



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

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday, January 27, 2026

**Location:** School District Office

<b>Members Present:</b>	Chair	David Swankey
	Vice Chair	Margaret Reid
	Trustee	Carin Bondar
	Trustee	Richard Procee
	Trustee	Willow Reichelt
	Trustee	Laurie Throness
	Trustee	Teri Westerby

<b>Staff Present:</b>	Superintendent	Rohan Arul-pragasam
	Secretary Treasurer	Simone Sangster
	Assistant Superintendent	Paula Jordan
	Assistant Superintendent	Kirk Savage
	Assistant Superintendent	David Manuel
	Executive Assistant	Talana McNally

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**1.1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

The Chair opened the meeting with a welcome, an acknowledgment of Traditional Territory, and the Board's Diversity Statement.

**1.2. Adoption of the Agenda**

**9.26** Moved by: Trustee Bondar  
Seconded by: Trustee Reichelt

THAT the agenda be adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**1.3. Approval of the Minutes**

- 10.26** Moved by: Trustee Reichelt  
Seconded by: Trustee Throness

THAT the minutes of the December 9, 2025 Special Regular Board Meeting and December 9, 2025 Regular Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

## **2. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **2.1. Audit Working Committee Report**

Trustee Swankey provided an overview of the Audit Working Committee's meeting held on January 13, 2026.

### **2.2. Budget Advisory Committee Report**

Meeting Recessed at 5:36 pm  
Meeting called back to order at 5:40 pm

Trustee Reid provided an update on the Budget Advisory Committee's 2025–26 timeline and milestones, noting the committee will not review a December quarterly report this year and the amended budget presentation will include updated financial results as of December.

### **2.3. Education Policy Advisory Committee Report**

Trustee Reichelt provided the Education Policy Advisory Committee report, outlining the policy reviews and recommended amendments arising from the barrier scan.

### **2.4. Trustee Written Reports**

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

### **2.5. BCSTA Report**

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

### **2.6. Indigenous Education Council (IEC) Update**

The Board received an update from the Indigenous Education Council (IEC).

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

- Four parents, three students, and 1 community member shared their stories and concerns about changes to school site locations for French immersion programs that may be considered during a facilities and enrolment review this spring.

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

**4.1. Formal Consultation Process on Facilities and Enrollment**

Meeting Recessed at 6:44 pm  
Meeting called back to order at 6:50 pm

**11.26** Moved by: Trustee Reichelt  
Seconded by: Trustee Bondar

THAT the Board of Education approve initiating a formal public consultation process for the Enrollment and Facilities Review Draft Proposal, in accordance with Policy 660, with engagement opportunities and timelines as outlined in this report.

**CARRIED**

**4.2. Policy Amendments – 200 & 300 Series Barrier Scan**

**12.26** Moved by: Trustee Reichelt  
Seconded by: Trustee Bondar

THAT the Board of Education approve the amendments to Policies 290 – Educational Heritage, 340 – School Fees And Financial Hardship, and 372 – Career Programs, as recommended by the Education Policy Advisory Committee, in alignment with the District’s barrier scan process and Board Policy 161.

**CARRIED**

**4.3. BCSTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) Motion**

**13.26** Moved by: Trustee Westerby  
Seconded by: Trustee Reichelt

THAT the Board of Education approve the submission of the following motion to the BC School Trustees Association for consideration:

*“THAT the BCSTA urge the Ministry of Education and Childcare to develop improved methods of gathering high-quality, system-level, disaggregated data for the purposes of equity and accountability, in collaboration with sector partners.”*

**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**

- Seven parents, some of whom are also staff, one student, and one community member shared comments on the preliminary consultation process, impacts of changes that may be considered, enhancements of district programs, and considerations of other options during the formal consultation process.

**7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The Superintendent provided the Board with an overview of the Independent School Enrollment Analysis and staff provided a summary of themes emerging from Strategic Plan staff engagement sessions conducted between September and November 2025.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

**8.3. Next Board of Education Meeting Date**

**Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, February 17, 2026  
5:30 p.m.  
School District Office**

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Board Chair

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Secretary Treasurer