BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 29, 2025 7:00 to 9:00 pm
In the Boardroom

AGENDA

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
   1.1 **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**
   With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).
   1.2 **OPENING REMARKS**
   The meeting is currently being broadcasted live, and both the audio and video recordings will be accessible to the public for viewing even after the meeting ends. Footage from this meeting may be viewed from Canada or anywhere else in the world.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
   That the agenda be approved as presented.

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
   3.1 Meeting of October 1, 2025
   3.2 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4. **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**
   4.1 Superintendent's Highlights

5. **STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT**

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   6.1 POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
   6.1.1 Report: Meeting of October 15, 2025
   6.1.2 Matters Arising
   6.1.2.1 Policy Review: Policy 7: Board Operations and Policy 8: Board Committees
   1) *That the Board approve Policy 7 Board Operations;*
   AND FURTHER
   That the Board approve the amendment of paragraph 2.6 in Policy 3 Role of the Trustee as follows:
   2.6 A Trustee may submit motions for consideration by the Board. ~~Notices of motion must be submitted to the Board Chair, the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer by no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the public board meeting to be included in the Board meeting agenda.~~
   2) *That the Board direct the Ad hoc Committee to work with the Secretary Treasurer to develop a draft Trustee Remuneration and Expenses Policy for review by the Policy and Governance Committee and approval consideration by the Board.*
   3) *That the Board approve Policy 8 Board Committees.*

   6.2 EDUCATION PLAN COMMITTEE
   6.2.1 Report: Meeting of October 15, 2025
   6.2.2 Matters Arising

6.2.2.1 Board/Authority Authorized Course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12
That the Board approve the Board/Authority Authorized course: ***First Peoples Visual Arts 12.***

(The online link for submitting questions to this meeting will now be closed.)

7. REPORT ON PRIVATE SESSION

7.1 Meeting of October 1, 2025
7.2 Special Meeting of October 15, 2025
7.3 Special Meeting of October 22, 2025
7.4 Meeting of October 29, 2025

8. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

8.1 Report from Trustee Mah on the City of Vancouver Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee meeting held on September 25, 2025.
8.2 Report from Trustee Reddy on the Older Persons Advisory Committee meeting held on June 27, 2025.
8.3 Report from Trustee Fraser on the City of Vancouver Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee meeting held on September 22, 2025.

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

10.1 Notice of Motion from Trustee Jung **- to be presented at the November 26, 2025 meeting**

(1) BCSTA AGM Motion regarding reinstating funding for graduated students under the age of 19 who are continuing the second year of their trades training program with school districts.

(2) Advocacy to industry leaders, trade organizations and post-secondary institutions to garner support for reinstating funding for graduated students under the age of 19 who are continuing the second year of their trades training program with school districts.

11. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD (Submitted through the online link)

12. ADJOURNMENT

Vancouver School Board

ITEM 3.1

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 7:00pm

The Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) met in room 114 (the Boardroom), VSB Education Centre, 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 7:00pm. The meeting was live streamed.

Trustees Present:	Victoria Jung, Chairperson Janet Fraser, Vice-Chairperson Lois Chan-Pedley Alfred Chien Preeti Faridkot Suzie Mah Jennifer Reddy Christopher Richardson Joshua Zhang Freddie Zhang (Student Trustee)
Senior Team Members Present:	Helen McGregor, Superintendent of Schools Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer Pedro da Silva, Associate Superintendent Maureen McRae-Stanger, Associate Superintendent Janis Myers, Associate Superintendent Alison Ogden, Associate Superintendent Daniel Blue, Executive Director, Finance Michael Gray, Executive Director, Employee Services Jessie Gresley-Jones, Executive Director, Facilities
Also Present:	Patricia MacNeil, Communications Director Judy Mah, Executive Coordinator (Recorder)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1.1. Land Acknowledgement

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and acknowledged with deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

1.2. Opening Remarks

The Chairperson welcomed members of the audience to the meeting including journalism students from Langara College. She reviewed meeting decorum, and the process for submitting questions to the Board during question period, then encouraged all participants to put their phones away or on silent to ensure effective engagement and interactive discussion.

In her opening remarks, the Chairperson noted that it was the first board meeting of the 2025-2026 school year and recognized the work of VSB school and district staff in preparing for the new year. She highlighted the significance of National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, reflected on the Commission's Calls-to-Action, and reaffirmed the Board's commitment to reconciliation. The Chairperson concluded her remarks with an update on board meetings, informing the audience and viewers that regular public board meetings would now be held on the last Wednesday of the month with the meeting agenda published one week ahead on the Wednesday prior to the board meeting. She also noted that public delegation board meetings would be scheduled the Monday before the board meeting.

Trustee Mah raised a point of order to inquire on the process by which audience members without access to a device could submit questions during the public question period, which was listed as item 11 on the agenda. The Board Chair explained the process for submitting questions during the public question period and noted that staff would follow up and inform the Board how audience members without devices could participate in the process.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by V. Jung, seconded by J. Zhang, that the agenda be approved as presented.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Meeting of June 23, 2025

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by A Chien, that the minutes of the June 23, 2025 Board meeting be adopted.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the minutes were

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

4. SWEARING IN CEREMONY OF STUDENT TRUSTEE, FREDDIE ZHANG

The Secretary Treasurer administered the declaration of office for student trustee elect, Freddie Zhang. The Chair welcomed Freddie Zhang as the student trustee for the 2025-2026 school year.

4.1. Student Trustee Report

The Student Trustee introduced himself to the Board and presented the first report of the term. He shared a brief update from the Vancouver District Students' Council (VDSC), informing the Board of the following:

- VDSC's introduction to VSB students via a video presentation.
- VDSC's first general meeting, attended by student representatives from 18 secondary schools.
- Junior executive elections to be held in late October 2025.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

5.1. Superintendent's Highlights

The Superintendent shared a presentation that highlighted recent events and achievements for the District, and their alignment with the VSB Education Plan, including the following:

- Superintendent's tribute and recognition for positive contributions from Geoff Pearmain, VSB Grounds Supervisor.
- Back to school updates highlighting the new Henry Hudson Playground, VSB participation in the annual Vancouver Pride Parade, and VSB's launch of the October Cybersecurity Awareness Month Campaign for all students and staff.
- Engaging with families through VSB After the Bell podcasts including the past episode on Foundational Skills Assessment (FSA) and a two-part episode in October on preparing families for post secondary

processes. She also highlighted the new Family and Community Information Page on the Our District tab of the VSB website and the year-end VSB Voices Report, which will summarize the engagements completed in the 2024-2025 school year.

- Student Leadership noting that applications for both elementary and secondary students had opened and the work of staff and students to co-develop a Student Agency Framework.
- The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation and the District's ongoing commitment to meaningful learning through community walks, workshops, cultural sharing and art such as the Killarney Secondary School's Truth and Reconciliation Weaving project.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. EDUCATION PLAN COMMITTEE

6.1.1 Report: Meeting of September 10, 2025

The Chairperson of the Committee, A. Chien, presented the report of the September 10, 2025 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on the following items:

- Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) Annual Report
- School Learning Plans

Moved by A. Chien, seconded by C. Richardson, that the report of the September 10, 2025 meeting be received.

The Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.1.2 Matters Arising

6.1.2.1 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) Annual Report

Moved by A. Chien, seconded by P. Faridkot, that the Board approve the VSB Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Annual Report 2024-2025 for submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care by October 1, 2025.

Trustees provided comments and asked questions and staff provided clarifying responses.

The Chairperson responded to a trustee's question by informing the Board that FESL informed Advocacy would be added as an item to the agenda of the October 8, 2025 Advocacy Subcommittee meeting. In response to a trustee's question, Associate Superintendent McRae-Stanger reported that any updates to the data provided by the Ministry would be shared with trustees throughout the year at the Education Plan Committee and FESL Advisory Committee meetings.

Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion that was on the floor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.1.2.2 School Learning Plans

Moved by A. Chien, seconded by C. Richardson, that the Board in accordance with section 8.3 (1) of the *School Act*, approve the school learning plans and direct the Superintendent of Schools to make the school learning plans available to parents/guardians of students attending each school in the Vancouver school district.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2. AUDIT COMMITTEE

6.2.1 Matters Arising

The Vice Chair of the Audit Committee, Trustee Jung informed the Board that she had chaired the September 10, 2025 Audit Committee meeting in the Committee Chair's absence, then presented the matters arising from the meeting.

6.2.1.1 Audited Financial Statements June 30, 2025

Moved by V. Jung, seconded by P. Faridkot, that the Board approve the Audited Financial Statements of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) for the year ended June 30, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3. FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

6.3.1 Report: Meeting of September 17, 2025

The Chairperson of the Committee, J. Fraser, presented the report of the September 17, 2025 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on the following items:

- Audited Financial Statements June 30, 2025
- Recruitment Update
- Wellness and Occupational Health and Safety Update

Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by P. Faridkot, that the report of the September 17, 2025 meeting be received.

Following discussion, the Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3.2 Matters Arising

The committee chair informed the Board that there were no matters arising from the September 17, 2025 Finance and Personnel Committee meeting.

6.4. FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE

6.4.1 Report: Meeting of September 17, 2025

The Chairperson of the Committee, P. Faridkot, presented the report of the September 17, 2025 meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. The report includes information on the following items:

- 2026-2027 Minor Capital Plan
- Downtown Catchment Boundary Change Process

Moved by P. Faridkot, seconded by S. Mah, that the report of the September 17, 2025 meeting be received.

Following discussion, the Chairperson asked if there were any trustees not in support of the motion. There being none, the motion was

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4.2 Matters Arising

6.4.2.1 2026-2027 Minor Capital Plan

Moved by P. Faridkot, seconded by J. Fraser, that the Board approve the 2026-2027 Minor Capital Plan for submission to the Ministry of Infrastructure.

A trustee asked a question and staff responded. Following discussion, trustees voted on the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chairperson announced the online link for submitting questions to the meeting would now be closed.

