

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE TO THE BOARD

October 13, 2026, Public Board Meeting



Enrolment Update September 30, 2026

Below is a preliminary analysis of the final September 30th FTE and HC numbers to be submitted to the Ministry. In its analysis, the Ministry will review any duplicates, as Districts may sometimes accidentally claim the same students, and will finalize the enrollment data by mid-October. In general, in the past, this final analysis has meant very little change to our FTE.

The Ministry's estimated grant table update in March 2026 reflects our budgeted projections sent to the Ministry in February 2026.

- [Estimated Operating Grants Overview 2026/27 School Year](#)

HEADCOUNT ANALYSIS SEPTEMBER 30, 2026	
EXCLUDES CONTINUING EDUCATION & ALTERNATE EDUCATION HEADCOUNT	
HC SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2024 (K-12)	14,979
CHANGE	219
HC SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2025	15,198
CHANGE	47
HC SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2026	15,151
PERCENTAGE INCREASE HC 2024 to 2025	1.46%
PERCENTAGE DECREASE HC 2025 to 2026	-0.31%

FTE ANALYSIS SEPTEMBER 30, 2026 (Excludes CE, ALT & DL)	
Budgeted FTE (Excludes CE and ALT)	15242.46
Current K-12 FTE (Excludes CE and ALT)	15471.07
DIFFERENCE (Increase or Decrease)	228.61

Based on our analysis of multiple data sets, including birth rates, housing starts in the City of Chilliwack, and in-migration data, we conservatively projected a final K-12 FTE of 15,242.46. This projection accounted for the final FTE counts at our four high schools, including the potential additional FTE generated by students taking more than eight courses. Our final FTE came in at 228.61, above projection.

Farewell Message to the Board of Education

As we come to the end of this Board's term, I want to take a few moments to express our sincere gratitude to each of our six trustees for your service, your commitment, and the care you have brought to the important responsibility of public education.

Serving as a trustee is not easy work. You come to the Board with your own experiences, perspectives, beliefs, and connections to the community. Each of you brings something unique, and that diversity of

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE TO THE BOARD

October 13, 2026, Public Board Meeting



Chilliwack
School District

thought is important. But perhaps one of the greatest responsibilities of governance is learning how to move beyond our individual perspectives toward something greater than ourselves.

Throughout our time together, I have spoken about the importance of moving from ego-centric to eco-centric leadership. This is not about setting aside who we are or what we believe. It is about recognizing that we are part of something much larger. It means moving from what I think is best to what we, collectively, have a responsibility to steward.

At the heart of this journey is our ability to lead with *curiosity, compassion, and courage*.

Curiosity requires an open mind, a willingness to listen, to question our own assumptions, and to genuinely consider perspectives that may be different from our own.

Compassion requires an open heart, recognizing the humanity in one another, understanding that people come to this work with different experiences and beliefs, and treating each other with dignity, kindness, and respect.

And *courage requires an open will*, the willingness to let go of what may be familiar, to move beyond our own positions, and to create space for something new to emerge. It also means having the courage to make difficult decisions when necessary, even when we do not have complete agreement.

When we bring these three qualities together, we create the conditions for something greater than any one of us could accomplish alone. This is the essence of *eco-centric leadership*. It is about recognizing that leadership is not simply about the individual, but about the relationships, the community, and the broader system we are entrusted to serve.

I often speak about creating *generative social fields*. At its heart, this simply means creating the conditions where people can come together, feel respected, listen to understand rather than simply respond, and allow new thinking and possibilities to emerge. It is about the quality of the relationships and the space we create between us.

When we create these conditions, we strengthen trust. We move beyond positions and toward shared purpose. And even when we disagree, we can do so with dignity, kindness, and a genuine commitment to the people we serve.

As a Board, you have also carried a significant fiduciary and public responsibility. While trustees bring the voices and perspectives of the community to the table, once seated around this table, your responsibility is to govern on behalf of all students and the entire district.

That means honouring the *School Act, Ministerial Orders, Regulations and Orders in Council, Board Policies, and the governance processes that provide fairness, consistency, and accountability*. These are the foundations of public trust. They help ensure that decisions are thoughtful, transparent, and grounded in the broader interests of the students, staff, and communities we serve.

And through all of this, we must never lose sight of what our District stands for.

We stand for human rights, dignity, equity, and inclusion. We stand for creating safe, caring, and welcoming learning and working environments where students and staff feel a genuine sense of belonging. We stand for protecting the physical, social, emotional, and psychological well-being of those entrusted to our care.

And we stand for student success, not simply as an academic outcome, but as part of something much deeper: *human flourishing*.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE TO THE BOARD

October 13, 2026, Public Board Meeting



Chilliwack
School District

The principle of *Tómiyeq̓w* invites us to consider our responsibility to future generations. It reminds us that the decisions we make today extend beyond our own time in leadership. We are stewards of something that existed before us and will continue long after we have moved on.

I believe this is one of the most profound responsibilities of a Board of Education. We are not simply making decisions for today. We are helping shape the conditions in which children, families, and communities will flourish for generations to come.

As I reflect on our time together, I also recognize that this work has not always been easy. We have navigated complex issues, competing expectations, and decisions that have required thoughtful consideration. There have been moments of agreement and moments when we have seen things differently. That is part of governance, and it is part of being human.

Our willingness to continue learning, to remain open to one another, and to keep our shared responsibility at the centre of the conversation is what enables us to create the environment in which every student and staff member can thrive.

And that brings us back to *curiosity, compassion, and courage*. To remain curious enough to keep learning, compassionate enough to see the humanity in those around us, and courageous enough to make decisions that serve something greater than ourselves.

To each of you, thank you.

Thank you for the countless hours you have given, for the questions you have asked, for the perspectives you have brought forward, and for your willingness to serve our community. Thank you for the care you have shown for our students, staff, and families, and for the responsibility you have carried on behalf of public education.

As this Board's term comes to a close, my hope is that each of you leaves knowing that your service has mattered. The work of governance is not always visible, and its impact is not always immediate. But the decisions you have made, the conversations you have helped shape, and the commitment you have shown will continue to influence our district.

My hope is also that we continue to remember that *leadership is not measured by how firmly we hold a position, but by our capacity to create space for others, to act with integrity and kindness, and to leave the system stronger for those who follow*.

On behalf of *senior leadership and the team*, and personally, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the privilege of working alongside you.

I wish each of you well in the next chapter of your journey, and I thank you for your contribution to the students, staff, families, and communities of the Chilliwack School District.