



BOARD BUSINESS

June 2026

WATCH
JUNE 23
BOARD MEETING

The Board of Education acknowledges that we are on the traditional territories of the K'ómoks First Nation. We would like to thank them for the privilege of living on their land and the gift of working with their children.

BOARD MEETING IN REVIEW

The Board of Education met on June 23 for its final regular meeting of the 2025-26 school year. Trustees received several reports and approved a number of governance and planning items. The evening's primary focus was the presentation of the district's Equity in Action report.

Equity in Action Report

Associate Superintendent Dr. Joe Heslip presented the findings of the district's Indigenous Equity Scan. The result of nearly two years of engagement, data collection, and collaboration with the Community Led Equity Scanning Team, Indigenous rightsholders, students, staff, families and community members.

The report combines quantitative and qualitative data gathered from Indigenous students, staff, school communities and district partners. More than 560 Indigenous students, 531 teachers, 188 CUPE staff members and all district schools contributed to the work.

The presentation identified several themes, including reporting trust gaps, differing perceptions of bias and racism, uneven experiences across schools, and the importance of shared responsibility for Indigenous student success.

Throughout the presentation, speakers emphasized that the report is intended to serve as a call to action and a foundation for ongoing work rather than a final destination. The Community Led Equity Scanning Team will continue to guide future priorities and actions.

Trustees expressed appreciation to Dr. Joe Heslip, Dr. Gerald Morton, Lelaina Jules, Jeannine Lindsay, and members of the Community Led Equity Scanning Team and all those who shared their experiences and perspectives throughout the process.

Superintendent's Update - Dr. Jeremy Morrow

Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Morrow acknowledged the significance of the Equity Scan and thanked the many students, families, staff, rightsholders and community members who contributed their voices to the report.

He noted that the findings align closely with the district's Strategic Plan and reinforce the importance of relationships, belonging, student voice and equitable learning environments for all learners. The Superintendent also reflected on the district's first Indigenous graduation celebration, highlighting the presence of K'ómoks First Nation Elder Donna Mitchell, who was recognized as this year's oldest graduate. Her achievement served as a powerful reminder that learning is lifelong and that education journeys take many different paths.

Additional remarks celebrated the district's first Indigenous Graduation ceremony and recognized the outstanding work of the Indigenous Education team in making the event possible. The Superintendent also acknowledged the many graduation ceremonies taking place across the district, celebrating the accomplishments of the graduating class of 2026. He highlighted the importance of National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day as opportunities for learning and reflection, and concluded by thanking students, staff, families and volunteers for their contributions and support throughout the school year.



Comox Valley Schools
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Board meeting highlights continue

Policy and Governance

Trustees approved several important governance items, including:

- The Gender-based Violence and Sexual Misconduct Policy
- The Sanctuary Schools Policy
- Revisions to the Board Committee Policy
- The Trustee Election Bylaw

Trustees also directed further review of the Board Operations Policy to ensure alignment with updated policies, bylaws and governance practices.

Capital Planning

The Board approved the district's proposed Five-Year Capital Plan for 2027-28. The plan identifies the district's major capital priorities and will be submitted to the Ministry of Infrastructure for consideration.

District Progress Report

Trustees received the Spring 2026 District Progress Report, which highlights progress made throughout the year in support of the district's Strategic Plan, student achievement, Indigenous education, inclusion, environmental sustainability, career education and operational priorities. Read the [full report here](#).

Looking Ahead

Trustees approved both the 2026-27 Board Meeting Schedule and the 2026-27 Board Work Plan, establishing priorities and meeting dates for the coming year. The June meeting marked the Board's final regular meeting before the summer break, with trustees expressing appreciation to students, staff, families and community partners for their continued support throughout the school year.

Board Chairperson Michelle Waite thanked Dr. Joe Heslip, the Community Led Equity Scanning Team and all those who contributed to the Equity Scan process. She acknowledged the emotional nature of the work and emphasized the importance of building trust and ensuring the stories and experiences shared through the process lead to meaningful action across the district.