7. REPORT ON PRIVATE SESSION

7.1 Special Meeting of August 27, 2025
The Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the October 1, 2025 Public Meeting that, at the Special Private Session of August 27, 2025 the Board discussed a legal matter.

7.2 Special Meeting of September 24, 2025
The Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the October 1, 2025 Public Meeting that, at the Special Private Session of September 24, 2025 the Board discussed a legal matter and approved a motion for the Board to direct staff to restart the public engagement process for the potential closure of Sir Guy Carleton Elementary School as set out in Board Policy 14 – School Closure.

The Board Chair reported that information regarding the engagement for the Consideration of Closure for Carleton Elementary School is available on the VSB website.

7.3 Meeting of October 1, 2025
The Board authorized the Board Chair to report to the October 1, 2025 Public Meeting that, at the Private Session of October 1, 2025 the Board discussed and approved a motion to conclude the process to consider the potential declaration of the eastern portion of the Graham Bruce Community Elementary school site as surplus to the educational needs of the school district and no further action be taken regarding its subdivision or disposal.

The Chairperson informed the audience that the October 1, 2025 Private Board meeting had not yet concluded and that the report out for this meeting would be completed at the October 29, 2025 Public Board meeting.

8. REPORTS FROM TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVES

8.1 Report from Trustee Fraser on the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee meeting held on May 26, 2025.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Britannia Centre Pool Building Lease Bylaw 2025

The Secretary Treasurer presented a report, titled ***Britannia Centre Pool Building Lease Bylaw 2025***, a copy of which was on file with the meeting agenda. She reported that the legal documentation for the Britannia Centre Pool Building Lease had been reviewed by the Board at the October 1, 2025 Private Board meeting and that the recommendation for the Board to consider the bylaw for the lease of 10 years less a day to the City of Vancouver would be presented at the October 1, 2025 Public Board meeting. She informed trustees that extending the lease would enable the City of Vancouver to continue with the maintenance of the pool that exists on the jointly owned site.

Trustees provided comments, then considered the recommendation in the report.

Moved by V. Jung, seconded by J. Fraser, that School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Britannia Centre Pool Building Lease Bylaw 2025 be given three (3) readings at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved by V. Jung, seconded by C. Richardson, that School District No. 39 (Vancouver) Britannia Centre Pool Building Lease Bylaw 2025 be:
Read a first time the 1st day of October, 2025;
Read a second time the 1st day of October, 2025;
Read a third and final time, passed and adopted this 1st day of October, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chair called a recess at 7:58am. The meeting resumed at 8:20pm.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION - None

11. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD

The Chairperson reminded viewers of the guidelines for receiving questions at public question period, noting that public question period is intended for members of the public to ask questions pertaining to Governance. Questions that are operational should be addressed at the school level or with district staff. She also noted that stakeholders have a different venue by which they can ask the Board questions such as at committee meetings where stakeholder representatives are in attendance.

She reviewed the questions that were received during the public question period including the following:

- Procedures to support students that are enrolled in the school district, but chronically absent.
- Motion regarding board procedures and policies.
- Ministry of Education and Child Care’s Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA).
- Budget for educational assistants, noting that this information was included in the Financial Statements Discussion and Analysis report in the October 1, 2025 Public Board agenda.

She also noted that an operational question was received pertaining to classroom teacher absences.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 8:26 pm.

Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer	Victoria Jung, Chairperson

Vancouver School Board

ITEM 5.0

STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Date of Meeting: October 29, 2025

Student Trustee: Freddie Zhang

Good evening,

I am pleased to provide an update on the recent initiatives of the Vancouver District Students' Council (VDSC), including outcomes from our October General Meeting, Junior Executive elections, and upcoming student-led initiatives such as the CANley Cup and annual leadership retreat.

The VDSC held its General Meeting on October 14th, with participation from student representatives across the District, including the student Sustainability representative. The meeting included the election of Junior Executives for the 2025–2026 school year, including student representatives for the Board's Standing Committees. This year, there were 27 candidates for 8 Junior Executive positions, showing just how passionate and engaged Vancouver secondary students are. At the upcoming retreat, we will help get the newly elected representatives ready for committee meetings through a student-designed workshop.

The council also discussed plans for CANley Cup, an annual district-wide initiative addressing food insecurity. This year, schools will continue to have the option of partnering with the Greater Vancouver Food Bank, a local charity, or a local food hub, whichever best fits their school community. This popular initiative reflects the commitment of students to support the wider community while building meaningful engagement at the school level. We look forward to seeing the impact of everyone's efforts.

Looking ahead, the council is preparing for our leadership retreat on November 25th. This annual retreat provides an opportunity to develop leadership skills (including communication, collaboration, and problem solving) through student led activities, while also providing time to plan for the rest of the initiatives VDSC has mapped out. Our focus this year is on strengthening collaboration and building a sense of belonging for students in their schools and at VDSC.

The Student Leadership Grant applications are now open and will remain so until December 1st. There is a lot of excitement about this opportunity, and momentum is building across the District as students prepare their proposals.

I would like to thank the Board for its ongoing support of student voices and leadership. I look forward to keeping the Board informed of our progress and outcomes throughout the year.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Committee Report to the Board, October 29, 2025

The Vice-Chairperson of the Committee called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. She acknowledged with deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

This meeting was live-streamed, and both the audio and visual recordings were also available to the public for viewing after the meeting. Footage from this meeting may be viewed from Canada or anywhere else in the world.

A presentation detailing the flow of the agenda was shown throughout the meeting, a copy of which is on file with the meeting agenda.

1. Receipt of Advocacy Subcommittee Report

Trustee Mah, Chair of the Advocacy Subcommittee presented the October 8, 2025 Advocacy Subcommittee report, a copy of which was on file with the meeting agenda. She highlighted the focus of the October 8, 2025 meeting on discussing how VSB advocacy points have been reflected in the recommendations for the 2026 Provincial Budget, advocacy strategies for enhancing student learning, advocacy tactics for expanding dual credit pathways, and advocacy for equitable access to child care.

The report of the October 8, 2025 Advocacy Subcommittee meeting was received by consensus.

2. Policy Review: Policy 7 Board Operations and Policy 8 Board Committees

The Secretary Treasurer presented a report dated October 8, 2025 titled ***Policy Review - Policy 7 Board Operations & Policy 8 Board Committees***. The report summarized how the Board ad hoc committee incorporated the feedback received to date regarding Policies 7 and 8 into the draft policy versions before the committee.

She informed the Committee that the questions in the report would be used to guide the small group discussion and participants will have the opportunity to share if the drafts of Policy 7 and 8 reflect prior feedback, align with legislation and other Board policies, and to identify areas needing further clarification.

The Committee Vice-chairperson informed participants that all input received would be compiled and shared with the Board for their review and feedback. Following this, the ad hoc committee will conduct a final review before the updated policies are presented to the board for approval consideration.

The live broadcast ended as Committee members, trustees and stakeholder representatives engaged in small group discussion and dialogue to gather input on the revised drafts of Policy 7 —Board Operations and Policy 8— Board Committees.

The following feedback was collected with respect to Policy 7 Board Operations:

- Participants noted that overall, the draft policy reflects the feedback received to date.
- Live-Streaming of Board Meetings: Participants recommended adding a section on live-streaming regular Board meetings, similar to what is included in Policy 8.
- Rules of Order – Presiding Officer: It was suggested that the policy clarify the role of the Secretary-Treasurer as a potential presiding officer.

The following feedback was collected with respect to Policy 8 Board Committees:

- Participants noted that overall, the draft policy reflects the feedback received to date.
- Agenda Requests: Participants suggested that when an item is not added to a meeting agenda, the requester should receive not only the decision but also the rationale.
- Committee Quorum: Feedback indicated a need for clearer quorum definitions.
- Personnel Committee: One stakeholder advocated for reinstating the Personnel Committee and proposed that its terms of reference include reviewing administrative procedures related to personnel.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

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Suzie Mah, Chairperson

Committee Members Present:	Suzie Mah (Vice-Chair) Janet Fraser Victoria Jung (Ex-officio)
Committee Members Absent:	Lois Chan-Pedley (Chair) Jennifer Reddy Christopher Richardson (Alt.)
Senior Team Members Present:	Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer Helen McGregor, Superintendent Pedro da Silva, Associate Superintendent Maureen McRae-Stanger, Associate Superintendent Alison Ogden, Associate Superintendent
Stakeholder Representatives Present:	Elizabeth Klaiber-Noble, DPAC Tim Chester, IUOE Denise Clark, VASSA Francoise Raunet, VEAES Trevor Wrinch, VEPVPA Carl Janze, VSTA
Also Present:	Cornelia Haack (recorder)

Vancouver School Board

ITEM 6.1.2.1

October 29, 2025

TO: **Board of Education**

FROM: **Ad hoc Committee - Policy 7 - Board Operations and Policy 8 – Board Committees**

RE: **POLICY REVIEW – POLICY 7 BOARD OPERATIONS & POLICY 8 BOARD COMMITTEES**

Reference to Education Plan	**GOAL:**	Goal 2: The Vancouver School Board will increase equity by…
	OBJECTIVE:	• Improving stewardship of the district's resources by focusing on effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability

INTRODUCTION

At the June 23, 2025, Board meeting the Board received a report summarizing the feedback received regarding Policy 7 - Board Operations and Policy 8 – Board Committees and approved the creation of an ad hoc committee consisting of the Board Chair, the Policy and Governance Committee Chair and one trustee appointed by the Board Chair to work with the Secretary Treasurer on reviewing and preparing a draft Policy 7 - Board Operations and a draft Policy 8 – Board Committees and send back to the Policy and Governance Committee for review and recommendation to the Board.

The Policy and Governance Committee met on October 15, 2025, to review the draft versions of Policy 7 and Policy 8. Based on the feedback received during this meeting, revised drafts were shared with all trustees for additional input.

