

2026 Trustee Election

Candidate Information Session

August 26, 2026

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The traditional territories of the K'omoks First Nation

| K'ómoks
: First Nation



Purpose of the Discussion

To provide potential trustee candidates with an understanding of what it means to be a trustee and to answer any questions people may have.




Comox Valley Schools
A Community of Learners

School Trustee Elections 2026
Information Session
Register here: www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/trustee-elections/

Interested in being
a school trustee?

August 26
3 pm
School Board Office



Today's Agenda

- 1) Introductions
- 2) District Overview
- 3) To be a Trustee
- 4) Questions
- 5) Important Dates





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Introductions

Introductions

Who we are:

- ✓ **Dr. Jeremy Morrow, Superintendent of Schools & CEO**
- ✓ **Sole employee of the Board of Education**
- ✓ **Responsible for the overall effective administration and educational programs of the District**
- ✓ **8 years as Superintendent in SDs 71 and 72**

Introductions

Section 22 of the School Act:

Core Responsibilities Under the School Act

- **Supervision of Staff:** Directs and supervises all educational staff employed by the school board.
- **Educational Programs:** Oversees the general organization, administration, supervision, and evaluation of all educational programs.
- **School Operations:** Manages the day-to-day operation of schools within the district.
- **Student Achievement:** Accountable to the board for improving student achievement and must submit an annual report on student achievement by December 15.
- **Reporting:** Must promptly provide any requested information or reports to the provincial superintendent of achievement.  Government of British Colu...

Introductions

Who we are:

- ✓ **Harold Cull**
- ✓ **Acting Secretary Treasurer**
- ✓ **Corporate Secretary for the Board of Education**
- ✓ **14 years as a Secretary Treasurer in SDs 58, 62, 71 and 73**

Introductions

Corporate and Board Administration

- **Corporate Secretary:** Records board proceedings, maintains official records, and provides security for board documents.
- **Meeting Attendance:** Must attend board meetings (or designate an alternate) to record official decisions.
- **Convening Meetings:** Calls the first meeting of a new board of education within 30 days after a general local election.
- **Notices and Resignations:** Receives trustee resignations and handles official board correspondence.  Government of British C... +4

Financial and Business Management

- **Chief Financial Officer (CFO):** Manages the overall fiscal operations of the school district, including operating and capital budgets.
- **Compliance:** Ensures all financial and accounting procedures align with directives from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, and federal or provincial laws.
- **Facilities and Capital:** Oversees capital projects, facility planning, and site acquisition action plans.  Rocky Mountain School... +2



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District Overview

District Overview

Long-term roadmap

Strategic Plan:

Vision

Compassionate, connected and personalized learning for all.

Purpose

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

Learning Goal Statement

Comox Valley Schools is committed to creating inclusive, wholistic, and personalized learning environments in order to enhance each student's development of the core competencies over time.



District Overview



Our schools

**15
elementary**

1 middle

**3
secondary**

**2
alternative**

District Overview

September, February and May counts

Student FTEs estimates for September 2026:

- ❑ 8,372 Standard (Regular) Schools
- ❑ 2,185 On-Line
- ❑ 707 Inclusive Education
- ❑ 1,800 Indigenous Learners



District Overview

School District Seven One - Enrolment Estimates					
Category	25/26 Actuals	26/27 Estimate	27/28 Estimate	28/29 Estimate	Change from 25/26 to 27/28
K-12 Standard	8,392	8,372	8,339	8,268	-1.48%
On-Line: School Age	3,075	3,135	3,450	3,794	23.38%
Inclusive Ed: Levels 1-3	720	727	736	746	3.61%
Indigenous	1,821	1,800	1,810	1,820	-0.05%
ELL	202	202	202	202	0.00%

District Overview

Salaries & Benefits = 86.5% of the total budget

26/27 Preliminary Budget:

School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)