Board Members

Michelle Waite, Chairperson (Lazo North)

Sarah Jane Howe, Vice Chairperson (Village of Cumberland)

Cristi May Sacht (Puntledge, Black Creek)

Susan L Leslie (Town of Comox)

Janice Caton (City of Courtenay)

Shannon Aldinger (City of Courtenay)

Chelsea McCannel-Keene (Baynes Sound, Hornby & Denman Islands)





COMOX VALLEY SCHOOLS DISTRICT NEWS

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Indigenous graduation celebration brings community together



One of the year's most meaningful milestones was the district's Indigenous Graduation Celebration, which brought together graduates, families, Elders, Indigenous support workers, staff and community partners to honour the achievements of more than 150 Indigenous graduates.

The celebration marked one of the district's first Indigenous graduation ceremonies in many years and provided students and families with an opportunity to celebrate this important milestone through culture, connection and community.

The event was made possible through the dedication of the Indigenous Education team, Indigenous support workers, the Indigenous Education Council, the Indigenous Graduation Committee and many staff and volunteers who worked behind the scenes to create a meaningful experience for students and families.

We raise our hands to all graduates and to everyone who helped make this special event possible. Congratulations to the Class of 2026 and best wishes as these students carry their gifts, knowledge and talents into the future.

Highland Secondary unveils new logo

Highland Secondary School welcomed Elders, students, staff, alumni and community members together to celebrate the unveiling of a new school logo designed by former Highland graduate Długwayax̱lis Karver Everson.

The project provided students with opportunities to engage in discussions about identity, culture and the meaning behind school symbols. The resulting design honours the school's history while looking ahead to its future.

The design reflects the idea that schools are places where students seek knowledge, uncover truth and grow into their future selves while remaining connected to one another and to the land on which they learn. The logo serves as a reminder of the importance of creating meaningful connections between learning, culture and community.





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Students showcase coding skills at CodeQuest Arcade



Lake Trail Community School recently hosted the annual Code Quest Arcade, bringing together students from across the district to showcase coding, game design and digital learning projects.

The event invites students of all ages to create games, activities and coding projects that teach players something new, allowing students to demonstrate their learning in creative and engaging ways. Projects included Scratch games, animations, coding activities, Minecraft worlds, robotics and other technology-based creations.

Students had the opportunity to share their work with peers, explore projects created by other classes and engage in hands-on learning experiences. The event encourages creativity, collaboration, problem-solving and digital literacy while providing authentic opportunities for students to showcase their skills. Code Quest continues to support learning across multiple subject areas, including applied design, skills and technologies, while helping students develop core competencies such as communication, critical thinking and creative thinking.

The annual event has become an important celebration of innovation and student learning in Comox Valley Schools.



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Isfeld Student Awarded Prestigious Schulich Leader Scholarship



Mark R. Isfeld Secondary student Zane Radawiec has been recognized through the prestigious Schulich Leader Scholarships program, one of Canada's most competitive STEM awards. The scholarship provides up to \$120,000 in funding for students pursuing studies in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Zane graduates with an exceptional 97 per cent academic average while completing a rigorous academic program. This fall, he will attend Queen's University to pursue studies in engineering.

Beyond the classroom, Zane has distinguished himself through music, robotics, community service and athletics. He is an accomplished electric bassist and pianist and performs with the Isfeld Senior Jazz Band, where he has also begun arranging his own music. The district congratulates Zane on this remarkable achievement and wishes him every success as he begins the next stage of his educational journey.

New child care centre now open at GP Vanier

Comox Valley Schools officially celebrated the opening of the new child care centre located on the grounds of G.P. Vanier Secondary School.

The centre provides 120 new child care spaces for local families and includes infant and toddler care, preschool spaces and before- and after-school care. The project was made possible through funding from the Province of British Columbia's ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund.

The opening event brought together district staff, government representatives, child care partners and community members to celebrate the expansion of child care opportunities in the Comox Valley. The centre features bright learning spaces and exceptional outdoor play areas designed to support children's growth, learning and well-being.