Feedback collected to date was considered by the ad hoc committee and, where appropriate, incorporated into the attached draft versions of Policy 7 – Board Operations and Policy 8 – Board Committees, which are now presented to the Board for approval consideration. Legal advice was also sought and is reflected in the draft policies.

POLICY 7 – Board Operations

This section summarizes the feedback collected regarding Policy 7 – Board Operations and how it was considered as part of the current draft version of Policy 7.

October 15, 2025 Policy and Governance Committee Feedback

- Participants noted that overall, the draft policy reflects the feedback received to date.
- **Live-Streaming of Board Meetings**: Participants recommended adding a section on live-streaming regular Board meetings, similar to what is included in Policy 8.

  This section has now been added to the draft of policy.

- **Rules of Order – Presiding Officer**: It was suggested that the policy clarify the role of the Secretary-Treasurer as a potential presiding officer.

  The draft has been updated to state: "The Chairperson presides over all Board meetings unless stated otherwise in this policy."

Feedback from Trustees

Some trustees provided suggestions for consistency of language used in this policy with other Board policies.

The draft has been updated to ensure consistency.

Some trustees suggested that the Trustee Remuneration and Expenses section be retained until a new policy is developed.

The draft includes Trustee Remuneration and Expenses as Appendix B. This will be removed once a new policy is adopted by the Board.

A trustee expressed concern that deadlines for submitting agenda items and motions are too rigid, making it difficult to address current or urgent issues. More flexible and responsive processes were recommended. The Trustee also emphasized the need for open and transparent decision-making, with all trustees having fair opportunities to contribute. Concerns were also noted about the Board Chairperson having too much control over procedures, which could limit trustee input. The trustee advocated for easier and more accessible ways for the public to participate in meetings and delegations, including more convenient meeting times and less restrictive requirements. The trustee suggested that meeting minutes should be more comprehensive, including rationales for decisions and the names of trustees involved, to improve transparency. The trustee called for rules that minimize bias and ensure equal treatment for all trustees, so that substantive motions are not blocked by procedural discretion. The trustee suggested that legal advice be sought with respect to the section on use of props in Board meetings. A concern was expressed regarding the 48-hour notice required for trustee participation in meetings through virtual means. Finally, while supporting decorum and professionalism, the trustee cautioned against overly restrictive rules (such as bans on props) that could limit expression or participation.

Based on legal advice, the draft policy includes updated language regarding the use of props in Board meetings. The draft policy maintains the four-week submission timeline but allows for late submissions at the Chairperson's discretion, with a two-thirds vote required for trustee motions to be considered at the meeting without advance notice. The minutes of Board meetings will include the movers and seconders of motions for transparency. The policy provides for the live-streaming of Board meetings which allows the public to hear the content of speeches and verbal reports. The policy clarifies the role of the two corporate officers of the Board. The policy maintains the 48-hour notice required for trustee participation in meetings through virtual means to allow for appropriate planning and verification of technological capabilities.

Previous Feedback

Participants agreed that some aspects of the policy are outdated or inconsistent with current practice. In particular the policy uses outdated language, needs to be reviewed to ensure consistency with other Board policies and with applicable legislation. It was noted that the topics that can be discussed in private board meetings need to be reviewed to ensure compliance with applicable legislative framework and that there needs to be a clear delineation in policy between items discussed in private board meetings and items discussed in public board meetings. Participants provided suggestions for changes to the section of the policy that defines the format and rules for public delegation board meetings, including allowing delegates to speak multiple times on the same topic and allowing stakeholder group representatives to delegate.

Finally, it was noted that Roberts Rules can marginalize certain groups, and they can be used to silence voices. It was suggested that the Board should consider how meeting rules can be used appropriately and respectfully.

The draft policy ensures compliance with the relevant legislative framework, incorporates a section on meeting decorum, adopts modernized language, reflects current practices, and is aligned with other board policies.

For the timing of public delegations, Option A (during Board meetings with a 20-minute limit) received some support, especially if more time is allowed per speaker or supplemented elsewhere, but concerns were raised about limited engagement and collaboration. Option B (separate meeting the same week) was widely favored for allowing more dedicated time and flexibility, seen as less restrictive and more inclusive. Option C (no changes) received minimal support, with some preferring not to lengthen board meetings but suggesting increasing speaker time if unchanged.

Public Delegation Board meetings as stand-alone meetings occurring after the agenda for the Regular Public Board meeting is issued.

Regarding delegation topics, Option A (only on decision items or active engagement processes) was supported for maintaining focus and efficiency, while Option B (any topic relevant to Board business) was preferred for openness and inclusivity, with emphasis on respectful communication and relevance to governance.

Rules for delegations unchanged from current policy, language updated for clarity.

For the frequency of speaking on a topic, Option A (speak only once) was supported to prevent repetition and manage time, with suggestions for clarifying questions, while Option B (multiple times with new information) was favored for evolving issues and updates, with emphasis on a fair application process and behaviour standards.

Rules for delegations updated to reflect that the limit to speaking on the same topic is only once during the term of the Board. Details added on process for approving delegations and decorum expectations.

Regarding speaking time, Option A (5 minutes) was strongly preferred, seen as necessary for meaningful input, especially on complex topics, while Option B (2 minutes) was generally viewed as too short, with some suggesting 3 minutes as a compromise.

Speaking time limit is unchanged at 5 minutes.

For the Board meeting day, Option A (move to Wednesday) received broad support for predictability and better alignment with delegation timing, while Option B (keep Monday) received little to no support, with some suggesting a hybrid model with delegations on Monday and regular board meetings on Wednesday.

Public Delegation Board meetings on Monday and Regular Board meetings on Wednesday. This is reflective of the schedule being followed in 2025-2026.

For electronic participation, Option A (establish policy) was supported for accessibility and inclusivity, especially in emergencies, with emphasis on clear guidelines and limited use, while Option B (no changes) raised concerns about hybrid meetings regarding authenticity and engagement quality, with some expressing a preference for in-person participation but acknowledging the need for flexibility.

New draft policy includes provisions for electronic meetings and trustee participation in meetings through virtual means.

POLICY 8 – Board Committees

This section summarizes the feedback collected regarding Policy 8 – Board Committees and how it was considered as part of the current draft version of Policy 8.

October 15, 2025 Policy and Governance Committee Feedback

- Participants noted that overall, the draft policy reflects the feedback received to date.
- **Agenda Requests**: Participants suggested that when an item is not added to a meeting agenda, the requester should receive not only the decision but also the rationale.

  This recommendation has been included in the updated draft.

- **Committee Quorum**: Feedback indicated a need for clearer quorum definitions.

  The draft now specifies the number of members required for quorum and confirms that the Board Chairperson, as an ex-officio committee member, counts toward quorum.

- **Personnel Committee**: One stakeholder advocated for reinstating the Personnel Committee and proposed that its terms of reference include reviewing administrative procedures related to personnel. However, this suggestion was not incorporated into the revised draft, as the Board's governance framework delegates responsibility for administrative procedures to the Superintendent.

Feedback from Trustees

Some trustees provided suggestions for consistency of language used in this policy with other Board policies.

The draft has been updated to ensure consistency.

One trustee recommended that the roles and authority of committee chairs be clarified to ensure they have meaningful input in setting agendas and leading their committees. The trustee felt that the timeline for submitting committee agenda items was too restrictive and could prevent timely topics from being addressed. The trustee also opposed blanket bans on public delegations at committee meetings, advocating for committee chairs to have discretion to allow presentations, and called for stakeholder perspectives to be formally acknowledged and recorded. Additionally, the trustee emphasized the need for fair, inclusive, and transparent processes, with clear documentation of stakeholder input and committee decisions. Also, the trustee cautioned against having the presence of the Board Chairperson always counted for quorum as it would in effect be a majority of Board members. Finally, the trustee suggested reconsidering the combination of certain committees, such as Finance and Personnel, recommending that they be separated for better focus and engagement.

The draft has been updated to clarify when the presence of the Board Chairperson counts towards quorum and what are the voting rights of the Board Chairperson at committee meetings. Other feedback has been considered in the context of all other feedback received to date and was not included in the revised draft.

Previous Feedback

It was noted that the current policy needs to be updated to define how subcommittees of board committees' function.

The draft policy includes section 2.6 Subcommittees to Board Standing Committees which defines how subcommittees function.

It was suggested that Section 4 – Ad Hoc Committees should specify membership and committee inherent rights holder and stakeholder representatives.

Section 4 was updated to reflect that the Board may invite inherent rights holder representatives and stakeholder representatives to attend ad hoc committee meetings.

Suggestions for improved effectiveness and clarity include more details about the agenda setting process and how agenda decisions are made and communicated.

Regarding questions at committee meetings, Option A (submit questions in advance) was supported for preparation and better responses, while Option B (ask during meeting, respond later) was also supported for flexibility and documentation, with some suggesting combining both approaches. A proposed Option C suggested a hybrid model with real-time and follow-up responses, including documentation.

Section 1.2 was updated to provide clarity regarding the agenda setting process and how questions can be provided for consideration as part of agenda setting.

Participants identified that some areas of the current policy can be reworded and simplified (e.g. combine D1 and D4, use positive language). It was noted that the Finance and Personnel committee responsibility to "annually make recommendations to the Board regarding its submission to the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services" should be transferred to the Advocacy Subcommittee.

Other considerations included suggestions to clarify roles and processes, proposals to simplify procedures, and emphasis on respectful, culturally responsive, and accessible communication, including clear points of contact, codes of conduct, norms of collaboration, and follow-through and transparency.

Finally, some participants suggested that the personnel committee be reinstated, and that public in-person attendance be allowed at standing committees.

Section 1.1 meeting decorum was updated to use positive language. Section 2.5 D Finance and Personnel Committee Responsibilities has been updated to reflect current practice, consolidated D1 and D4, and removed the advocacy matter.

