



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday February 24, 2025
7:00 pm

In Attendance:

Trustees:

Sarah Jane Howe, Vice Chairperson
Michelle Waite, Board Chairperson (online)
Susan Leslie, Trustee (online)
Chelsea McCannel-Keene, Trustee
Janice Caton, Trustee
Shannon Aldinger, Trustee
Cristi May Sacht, Trustee

Staff:

Dr. Jeremy Morrow, Superintendent and Acting Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Vivian Collyer, Associate Superintendent
Dr. Joe Heslip, Associate Superintendent
Jennifer Nelson, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Tracy Pederson, District Principal Inclusive Education
Josh Porter, Director of IT
Molly Proudfoot, Director of Operations
Craig Sorochan, Manager of Communications
Jane Rondow, Assistive/Inclusion Technology Support Teacher
Shannon Hagen, Inclusive/Educational IT Support Teacher

Regrets: none

Guests: Harold Cull, HC Consulting

Recording Secretary: Candace Jesson, Manager Administrative Services & Projects

1. Call to Order

The Board Vice-Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

The Board of Education acknowledged that the meeting took place on the traditional territories of the K'ómoks First Nation and thanked them for the privilege of living on their land and the gift of working with their children.

3. Agenda Changes/Additions

None

4. Adoption of Agenda

Pages 1-4

Motion: (RP-2026-02-24-01)

THAT the Board of Education of School District No.71 (Comox Valley) adopt the February 24, 2026, Regular Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

McCannel-Keene/May Sacht

CARRIED

5. Board Meeting Minutes

Pages 5-11

Motion: (RP-2026-02-24-02)

THAT the Board of Education of School District No.71 (Comox Valley) adopt the January 27, 2026, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

McCannel-Keene/May Sacht

CARRIED

6. Record of In-Camera Meetings

Pages 12

- January 27, 2026 – Regular In-Camera Meeting
- February 10, 2026 – Closed Committee of the Whole Meeting

7. Presentations / Delegations

A. None

8. Announcements

A. Board Chairperson Report - none

B. Superintendent Report

The Superintendent acknowledged the tragic events in Tumbler Ridge and noted the district's observance of the Provincial Day of Mourning and ongoing trauma-informed supports. Highlights included the Nala'atsi School totem carving project rooted in Pentlatch teachings; an Inclusive Education event supporting students living with Type 1 diabetes; strong performances by district wrestlers at the BC School Sports Provincial Championships, including G.P. Vanier's first Provincial Girls' Team Championship; success at the Island Improv Championships with Isfeld advancing to Nationals; the upcoming district musical *Beetlejuice Jr.*; and recognition of Pink Shirt Day and the district's continued commitment to safety, belonging, and inclusion.

School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) Board of Education

Vision Statement - *Compassionate, connected and personalized learning for all.*

Purpose Statement – *To create safe, equitable learning environments that lift each learner to thrive, grow and to share their unique gifts.*

C. Trustee Reports - none

9. Standing Committee Reports

A. Open Committee of the Whole Board Report

Pages 13-14

Next Open Committee of the Whole Meeting:

DATE: May 12, 2026
TIME: 7:00 pm
LOCATION: School Board Office: 2488 Idiens Way, Courtenay

B. Ad Hoc Policy Committee Board Report

Pages 15-17

Chelsea McCannel Keene, Committee Chair

Highlighted that the committee is working to bring a planned approach to policy work for the remainder of this term to the Board.

Next Ad Hoc Policy Committee Meeting:

DATE: March 9, 2026
TIME: 5:00 pm
LOCATION: School Board Office: 2488 Idiens Way, Courtenay

C. Ad Hoc Gender-Based Violence Committee Board Report

Pages 18-55

Shannon Aldinger, Committee Chair

Motion: (RP-2026-02-24-03)

THAT the Board of Education of School District No.71 (Comox Valley) receive the board committee reports dated February 24th, 2026, as presented.

Aldinger/May Sacht

CARRIED

10. Decision Items

A. Approve the 2027/28 International Student Fees

Pages 56-57

Greg Kochanuck, District Principal of the International Student Program

Motion: (RP-2026-02-24-04)

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) approve the proposed international student fee structure for 2027-2028.

Caton/Aldinger

CARRIED

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11. Information Items

A. Learning Services

- i. **Inclusive Technology in SD 71: Expanding Access for Every Learner** Pages 58-72
Jane Rondow and Shannon Hagen

Staff shared a continued focus on removing barriers for all learners through providing universal tools and publicly available accessibility technology. Impact of assistive/inclusive technologies on student engagement and learning, and contributions made to the larger learning community were included.

B. Business Services

- i. **Receive 2026 CCTV/Video Surveillance Annual Report** Pages 73-75
Josh Porter, Director of IT

Highlighted the progress made over the past year and anticipated completion.

Motion: (RP-2026-02-24-05)

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) receive the 2026 CCTV/Video Surveillance Annual Report.

May Sacht/Caton

CARRIED

- ii. **City of Courtenay Safe and Active Schools (SAS) Update** Pages 76-78
Molly Proudfoot, Director of Operations

Highlighted accomplishments of the collaborative work and next steps. A community engagement session is scheduled for mid-March, with recommendations anticipated for spring of 2026.

Motion: (RP-2026-02-24-06)

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) receive the Safe and Active Schools Update dated February 24, 2026, as presented.

Aldinger/McCannel-Keene

CARRIED

iii. **2026/27 Budget Update**
Harold Cull, HC Consulting

An update was provided on the budget consultation process, including preliminary survey results and enrolment estimates submitted to the Ministry. It was noted that the Ministry of Education will provide their budget instructions to Districts on March 12, 2026.

Motion:

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) receive the 2026/27 Budget update as presented.

Caton/McCannel-Keene

CARRIED

12. Board Business

A. Unfinished Business

- i. None

B. New Business

- i. None

13. Correspondence

- A. None

14. Public Question Period to the Board

Questions were received from the public regarding Educational Assistant support for inclusive technology, increasing video surveillance to enhance bathroom security, and safety of Queneesh students crossing Lerwick. Responses were provided.

15. Adjournment

Motion:

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) adjourns this meeting.

McCannel-Keene/May Sacht

CARRIED

School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) Board of Education

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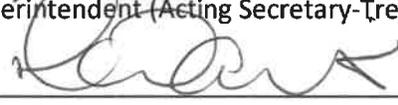
Purpose Statement – *To create safe, equitable learning environments that lift each learner to thrive, grow and to share their unique gifts.*

Board Approved on:
March 17, 2026

Certified Correct:



Dr. Jeremy Morrow
Superintendent (Acting Secretary-Treasurer)



Michelle Waite
Board Chairperson

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