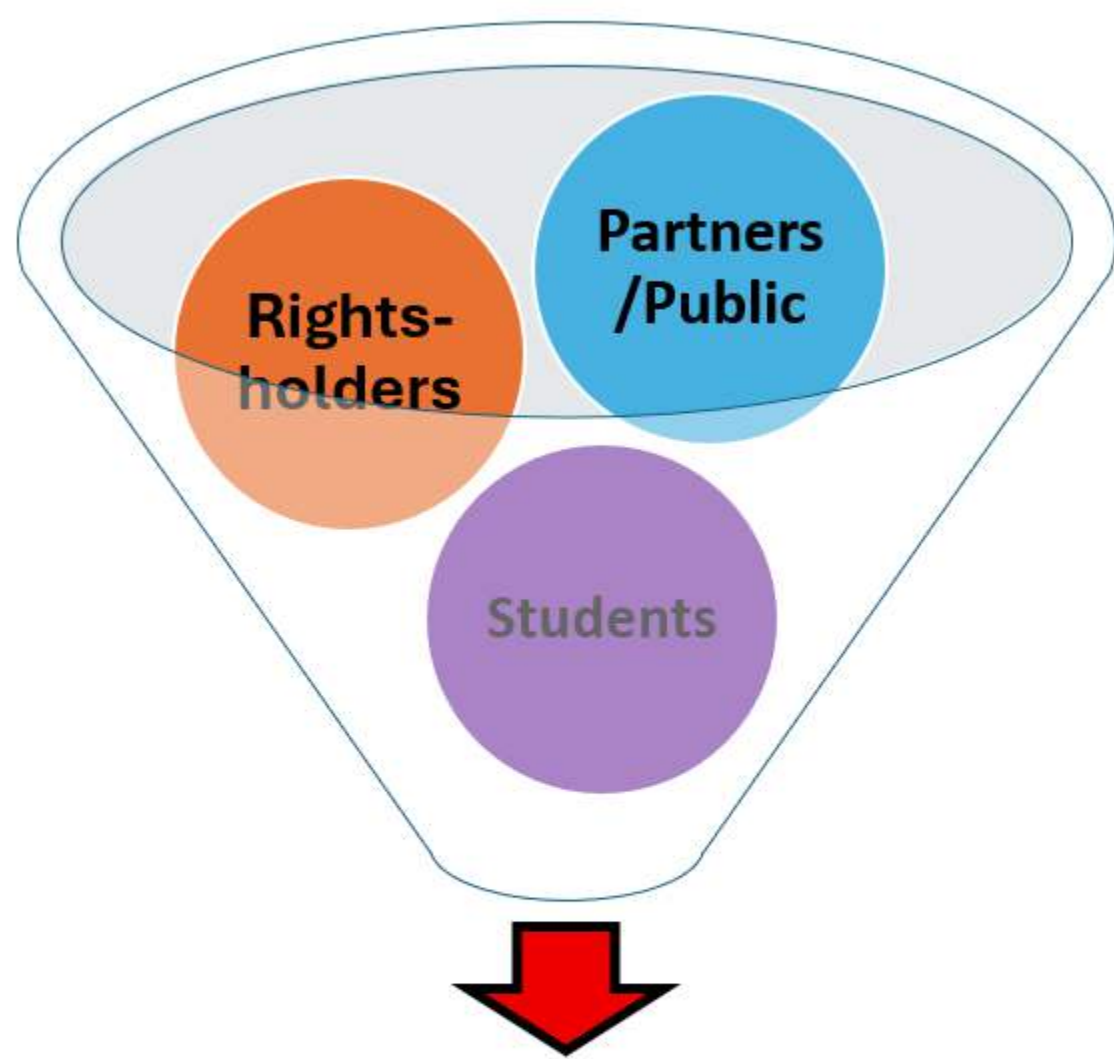
Statement 2

Annual Budget - Revenue and Expense

Year Ended June 30, 2027

	2027 Annual Budget	2026 Amended Annual Budget
Budget Bylaw Amount		
Operating - Total Expense	139,287,542	139,537,355
Operating - Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	375,000	375,000
Special Purpose Funds - Total Expense	22,111,618	22,456,614
Capital Fund - Total Expense	9,953,490	9,761,519
Capital Fund - Tangible Capital Assets Purchased from Local Capital	1,718,854	2,633,173
Total Budget Bylaw Amount	173,446,504	174,763,661

District Overview



BWG = Budget Working Group
BoE = Board of Education



District Overview

The District has 6 Trustee Electoral Areas (TEAs):

Trustees are elected to represent the following areas:

- City of Courtenay: 2 trustees
- Town of Comox: 1 trustee
- Village of Cumberland: 1 trustee
- Electoral Area A: 1 trustee (Baynes Sound, Hornby & Denman Islands)
- Electoral Area B: 1 trustee (Lazo North)
- Electoral Area C: 1 trustee (Puntledge – Black Creek)

Each trustee represents the interests of all students and the entire school district, while also bringing the perspectives of their local communities to the Board table.





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To be a Trustee

To be a Trustee

The Board:

**The Board is granted authority,
not individual trustees**

As the elected community representatives, the Board of Education of School District No. 71 (Comox Valley) is the corporate entity established by provincial legislation and is given authority by the BC School Act and attendant Regulations to provide overall strategic direction and governance of the district. It is accountable for the provision of educational programs and services for enrolled students of the district that support student success and achievement within the legislative framework, while reflecting the unique needs and priorities of the district.

The Board is charged with the responsibility for providing a public education system that is organized and operated in the best interests of the students it serves. The School Act provides that the Board is responsible for the improvement of student achievement in the school district. To that end the Board will make continual appraisals of the educational, administrative, and planning processes considering the Board's stated goals and objectives.