IMPACT ON OTHER POLICIES

The ad hoc committee recommends that the Board direct the development of a new policy based on Section 71 of the British Columbia School Act, which addresses trustee remuneration and expense allowances.

"Section 71 – Remuneration and Expense Allowance

1. *A Board may, on an annual basis:*

   (a) authorize the payment of remuneration to the Chair, Vice Chair, and other trustees; and

   (b) authorize the payment of a reasonable allowance for expenses necessarily incurred by trustees in the discharge of their duties.

2. *The Board is responsible for any payments made under subsection (1).*
3. *The remuneration for the Chair and Vice Chair may exceed that of other trustees."*

This proposed policy would formalize the Board's approach to determining trustee remuneration and expense reimbursement in alignment with provincial legislation.

Until a new policy is adopted the Trustee Remuneration and Expenses section will remain in effect and will be attached as Appendix B to Policy 7 Board Operations.

IMPACT ON OTHER POLICIES

To ensure consistency between Board policies, the ad hoc committee recommends amending Policy 3 Role of the Trustee by eliminating references to motion submission timelines, as these are now addressed in Policy 7.

Specifically, paragraph 2.6 will be amended as follows:

2.6 A Trustee may submit motions for consideration by the Board. ~~Notices of motion must be submitted to the Board Chair, the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer by no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the public board meeting to be included in the Board meeting agenda.~~

CONCLUSION

The Ad hoc Committee recommends that the Board approve Policy 7 Board Operations and Policy 8 Board Committees as drafted and consider amending Policy 3 Role of the Trustee as indicated above. The Committee also suggests that the Board direct the Ad hoc Committee to prepare a draft policy for Trustee Remuneration and Expenses.

If the Board wishes to propose additional changes to the two draft policies, the Ad hoc Committee recommends referring the drafts to the Policy and Governance Committee for further review and recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1) That the Board approve Policy 7 Board Operations;

   AND FURTHER

   That the Board approve the amendment of paragraph 2.6 in Policy 3 Role of the Trustee as follows:

   2.6 A Trustee may submit motions for consideration by the Board. ~~Notices of motion must be submitted to the Board Chair, the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer by no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the public board meeting to be included in the Board meeting agenda.~~

2) That the Board direct the Ad hoc Committee to work with the Secretary Treasurer to develop a draft Trustee Remuneration and Expenses Policy for review by the Policy and Governance Committee and approval consideration by the Board.

3) That the Board approve Policy 8 Board Committees.

Attachments:

A. Draft Policy 7: Board Operations
B. Draft Policy 8: Board Committees

DRAFT Policy 7

BOARD OPERATIONS

The Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) is the corporate entity established under the *British Columbia School Act* ("the *School Act*") and is governed by nine trustees elected by the public for a term defined in the *School Act*. In addition, a non-voting student trustee also participates in public Board meetings.

To fulfill its responsibilities effectively, the Board holds meetings as required, including inaugural, regular, special, and private sessions. These meetings provide a formal structure for decision-making and public accountability. A quorum, defined as a simple majority of trustees, is required for any meeting to be duly constituted.

The work of the Board is supported by the Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer who are the Board's two corporate executive officers. The Superintendent is the Chief Executive Officer of the Vancouver School District and is responsible for carrying out the Board's strategic direction, administering its policies and providing leadership in organizational and educational administration and instructional practice in the school district. The Superintendent is also responsible for ensuring compliance with the *School Act*, Regulations and related Ministerial Orders. The Secretary Treasurer is the Board's corporate financial officer and corporate secretary. The Secretary Treasurer shall become familiar with and comply with all applicable accounting and administrative procedures and shall maintain an accurate record of the Board's proceedings. The Secretary Treasurer shall also perform any other duties assigned by the Board in relation to its corporate affairs.

Board meetings are conducted in accordance with adopted Board policies, and where not otherwise specified, Robert's Rules of Order shall apply.

Board meetings are open to the public to the greatest extent possible, reflecting the Board's obligation to foster public trust in education and encourage community participation. However, the Board may convene private sessions when necessary to protect individual privacy or the public interest—particularly in matters involving students, employees, land, labour, litigation, or negotiations.

No act or decision of the Board is valid unless adopted at a meeting convened in accordance with the *School Act* and Board policy.

MEETINGS

Agendas

The Board delegates agenda preparation responsibilities to the Agenda Setting Committee comprised of the Board Chairperson, the Board Vice Chairperson, the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer.

The agenda for regular Board meetings is determined through a monthly Agenda Setting meeting. This process is guided by the Board's work plan, notices of motion submitted by trustees, and input from staff. The final agenda is approved by the Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson in consultation with the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer.

Trustees must submit all requests for board agenda items and notices of motion to the Secretary Treasurer's Office no later than four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled Board meeting. The Secretary Treasurer's Office is responsible for collecting and organizing all submissions and presenting them at the monthly Agenda Setting meeting. Each item is reviewed for alignment with the Board's governance responsibilities, legislative obligations under the *British Columbia School Act*, and the Board's strategic priorities.

Submissions received after the deadline may be considered at the discretion of the Board Chairperson.

Trustees may also bring notices of motion directly to a Board meeting. However, the addition of such motions or notices of motion requires a two-thirds vote of the Board to be considered at that meeting.

Requests that meet the criteria may be added to the appropriate Board meeting agenda. If a request is not included, the requestor shall be advised of the decision. The Board encourages transparency and public engagement and may refer items not related to governance to staff for follow-up.

The agenda for regular public Board meetings will be delivered electronically to each Trustee, the Superintendent, and the Secretary Treasurer by the Wednesday prior to the scheduled meeting. The agenda for regular public Board meetings will be made available to the community through publication on the School District website the Wednesday prior to the scheduled meeting.

The agenda for special public Board meetings or private Board meetings will be delivered electronically to each Trustee, the Superintendent, and the Secretary Treasurer no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled meeting. Special public agendas will be made available to the community through publication on the School District website no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

A change or addition to the Agenda may be introduced by a Trustee and shall require a two-thirds vote to be considered.

Minutes Of Meetings

In accordance with the *British Columbia School Act*, the Secretary Treasurer is responsible for presiding over and maintaining the official records of the Board, including minutes of all Board and Standing Committee meetings.

The minutes serve as the official and legal record of the Board's proceedings and resolutions. They provide transparency, accountability, and continuity in governance and decision-making.

Minutes shall include:

- Date, time, and location of the meeting;
- Type of meeting (e.g., Inaugural, Regular, Special, Private);
- Name of the presiding officer;
- Names of trustees and senior staff in attendance;
- Approval of previous meeting minutes;
- Motions and resolutions adopted by the Board;
- Points of order and procedural rulings;
- Trustee conflict of interest declarations pursuant to Section 58 of the *School Act*;
- Appointments, notices of motion, and committee recommendations as applicable.

Verbal reports from trustees shall only be recorded if the Board takes formal action as a result of the report. The content of speeches, discussions, or rationales shall not be recorded unless directed by Board resolution. Movers and seconders of motions shall be recorded in the minutes.

Minutes shall be prepared under the direction of the Secretary Treasurer and considered unofficial until formally adopted by Board resolution. Upon adoption, minutes become the sole official record of the Board's business.

Once adopted by the Board, the official minutes shall be certified as correct by the Secretary Treasurer or other employee designated by the Board under section 69 (4) of the *British Columbia School Act* and signed by the Chairperson or other member presiding at the meeting or at the next meeting at which the minutes are adopted.

The Secretary Treasurer shall maintain a secure and accessible file of all Board minutes and establish a tracking system for resolutions to support cross-referencing and historical review.

Approved minutes of regular and special public meetings shall be posted to the School District website promptly following adoption. Minutes of meetings other than Private Sessions shall be open to public scrutiny.

All Board meeting minutes shall be made available to the Board-appointed auditors for review.

Board Meeting Decorum

Board meetings are conducted in a manner that reflects the Board's commitment to respectful, inclusive, and effective governance. All participants, including but not limited to trustees, staff, and members of the public, are expected to uphold the following standards of decorum:

- Participants speak through the Chairperson to ensure orderly dialogue and equitable participation.
- Trustees and attendees present themselves in a courteous and professional manner, fostering a collaborative and constructive meeting environment.
- Diverse perspectives are welcomed and shared respectfully. Participants are expected to maintain civility and avoid personal, inflammatory, or accusatory language or actions.
- Staff are encouraged and supported in presenting objective, evidence-based reports. Their professional contributions are valued and must be free from undue influence or pressure.
- Members of the public are invited to engage through established processes, including written submission of questions to be answered in public question periods, in accordance with Board policy.
- Placards, signs and posters, and other items, costumes or attire disruptive to the decorum of the meeting, are not permitted in the meeting room.

Use of electronic devices during meetings must not interfere with proceedings and shall be discontinued at the direction of the Chairperson.

The Board, through the Chairperson, reserves the right to request that any unauthorized recordings of Board proceedings be stopped immediately. Such direction shall be noted in the meeting minutes.

To preserve the integrity of Board proceedings, the Chairperson is authorized to manage public disruptions. If decorum cannot be maintained, the Chairperson may suspend the meeting and relocate to a secure location where the public is not physically present. In such cases, the meeting shall continue in accordance with open meeting requirements, and the public may observe via live broadcast.

Use of Props in Board Meetings

To preserve public trust and to maintain a respectful, orderly, and professional environment during Board meetings, the use of props by trustees and delegations is not permitted. This includes any objects, signs, costumes, or visual aids that are not part of the official meeting materials or presentations approved in advance.

Exceptions may be made for approved presentation materials that support agenda items, provided they are submitted in advance to the Secretary Treasurer's Office, are not disruptive to the decorum of the meeting, and have been included in the meeting agenda materials.

This policy supports the Board's commitment to respectful dialogue, impartial governance, and the preservation of public trust in its proceedings.

