chief Election Officer and the upcoming Trustee election bylaw.

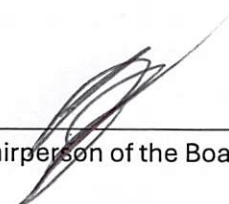
16. QUESTION PERIOD

Members of the public had the opportunity to ask questions related to agenda items discussed at tonight's meeting. There were no questions.


17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm

Certified Correct:



Chairperson of the Board



Secretary Treasurer