



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
The Board of Education
School District #33 (Chilliwack)**

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, May 20, 2025

Location: School District Office

Members Present:	Chair	David Swankey
	Vice Chair	Teri Westerby
	Trustee	Carin Bondar (via phone)
	Trustee	Willow Reichelt
	Trustee	Margaret Reid
	Trustee	Laurie Throness
On Leave:	Trustee	Richard Procee
Staff Present:	Superintendent	Rohan Arul-pragasam
	Secretary Treasurer	Simone Sangster
	Assistant Secretary Treasurer	Mark Friesen
	Assistant Superintendent	Paula Jordan
	Assistant Superintendent	Kirk Savage
	Assistant Superintendent	David Manuel
	Executive Assistant	Talana McNally

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Call to Order

The Board Chair called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. – **Welcome, Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory and Diversity Statement**

1.2. Adoption of the Agenda

34.25 Moved by: Trustee Reid
Seconded by: Trustee Reichelt

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

NO VOTE

35.25 Moved by: Trustee Westerby
Seconded by: Trustee Reichelt

THAT the agenda be amended to remove item 4.3 Proposed Revisions to Policy 110, tabling it to another time.

CARRIED

For: Bondar, Reichelt, Reid, Westerby
Opposed: Throness
Abstained: Swankey

- 36.25 Moved by: Trustee Reid
Seconded by: Trustee Reichelt

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

For: Bondar, Reichelt, Reid, Swankey, Westerby
Opposed: Throness

1.3. **Approval of the Minutes**

- 37.25 Moved by: Trustee Westerby
Seconded by: Trustee Reid

THAT the minutes of the April 22, 2025 Regular and April 22, 2025 Special Regular Board Meetings be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

For: Bondar, Reichelt, Reid, Swankey, Throness
Abstained: Westerby

2. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2.1. **Budget Advisory Committee Report – Minutes**

The Board received the minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee meeting held on May 8, 2025.

2.2. **Budget Advisory Committee Report – Quarterly Report**

The Board of Education received the March 2025 Quarterly Report and Written Financial Report as presented to the Budget Advisory Committee on May 8, 2025.

2.3. **Trustee Written Reports**

Trustees submitted written reports listing key activities they've attended since the last public board meeting as well as upcoming events.

2.4. **BCSTA Report**

Trustee Reid provided an update on matters related to the BCSTA.

2.5. **Indigenous Education Council (IEC) Update**

The Board received an update from the Indigenous Education Council (IEC) on matters related to the Indigenous Education Council.

2.6. **Public Transportation Advocacy Update**

Trustee Westerby provided an update on advocacy efforts related to public transportation, including the submission of a letter to the Minister of Transportation and outreach to various district and community partners.

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – COMMENTS/QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE AGENDA**

- No comments or questions were received

4. **ACTION ITEMS**

4.1. **2025-2026 Annual Budget – 1st Reading**

38.25 Moved by: Trustee Westerby
Seconded by: Trustee Reichelt

THAT the Board of Education allow the following for the 2025-26 Budget Year:

- A. \$ 784,341 from the Accumulated Operating Surplus for the Operating Budget.
- B. \$ 642,678 from Internally Restricted Surplus Funds, for the Operating Budget.
- C. \$ 555,000 from the Accumulated Operating Surplus for transfer to Local Capital.

CARRIED

39.25 Moved by: Trustee Throness
Seconded by: Trustee Westerby

THAT the Board of Education approve the first reading of the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2026/26 Bylaw No. 2025-05, per below:

A Bylaw of THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33 (CHILLIWACK) (called the "Board") to adopt the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2025/26 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

1. The Board has complied with the provisions of the *Act*, Ministerial Orders, and Ministry of Education and Child Care Policies respecting the annual budget adopted by this bylaw.
2. This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 33 (Chilliwack) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2025/26.
3. The attached "Statement 2" showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2025/2026 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$246,451,401 for the 2025/26 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the *Act*.

CARRIED

4.2. **2025-2026 Schedule of Board Meetings**

40.25 Moved by: Trustee Westerby
Seconded by: Trustee Reichelt

THAT the Board of Education approve the following schedule for the 2025 – 2026 school year Board of Education meetings.

11 Board of Education Meetings:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. September 23, 2025 | 7. March 10, 2026 |
| 2. October 14, 2025 | 8. April 21, 2026 |
| 3. November 18, 2025 | 9. May 19, 2026 |
| 4. December 9, 2025 (Elections) | 10. June 16, 2026 |
| 5. January 27, 2026 | 11. June 30, 2026 (if required) |
| 6. February 17, 2026 | |

CARRIED

5. MEETING SUMMARIES

Meeting summaries were provided listing In-Camera items since the last Regular Public Board Meeting.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – COMMENTS/QUESTIONS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS

- Annual Budget; employee benefits/premiums
- Introduction to teacher at Xàws Schó:lha Correctional Centre

Meeting Recessed at 6:46 pm

Trustee Bondar excused herself from the meeting at 6:46 pm

Meeting called back to order at 6:51 pm

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent provided an update on the Enrollment and School Facilities Review, including community feedback, an updated timeline for the east side elementary school, and a shift in focus from boundary adjustments to broader enrollment and capacity planning.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

8.1. Next Board of Education Meeting Date

**Tuesday, June 17, 2025
5:30 p.m.
School District Office**

Board Chair

Secretary-Treasurer