Live-Streaming Regular Board Meetings

To ensure clarity, consistency, and respect for privacy and procedural integrity, the following rules govern the live-streaming of regular Board meetings:

- The Board, through the Agenda Setting process, may choose to live-stream regular Board meetings.
- Live-streaming is strictly limited to the meeting proceedings.
- Individuals who attend a live-streamed meeting do so with the understanding that they may be recorded.
- The Board, through the Board Chairperson, reserves the right to request that any unauthorized recording of Board proceedings be stopped immediately. The minutes of the meeting will record that such direction was given.
- Where a concern arises involving inappropriate recording or sharing of personally recorded audiovisual material, the Board will review the use and may take action to request that the recording be deleted/destroyed.
- Recordings of past Board meetings may be archived online for up to one year.

Quorum

A quorum shall be a majority of trustees holding office at the time of the meeting.

If a quorum is not present fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled start time for the Board meeting, the meeting will be adjourned to a date determined by the Chairperson or, if no date is set, to the next regular meeting. The Secretary Treasurer will record the names of members who are present at the end of the fifteen-minute period.

Length of Meetings

The Board shall not remain in session for more than three (3) hours in total, including any scheduled recess. However, the Board may, by majority vote, extend the meeting in 15-minute increments, up to a maximum of four (4) extensions. Any motion to extend must be made prior to the scheduled adjournment time and shall be recorded in the minutes.

If the meeting is adjourned before all agenda items are addressed, the remaining items shall be deferred to a future meeting. The date for resuming consideration of deferred items shall be determined by the Chairperson or, if no specific date is set, the items shall be carried forward to the next regular meeting.

Staff Attendance

The Secretary Treasurer is responsible for maintaining official records, including minutes, legal documentation, and financial records, and shall attend all Board meetings to fulfill these duties. If a portion of the meeting concerns the work performance or employment of the Secretary Treasurer, the Board may excuse the Secretary Treasurer from attending that portion of the meeting; and, if so, shall designate the Superintendent of Schools, or another employee of the school district, to attend the meeting in place of the Secretary Treasurer to perform the duties of the Secretary Treasurer at the meeting.

The Superintendent of Schools (or their designate) shall be present at all meetings of the Board. If a portion of the meeting concerns the work performance or employment of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board may excuse the Superintendent of Schools from attending that portion of the meeting.

Inaugural and Annual Organizational Meetings

After the general local election of trustees, the Secretary Treasurer must convene the first meeting of the board (inaugural meeting) as soon as possible and in any event within 30 days from the date that the new board begins its term of office. The inaugural meeting of the Board shall have the following order of business:

- The Secretary Treasurer reports upon the returns of the election of school Trustees, as certified by the Returning Officer or City Clerk, and shall then report whether or not the trustees-elect, if any, have completed the declarations required by the *School Act*;
- The Secretary Treasurer then administers to each Trustee, or have administered by another person duly qualified for this task, the Oath of Office required by the *School Act*, and
- The Secretary Treasurer conducts the election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board in accordance with the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Nomination and Election Procedure.

In years where there is no general local election, the annual organizational meeting of the Board shall be held in November together with the regular public Board meeting. The annual organizational meeting of the Board shall have the following order of business:

- The annual report of the immediate past Board Chairperson;
- The Secretary Treasurer conducts the election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board in accordance with the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson Nomination and Election Procedure; and
- Such items of ordinary business as the Board otherwise consider at a regular public Board meeting.

The Secretary Treasurer will give notice of the inaugural meeting.

The Secretary Treasurer shall act as Chairperson of the meeting until the election of Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson is completed.

After a by-election for school trustees, the Secretary Treasurer shall make specific arrangements for newly elected trustees to take the Oath of Office.

Regular Meetings of the Board

The purpose of the regular Board meeting is for the Board to conduct its business. All regular Board meetings will be open to the public and may be live-streamed at the Board's discretion.

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held monthly on a Wednesday at the hour of 19:00, or upon such other day or days during the month or at such other hour as the Board may order. Unless so decided by the Board, no regular Board meeting shall be held in the months of March, July, August, December.

The order of the agenda for a Regular Public Board meeting shall be as follows:

1. Land Acknowledgment
2. Adoption of Agenda (Changes to the agenda including the addition of trustee motions or notices of motion shall require a two-thirds vote to be considered at the meeting).
3. Adoption of Minutes
4. Superintendent's Update

5. Standing Committee Reports
6. Student Trustee Report
7. Reports from Trustee Representatives
8. New Business
9. Notices of Motion
10. Public Question Period (Submitted in writing)
11. Report on Private Session
12. Adjournment

During the "Public Question Period," individuals may direct questions to the Chairperson on any matter connected with Board business. Question period will be restricted to questions only – statements and debate will not be permitted. Questions will be limited to one question per person. Members of the public can submit questions for the Board in writing by no later than the start of Reports from Trustee Representatives. Questions will be answered in the order they are received. This agenda item has a time limit of 10 minutes; extension is at the discretion of the Board.

Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Board may be called by the Chairperson or, upon written request of a majority of the trustees, may be called by the Secretary Treasurer. No business other than that for which the meeting is called, shall be conducted at the meeting.

Forty-eight hours' notice in writing shall be given of any special meeting of the Board, which notice must be given to each Trustee by electronic means.

The Board may waive the notice requirement and convene a meeting at any time, provided that a majority of trustees present at the meeting consent to doing so. This consent must be recorded in the meeting minutes and applies only to the specific meeting in question.

Private Meeting

In accordance with the *British Columbia School Act* and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the Board shall conduct Private meetings to consider matters that require confidentiality due to legal, privacy, or operational sensitivity. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the following matters shall be considered in private session:

1. Matters pertaining to individual students, including but not limited to the conduct, performance, discipline, suspension or expulsion, attendance, enrolment or registration of individual students, or appeals of students or parents made pursuant to Section 11 of the *School Act*.
2. Salary claims and adjustments, and the consideration of requests of employees and Board offers with respect to collective bargaining procedures.
3. The conduct, efficiency, discipline, suspension, termination or retirement of employees.
4. Medical examiner's reports, medical examination reports, and other medical reports.
5. Staff changes, including appointments, transfers, resignations and promotions and demotions.
6. Matters pertaining to the safety, security or protection of Board property or to safety of individuals.

7. Accident claims, and other matters where Board liability may arise.
8. Legal opinions regarding liability matters or the interests of the Board.
9. Purchases of real property, including the designation of new sites, consideration of appraisal reports, consideration of amounts claimed by owners, determination of board offers, and expropriation procedures.
10. Matters related to lease, sale or exchange of real property prior to finalization thereof.
11. Matters where disclosure could harm the business interests of a third party.
12. Any other issues the Board deems appropriate for Private Session, provided such decisions are consistent with legislative requirements.

No Trustee shall disclose to the public the proceedings of a private meeting, except as may be required by law, unless a resolution has been passed by the board to allow such disclosure.

Trustees wishing to raise issues concerning the appropriateness of a private meeting, or to seek the disclosure of information discussed in private session must, where possible, provide the Chairperson of the relevant meeting with reasonable advance notice of their intentions in this regard.

For private meetings, a record containing the date of the meeting, a general statement as to the nature of the matters discussed, the general nature of the decisions reached, and any additional information authorized for release by Board motion shall be included in the minutes for the next public Board meeting. In circumstances where the inclusion of this record in the minutes of the next public Board meeting is not practicable, it shall be included in the minutes of a subsequent public Board meeting.

Public Delegation Board Meetings

Public Delegation Board meetings are intended to provide community members with the opportunity to share their thoughts about Board policies, Board decisions and the budget. Topics about specific employees or individual students cannot be discussed at these meetings. Also, presentations that are commercial in nature cannot be made at these meetings. No Board business, other than the receipt of public delegations, shall be conducted at this meeting and as such, no matter raised by a delegation shall be considered at this meeting.

Public Delegation Board meetings shall normally be held once in each month of the school year in which a Regular Board meeting is held. Meetings will normally take place at the hour of 17:00 on the Monday after the agenda for the Regular Board meeting is published, or upon such other day or days during the month or at such other hour as the Board may order. Public Delegation Board meetings will not be held on the same evening as the regular monthly Board meeting. Meeting dates will be posted to the Board calendar on the District website.

Public Delegation Board meetings may be conducted in person or by electronic means, depending on the needs of the Board and the availability of appropriate technology. The format of each meeting shall be determined in advance and communicated to participants in a timely manner. When held electronically, the meeting platform must support reliable audio and visual communication to ensure full participation and transparency. Delegations presenting in either format are subject to the same rules of conduct, time limits, and procedural expectations.

Public Delegation Board meetings shall not exceed three (3) hours in total, including any scheduled recess. However, the Board may, by majority vote, extend the meeting in 15-minute increments, up to a maximum of four (4) extensions. Any motion to extend must be made prior to the scheduled adjournment time and shall be recorded in the minutes.

Registration and Submission Requirements

A member of the public wishing to present must submit a request in writing to the Secretary Treasurer's Office stating their name, the matter they wish to bring before the Board and a copy of the brief and/or presentation they intend to make. Requests must be received (preferably electronically) prior to 16:00 hours on the Thursday before the Public Delegation Board meeting is scheduled.

Public Delegation Guidelines

The Board Chairperson shall determine whether a delegation may present to the Board, based on the guidelines outlined in this policy. All requests to appear as a delegation must be reviewed to ensure alignment with the Board's governance responsibilities and meeting protocols. The Chairperson may consult with the Agenda Setting Committee when making this determination.