The Board of Education undertakes its legislated and other legal responsibilities to organize and operate a public educational system that best serves the interests of enrolled students within the school district.

To be a Trustee

Governance vs. Management:



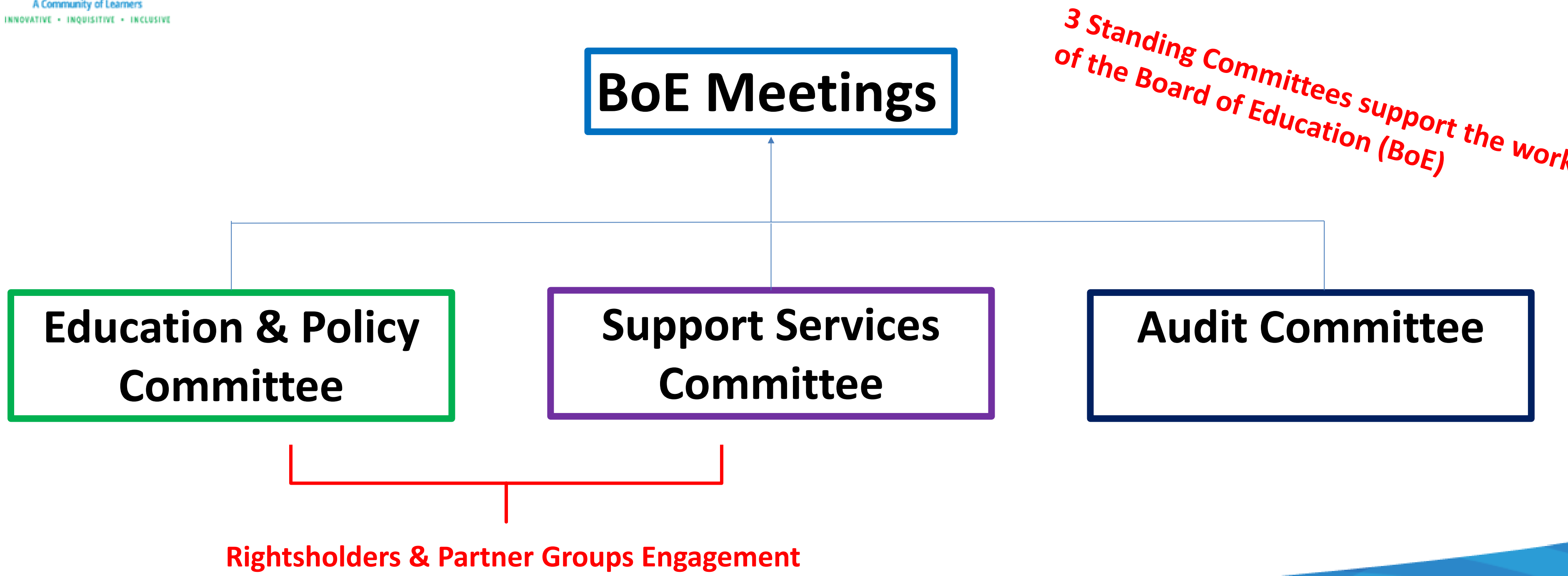
To be a Trustee

Details of the Board:

- Follows Robert's Rules of Order
- Direction/decisions made by motion only
- 4-year term with timing consistent w/municipal elections
- Remuneration:

Trustee Remuneration (Annual) July 1, 2026	
Chair	\$26,677
Vice-Chair	\$24,643
Trustee	\$23,200

To be a Trustee



To be a Trustee

Estimated Time Commitment of a Trustee:

- **Monthly Board meeting attendance = ~3.5 hours**
- **Monthly Board meeting prep = ~3.5 hours**
- **Monthly Committee meeting attendance = ~2 hours**
- **Monthly Committee meeting prep = ~2 hours**
- **Other monthly meetings/events = ~2 hours**
- **Total Commitment could be 13-15 hours/month**

Questions





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Important Dates

Important Dates

General Election

Election Period: January 1, 2026 – September 18, 2026

Pre Campaign Period: July 20 – September 18, 2026

Nomination Period (BC-wide): September 1, 2026 – September 11, 2026

Declaration of Candidates: September 11, 2026

Challenge of Nomination Deadline: September 15, 2026

Candidate Withdrawal Deadline: September 18, 2026

Candidate Endorsement Withdrawal Deadline: September 18, 2026

Campaign Period: September 19, 2026 – October 17, 2026

Voting Day (General): October 17, 2026

Meeting Type	Committee/Board	Date	Time
Oath of Office	Elected Trustees	October 27, 2026	7:00 p.m.
Learning Session	Board of Education	November 3, 2026	7:00 p.m.
Inagural Meeting	Board of Education	November 10, 2026	7:00 p.m.
Learning Session	Board of Education	November 17, 2026	7:00 p.m.
Regular	Board of Education	November 24, 2026	7:00 p.m.