Delegations will be placed on the Public Delegation Board meeting agenda if the subject matter is relevant to Board business. The following criteria shall guide the Chairperson's decision:

1. The presentation is about Board policies, Board decisions or the budget. Items not related to the governance function of the Board may be referred to staff.
2. The presentation does not include topics about specific employees or individual students.
3. The presentation is not commercial in nature.
4. The presentation is not on matters currently in an active public engagement. These presentations shall be directed to the engagement process.
5. The presentation does not contain expressions of violence or threats of violence.
6. The presentation does not contravene the Human Rights Code of British Columbia. In particular, presentations will not be allowed if they:
    a. are likely to expose a person or group or class of persons to hatred or contempt (which includes statements exposing persons to detestation or vilification); or
    b. if they promote discrimination or an intention to discriminate against a person or group or class of persons, because of the Indigenous identity, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or age of that person, group or class of persons.
7. The delegate has not presented to the Board on the same topic during the current term of the Board.
8. The delegate is not a representative of a formal stakeholder with representation on Board standing committees. Formal stakeholder representatives shall not be heard as delegations as they have other avenues, including representation on Board standing committees, to provide input to the Board.

Procedures for Delegations:

- The time allotted for the delegation's presentation will be five minutes.
- Delegations are welcome to present information, perspectives, and opinions for the consideration of the Board.

- Any presentation slides or written comments that the delegation wants to have shared at the meeting must be submitted to the Secretary Treasurer's Office no later than noon the business day before the meeting.
- Delegates are expected to comply with Board norms of conduct and decorum at meetings. Personal, inflammatory, or accusatory language will not be tolerated.
- Board members may direct questions for clarification through the spokesperson for the delegation; however, the matter will not be debated.
- Board member questions for staff in relation to delegation presentation will be emailed to the Superintendent who shall determine how best to provide the information requested.
- Presentations may be delivered in person or online, depending on the delegation's preference and the Board's technical capacity.

Expected Behaviour of Audience and Presenters

All attendees, including the audience and presenters, are expected to behave respectfully and professionally. Audience members should listen attentively, avoid disruptions, and show respect to everyone present. They should follow the established procedures for commenting or asking questions and refrain from personal attacks or derogatory language. Presenters should deliver clear and concise presentations, treat all participants with respect, and support their arguments with relevant information. Following these expectations will create a productive and respectful environment for meaningful discussions and decision-making.

Recording the meeting in either video or audio format is not permitted.

Individuals who fail to comply with these guidelines, or who disrupt the proceedings, will be asked to leave the meeting by the Board Chairperson.

ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

The Board recognizes there may be circumstances where it is practical or necessary to hold a meeting through electronic means. Accordingly, at the call of the Chairperson, Board meetings may be held using electronic arrangements providing that such arrangements be in accordance with the following:

- It is practical to hold a meeting of the Board using electronic means for matters that require immediate attention, have significant time constraints, are straight forward or procedural in nature, situations that are more efficiently handled using electronic means.
- Electronic meeting arrangements include video conferencing, telephone or other such technology, and will only be made where it is practical to do so and where all Trustees, the Superintendent, the Secretary Treasurer and resource staff attending or participating in the meeting are able to communicate effectively with each other.

Minutes of the Board shall indicate that the meeting was held pursuant to this provision, indicate which Trustees and Officers were connected electronically, and in which manner the electronic meeting was held.

TRUSTEE PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS THROUGH VIRTUAL MEANS

The Board values discussion and debate as essential to its work and, therefore, prioritizes in-person participation at all Board meetings. Trustees are expected to prioritize in-person attendance at Board meetings.

However, the Board recognizes that extenuating circumstances may occasionally prevent a trustee from attending in person. In such cases, trustees may request to participate virtually, provided that the circumstances are exceptional and beyond the trustee's control.

To ensure operational readiness, trustees must submit a request for virtual participation to the Board Chairperson at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. This notice period allows for appropriate planning and verification of technological capabilities. The Chairperson retains discretion to approve or deny such requests based on the nature of the circumstances and the availability of resources. The forty-eight-hour notice requirement may be waived in situations where virtual attendance is necessary to achieve quorum.

Trustees approved for virtual participation must ensure that their remote location supports reliable audio and visual communication with the Board and provides a secure and private environment, particularly during discussions involving confidential or sensitive matters.

Trustees participating through virtual means are considered present for the meeting and count towards quorum.

RULES OF ORDER

In all cases where the *School Act* and this Policy are silent, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall apply to procedures at meetings of the Board and its Committees.

Presiding Officer

The Chairperson presides over all Board meetings unless stated otherwise in this policy. In the Chairperson's absence, the Vice Chairperson shall preside. If both are absent, the Board shall appoint a member to serve as presiding officer for that meeting. Should the Chairperson wish to temporarily vacate the Chair to participate in debate or for another reason deemed acceptable by a majority of trustees present, the Chairperson shall request the Vice Chairperson—or, if unavailable, another trustee—to assume the Chair. The acting Chair shall exercise all duties and privileges of the Chairperson until the original Chair resumes their role.

Voting Procedures

Each trustee present at a Board meeting shall vote when a question is put, except where a trustee chooses to abstain. The Chairperson has the right to vote and must vote in the event of a tie. No trustee shall cast more than one vote on any question, whether in a Board meeting, Committee-of-the-Whole, or any other committee. In the event of a tie, the motion shall be deemed defeated.

For motions requiring a unanimous vote or a two-thirds majority as specified by the *School Act* or Board bylaws, all trustees present must vote.

Points of Order and Appeals

When a point of order is raised, the Chairperson shall promptly issue a ruling and cite the applicable rule or principle. If a trustee disagrees, they may appeal the ruling. The appeal must be seconded and decided by a majority vote of trustees present. The Chairperson shall immediately put the question to the Board without debate, stating: "Shall the ruling of the Chairperson be sustained?"

Before the vote, the Chairperson may briefly explain the reasoning behind the ruling. No further discussion is permitted. The result of the vote determines whether the ruling stands.

Reconsideration and Rescission

No motion previously decided by the Board shall be reconsidered or rescinded within the same calendar year unless:

- A majority of trustees present and voting approve the reconsideration or rescission;
- The motion is brought by a trustee who voted on the prevailing side of the original decision;
- Trustees who were not members of the Board at the time of the original decision may move reconsideration or rescission within the same calendar year.

Confidentiality

Any information, documentary or oral, received by a trustee and designated as confidential by the Chairperson, a Standing Committee, or the Superintendent shall not be disclosed unless the Board authorizes its release.

Attendance and Decorum

Trustees shall not leave a Board meeting before adjournment without notifying the Chairperson. Trustees are expected to uphold the standards of decorum and respectful conduct as outlined in Board policy and parliamentary procedure.

Legal Reference:	*British Columbia School Act* Sections 49, 50, 56, 57, 58(1) 58(2), 59, 60(1) 60(2), 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 71(1), 72 *School Act* Regulation 382/93
DRAFT:	October 21, 2025

APPENDIX A

BOARD CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON NOMINATION AND ELECTION PROCEDURE

The Secretary Treasurer will chair the meeting during the nomination and election process for Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Upon completion of the nomination and election process for Board Chairperson, the Secretary Treasurer as Chairperson will proceed with the process for the nomination and election of Board Vice Chairperson.

1. APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

The Chairperson will call for a motion to appoint scrutineers. The motion will read as follows:

> **THAT _____________and ________ be appointed scrutineers for the election of Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.**

2. NOMINATION PROCEDURE

The scrutineers will provide each trustee with **one** nomination ballot for Chairperson and **one** nomination ballot for Vice Chairperson.

2.1 CHAIRPERSON NOMINATION

i. The Chairperson will call for nominations by ballot, for Board Chairperson for a one-year term. Any trustee may be nominated for Board Chairperson.

   "I now call for nominations by ballot for the office of Board Chairperson for a one (1) year period ended _______."

ii. Ballots will be collected by the scrutineers and the names of the trustees nominated for Board Chairperson shall be communicated to the Chairperson.

iii. The Chairperson will ask each nominee whether they agree to let their name stand for election and if they want to speak to the nomination. Nominee speeches shall be brief with a maximum allotted time of 3 minutes per nominee.

iv. If there is only one nominee for the office, and that nominee accepts the nomination, the Chairperson declares that person the duly elected Chairperson of the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver), for a one (1) year period ended ________.

   "I declare that trustee ________is the duly elected Chairperson of the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver), for a one (1) year period ended _______."

2.2 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOMINATION

i. The Chairperson will call for nominations by ballot, for Board Vice Chairperson for a one-year term. Any trustee other than the elected Board Chairperson may be nominated for Board Vice Chairperson.

   "I now call for nominations by ballot for the office of Board Vice Chairperson for a one (1) year period ended __________."

ii. Ballots will be collected by the scrutineers and the names of the trustees nominated for Board Vice Chairperson shall be communicated to the Chairperson.

iii. The Chairperson will ask each nominee whether they agree to let their name stand for election and if they want to speak to the nomination. Nominee speeches shall be brief with a maximum allotted time of 3 minutes per nominee.

iv. If there is only one nominee for the office, and that nominee accepts the nomination, the Chairperson declares that person the duly elected Vice Chairperson of the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver), for a one (1) year period ended ______.

"I declare that trustee ________is the duly elected Vice Chairperson of the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver), for a one (1) year period ended _______."

3. ELECTION PROCEDURE - IN PERSON BOARD MEETING

This procedure is used if all trustees are present in person.

(a) If more than one person is nominated, the Chairperson will call on scrutineers to distribute, collect and count the election ballots.

(b) All trustees present at the meeting shall vote by secret ballot.

(c) Scrutineers will report the results of each ballot only to the Chairperson of the meeting, who shall announce the Trustee who has received a clear majority of the votes cast.

(d) The Trustee receiving the majority of votes cast shall be declared elected.

"I declare that trustee ______is the duly elected Chairperson [or Vice Chairperson] of the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver), for a one (1) year period ended __________."

(e) If on the first ballot a nominee does not receive a clear majority the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on the first ballot shall be dropped from the list and a second ballot, shall be held in like manner to the first ballot. If by reason of an equality of votes it is not possible to determine which name shall be dropped, then a special ballot shall be taken for that purpose.

(f) If at the completion of the third ballot the results of the election cannot be declared because there is an equality of valid votes for 2 or more nominees and all nominees continue to let their name stand for election, the Chairperson will ask for a motion that election results be determined by lot.

THAT the results for the election of Chairperson [or Vice Chairperson] will be determined by lot in accordance with the following:

i. **the name of each nominee is to be written on a separate piece of paper, as similar as possible to all other pieces prepared for the determination;**

ii. **the pieces of paper are to be folded in a uniform manner in such a way that the names of the nominees are not visible;**

iii. **the pieces of paper are to be placed in a container that is sufficiently large to allow them to be shaken for the purpose of making their distribution random, and the container is to be shaken for this purpose;**

iv. **the Chairperson will direct a scrutineer to withdraw one paper;**

v. **the Chairperson will declare elected the nominee whose name is on the paper that was drawn.**

(g) Upon completion of the nomination and election process for Board Chairperson and Board Vice Chairperson the Chairperson will call for the following motion:

THAT the scrutineers destroy the ballots for the nomination of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and election of Chairperson [or Vice Chairperson] [or Chairperson and Vice Chairperson], and that the scrutineers are discharged.

(h) The newly elected Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will be invited to provide brief remarks.

(i) The newly elected Chairperson will preside over the balance of the meeting.

APPENDIX B

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

Trustee Remuneration

Under Section 71 of the *School Act*, the Board may authorize annual remuneration for the Chair, Vice-Chair, and other trustees.

Effective September 1 each year, trustee remuneration will be adjusted based on the annual change in the Vancouver Consumer Price Index (CPI). As of September 1, 2025, the annual remuneration was:

- Chair: $40,315
- Vice-Chair $39,448
- Trustees: $37,215

Trustee Expenses

Under Section 71 of the *School Act*, the Board may authorize a reasonable allowance for expenses necessarily incurred by trustees in the performance of their duties.

The Board will reimburse Trustees the cost of accommodation and economy air fare, verified by receipts, plus a per-diem allowance at a rate set by the Board to cover meals and miscellaneous expenses.

Trustees are not eligible for reimbursement of vehicle mileage expenses.

The Board will approve the total annual trustee expense budget each year. Individual expense claims will not be approved by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

The Schools Protection Program provides blanket liability insurance coverage for all school districts in British Columbia. This coverage indemnifies the Board, its members, and agents for official actions taken in service of the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver). Additional indemnification for trustees is outlined in **Policy 16 – Indemnification Bylaw**.

DRAFT Policy 8

BOARD COMMITTEES

The primary purpose of all committees of the Board shall be to act in an advisory capacity to the Board.

The Board will establish standing committees and may establish subcommittees and ad hoc committees of the Board when necessary to assist the Board in fulfilling its governance functions. The Board may delegate specific powers and duties to committees of the Board subject to the restrictions on delegation outlined in the *School Act*. The powers and duties delegated to committees of the Board shall never interfere with the delegation of authority from the Board to the Superintendent of Schools.

Unless specific powers have been delegated by the Board the power of all committees shall be limited to making recommendations to the Board. Committees may act on behalf of the Board only when specifically authorized by Board motion for individual issues. The Board will carefully consider all matters referred to it by a committee. The adoption of a standing committee recommendation to the Board is not automatic.

1. BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1.1 Meeting Decorum

The Board has a strong commitment to ethical conduct. This includes the responsibility of committee participants (i.e. committee members, staff, inherent rights holder representatives, stakeholder representatives.) to conduct themselves with appropriate decorum and professionalism. It is the responsibility of the Chairperson of the Committee to see that decorum is maintained at Committee meetings so that:

- Committee participants engage in discussion by requesting to speak through the Chairperson, ensuring inclusive and orderly dialogue.
- A respectful and collegial environment is maintained as participants share diverse perspectives and contribute to meaningful discussions.
- Staff are trusted to provide objective, high-quality reports that reflect their professional expertise. Their contributions are respected and form a vital part of informed committee decision-making, free from external pressure or influence.
- Committee discussions are conducted in a constructive manner, with participants avoiding language or actions that could be perceived as personal, inflammatory, or accusatory.
- All participants are expected to demonstrate professionalism and courtesy in their interactions, contributing to a positive and productive committee culture.

1.2 Meeting Agendas

The agenda for Board committee meetings is determined through a monthly Agenda Setting meeting. This meeting is guided by the committee's work plan, matters referred to the committee by the Board, and input from the Committee Chairperson. Final decisions regarding agenda items are made by the Board Chairperson and the Board Vice Chairperson in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer.

All requests for agenda items must be submitted to the Secretary Treasurer's Office no later than four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled committee meeting to ensure that they can be considered at the monthly Agenda Setting meeting. The Secretary Treasurer's Office is responsible for collecting and organizing these requests and presenting them at the Agenda Setting meeting. An agenda item is a formal request for consideration at a committee meeting and must pertain directly to matters within the committee's Board-delegated responsibilities. Agenda item requests may include questions requiring responses, requests for specific information, or proposals for discussion on relevant issues. Requests must not relate to operational matters, which should be addressed through direct engagement with staff, nor may they involve topics designated for a private meeting under Policy 7. Each request is reviewed against the committee's terms of reference, responsibilities, and work plan. Items that meet the criteria may be added to the agenda. If a request is not included, the requestor shall be advised of the decision and the rationale for the decision.

Matters that the Board has referred to a Board committee for action must take precedence over any other Committee business.

The agenda for public committee meetings, as well as supporting materials intended to brief committee members about items included on the agenda, are electronically delivered no less than 48 hours in advance of Board committee meetings to each Trustee, Superintendent of Schools, Secretary Treasurer, inherent rights holder representatives, stakeholder representatives and resource staff for the Board committee, and published on the school district website.

1.3 Notice of Meeting

Notice of Meeting shall be provided in writing to committee members, inherent rights holder representatives and stakeholder representatives no less than five (5) calendar days prior to a scheduled Board committee meeting.

1.4 Proceedings

In all cases where the *School Act* and this Policy are silent, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall apply to procedures at meetings of Board committees.

1.5 Format and Frequency of Board Committee Meetings

Each Board committee shall be scheduled to meet at least four times per school year. Additional meetings may be added at the discretion of the Board Chairperson and the Board Vice Chairperson based on input from the Committee Chairperson and in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer. Meetings may be cancelled if there are not sufficient items to warrant a meeting.

Board committee meetings may be held by electronic means to deal with matters that require immediate attention, have significant time constraints, are straight forward or procedural in nature. The format of committee meetings shall be determined by the Board Chairperson and the Board Vice Chairperson based on input from the Committee Chairperson and in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer, at the Agenda Setting meeting.

1.6 Role of the Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

The role of the Committee Chairperson is to provide leadership and to ensure the committee fulfills its mandate and any other matters delegated to it by the Board. In the absence of the Committee Chairperson, the Committee Vice Chairperson will exercise the powers and perform the duties and functions of the Committee Chairperson. As such, they cooperate with the Committee Chair and make every effort to learn the Committee Chairperson's role.

The Committee Chairperson will provide leadership in the planning, organization, and operation of their assigned committee's activities, including:

- Collaborate with assigned resource staff to develop proposed agenda items that support the committee's annual work plan and ensure that these are submitted to the Secretary Treasurer's Office no later than four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled committee meeting for consideration at the monthly Agenda Setting meeting.
- Mentor the Committee Vice Chairperson to be prepared to assume the role of Committee Chairperson in their absence.
- Summarize committee discussions, and state any committee action items, decisions, or timelines, before moving to the next agenda item.

- Arrange briefing meetings with the Committee Vice Chairperson and assigned resource staff as needed to review proposed agendas and support the committee's discussions and deliberations.
- Chair committee meetings, facilitating active participation by all members and ensuring appropriate time is allocated to each agenda item and all items are brought to a suitable resolution.
- Uphold and model the Board's standards of conduct and decorum during committee meetings. The Committee Chairperson is responsible for maintaining a respectful, inclusive, and orderly environment, ensuring that all participants adhere to meeting norms and that discussions remain focused and constructive.
- Report to the Board on the activities of the committee, recommendations, and resolutions.
- Develop knowledge of the subject matter and of best practices related to their assigned committee's mandate.

1.7 Minutes

Minutes of decisions made by Board committees shall be kept by the Secretary Treasurer or designate. Such minutes are to record decisions of Board committees but not the discussion or content of speeches. Movers and seconders of motions shall not be recorded in minutes.

Verbal reports made at Board committee meetings shall not be recorded in the minutes of the Board committee meetings unless the Board committee makes a decision on a matter addressed in a verbal report.

A copy of Board committee meeting minutes shall be provided to the Board. All Board committee meeting minutes shall be made available to the Board appointed auditors for review.

1.8 Public Delegations

Presentations from delegations will not be heard at Board committee meetings. Pursuant to Policy 7 – Board Operations, community members who wish to express their views on matters before the Board may request to present at a Public Board Delegation meeting.

1.9 Live-Streaming Board Committee Meetings

To ensure clarity, consistency, and respect for privacy and procedural integrity, the following rules govern the live-streaming of Board Committee meetings:

- The Board, through the Agenda Setting process, may choose to live-stream Board committee meetings.
- Live-streaming is strictly limited to the Board committee meeting proceedings.
- Individuals who attend a live-streamed meeting do so with the understanding that they may be recorded.
- The Board, through the Committee Chairperson, reserves the right to request that any unauthorized recording of committee proceedings be stopped immediately. The minutes of the meeting will record that such direction was given.
- Where a concern arises involving inappropriate recording or sharing of personally recorded audiovisual material, the Board will review the use and may take action to request that the recording be deleted/destroyed.
- Recordings of past Board committee meetings may be archived online for up to one year.

2. STANDING COMMITTEES

2.1 Purpose of Standing Committees

The primary purpose of standing committees is to act in an advisory capacity to the Board and to support good governance and informed decision making by the Board. When an agenda matter falls within the responsibilities of more than one standing committee a joint committee meeting may be organized by the Board Chairperson and the Board Vice Chairperson based on input from the Committee Chairpersons and in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools and the Secretary Treasurer, at the Agenda Setting meeting.

All standing committee recommendations approved by majority vote of the committee members shall be included on the agenda at a Regular Meeting of the Board in the form of a proposed motion. The recommendations of a standing committee shall not be binding unless formally approved by the Board.

Standing committee work plans shall be created annually based on the Board's work plan and in alignment with the Education Plan.

2.2 Membership and Quorum

Standing committee membership includes one trustee appointed as Chairperson, one trustee appointed as Vice Chairperson, two trustees appointed as members and two trustees appointed as alternate members. The appointments are made by the Board on the recommendation of the Board Chairperson.

The Board Chairperson serves as an ex-officio member of all standing committees. This does not increase the total number of committee members.

A quorum shall consist of a majority of standing committee members, meaning at least three members must be present. If any regular standing committee members are absent, up to two alternate members may serve in their place and be counted toward quorum. The Board Chairperson may be counted for the purpose of establishing quorum if fewer than four appointed members (including alternates) are present.

If a quorum is not present within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled start time, the committee meeting cannot proceed with official business or decision-making and the meeting shall be adjourned. Urgent matters will be promptly forwarded to the Board for consideration, while non-urgent agenda items will be deferred to an upcoming committee meeting.

The Chairperson of a standing committee may move any recommendation and speak to any question during committee meetings without leaving the chair and may vote on all matters considered.

Any member of the Board may attend standing committee meetings and participate in discussions, but only appointed members of the standing committee may vote. The Board Chairperson may only vote if fewer than four appointed members (including alternates) are present.

2.3 Standing Committee Inherent Rights Holder and Stakeholder Representatives

The Board shall invite one inherent rights holder representative of each of the Host Nations: xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) to attend standing committee meetings.

The Board shall invite one student representative designated by the Vancouver District Students' Council (VDSC) and one parent representative designated by the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC).

The Board shall invite one representative of each of the following groups to attend standing committee meetings:

- Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 15 (CUPE 15)
- Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 407 (CUPE 407)
- International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 963 (IUOE)
- Bargaining Council of Vancouver School Board Construction and Maintenance Trades Unions (BCVSBCMTU)
- Professional and Administrative Staff Association (PASA)
- Vancouver Association of Secondary School Administrators (VASSA)
- Vancouver Elementary and Adult Educators' Society (VEAES)
- Vancouver Elementary Principals' and Vice Principals' Association (VEPVPA)
- Vancouver Secondary Teachers' Association (VSTA)

Representatives attending committee meetings are entrusted with the responsibility of presenting the perspectives and interests of the organizations that they represent. It is essential that they articulate these collective views rather than their personal opinions.

2.4 Standing Committee Resource Staff and Subject Matter Experts

The Superintendent of Schools shall appoint resource staff to work with standing committees and the Superintendent of Schools shall determine the roles, responsibilities, and reporting requirements of the resource staff. At the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools, subject matter experts may be invited to present alongside staff at committee meetings.

The Superintendent of Schools or the appointed resource staff shall keep the Chairperson of each of the standing committees informed of matters within the jurisdiction of the standing committee.

2.5 Standing Committees Responsibilities

The Board has established four standing committees:

A. Policy and Governance Committee
B. Facilities Planning Committee
C. Education Plan Committee
D. Finance and Personnel Committee

A. Policy and Governance Committee Responsibilities:

A.1 Review the policy framework for the organization and make policy recommendations to the Board.
A.2 Assess and make recommendations regarding Board governance structures.
A.3 Ensure Board Policies are reviewed at least once in a four-year term and that compliance with legislation, regulations and legislative mandate is maintained.
A.4 Review and make recommendations to the Board on the school district's compliance with legislative requirements.
A.5 Annually review and recommend an Advocacy Plan to the Board that supports the achievement of the Board's strategic objectives.
A.6 Review matters referred to the committee by the Board and make recommendations as requested.

B. Facilities Planning Committee Responsibilities:

B.1 Review and provide recommendations to the Board regarding assigned facilities planning matters.

B.2 Annually review and make recommendations to the Board regarding the five-year capital plan and the spending plan for the annual facilities grant.

B.3 Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding the long-range facilities plan.

B.4 Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding catchment areas for schools and District programs.

B.5 For the purpose of naming and renaming schools, provide recommendations to the Board, adhering to the guidelines and direction set by the Board at the beginning of any potential school naming or renaming process.

B.6 Review matters referred to the Committee by the Board and make recommendations as requested.

C. Education Plan Committee Responsibilities:

C.1 Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding matters related to the development and implementation of the Education Plan.

C.2 Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding the annual Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Report.

C.3 Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding proposed Board Authority Authorized Courses.

C.4 Review and make recommendations regarding the implementation and cessation of District programs.

C.5 Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding annual school learning plans.

C.6 Review and make recommendations to the Board regarding school calendars.

C.7 Review matters referred to the Committee by the Board and make recommendations as requested.

D. Finance and Personnel Committee Responsibilities:

D.1 Review and provide recommendations to the Board regarding assigned finance and personnel matters.

D.2 Review quarterly financial reports and assist the Board in being fiscally responsible by managing its financial resources effectively and efficiently.

D.3 Review and provide recommendations to the Board regarding the annual financial plan, the annual budget, the amended annual financial plan and the amended budget.

D.4 Review and provide recommendations to the Board regarding the approval of school fees and fees related to programs that charge fees.

D.5 Review and monitor the school district's human resources management strategy to ensure that human resources plans and initiatives will enable the school district to achieve its strategic objectives.

D.6 Review matters referred to the Committee by the Board and make recommendations as requested.

2.6. Subcommittees to Board Standing Committees

Subcommittees may be formed to support a Board standing committee in addressing complex or specialized areas that would benefit from focused attention. These subcommittees enable a smaller group of trustees and staff to explore issues in greater depth, develop informed recommendations, and engage relevant inherent rights holders, stakeholders and interest holders.

The terms of reference for each subcommittee will be approved by the Board at the time of the formation and attached as an appendix to this policy for reference. The Chairperson of the Board standing committee serves as a member of the subcommittee, ensuring alignment and continuity.

The Superintendent of Schools shall appoint resource staff to work with subcommittees and the Superintendent of Schools shall determine the roles, responsibilities, and reporting requirements of the resource staff and subject matter experts.

3. STANDALONE AUDIT COMMITTEE

3.1 Membership and Quorum

Audit committee membership includes one trustee appointed as Chairperson, one trustee appointed as Vice Chairperson, two trustees appointed as members and two trustees appointed as alternate members. The appointments are made by the Board on the recommendation of the Board Chairperson.

The Board Chairperson serves as an ex-officio member of the Audit committee. This does not increase the total number of committee members.

A quorum shall consist of a majority of Audit committee members, meaning at least three members must be present. If any regular Audit committee members are absent, up to two alternate members may serve in their place and be counted toward quorum. The Board Chairperson may be counted for the purpose of establishing quorum if fewer than four appointed members (including alternates) are present.

If a quorum is not present within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled start time, the committee meeting cannot proceed with official business or decision-making and the meeting shall be adjourned. Urgent matters will be promptly forwarded to the Board for consideration, while non-urgent agenda items will be deferred to an upcoming committee meeting.

The Chairperson of the Audit committee may move any recommendation and speak to any question during committee meetings without leaving the chair and may vote on all matters considered.

Any member of the Board may attend the Audit committee meetings and participate in discussions, but only appointed members of the Audit committee may vote. The Board Chairperson may only vote if fewer than four appointed members (including alternates) are present.

3.2 Audit Committee Resource Staff

The Superintendent of Schools shall appoint resource staff to work with the audit committee. Resource staff shall normally include the Secretary Treasurer.

3.3 Independent Audit Committee Members

Up to two members of the public with one such public member holding an accounting designation may be appointed by the Board as a resource to the audit committee. Public members will be appointed by the Board for a term of two years with the possibility of a second two-year term extension, at the will of the Board.

3.4 Audit Committee Responsibilities

1) Financial Oversight
    a) Review the annual audited financial statements and recommend approval of the audited statements by the Board.
    b) Review quarterly financial statements and, if required, recommend approval of the quarterly financial statements by the Board.
    c) Monitor the development of and changes to accounting principles and practices and financial reporting standards, and their impact on the School District’s financial reporting.
    d) Review the draft annual financial plan and the annual budget.
2) Audit and Risk Oversight
    a) Review audit results with external auditors and monitor implementation of recommendations.
    b) Oversee the engagement of external auditors, including audit terms and proposed fees.

c) Review the scope of non-audit services to ensure auditor independence.
d) Review external audit services at least every three years.
e) Recommend terms of engagement for the external auditor to the Board.
f) Review the auditor's assessment of management's risk mitigation strategies and internal controls, with emphasis on safeguarding District assets.
g) Meet privately with external auditors, without staff present, when necessary.
h) Make inquiries of the auditor as needed to fulfill the Committee's fiduciary responsibilities.

3) As appropriate, make policy recommendations to the Board related to the role of the audit committee

4. AD HOC COMMITTEES

Ad hoc committees may be established to assist the Board on a specific project for a specific period of time. The terms of reference for each ad hoc committee will be established by Board motion at the time of the formation. Such ad hoc committees shall cease to exist when the purpose has been achieved. The Chairperson of the Board shall appoint membership and the Chairperson of the ad hoc committee. The Board may invite inherent rights holder representatives and stakeholder representatives to attend ad hoc committee meetings.

The Superintendent of Schools shall appoint resource staff to work with ad hoc committees and the Superintendent of Schools shall determine the roles, responsibilities, and reporting requirements of the resource staff and subject matter experts.

Legal Reference: Section 65, 85 *School Act*

DRAFT: October 21, 2025

APPENDIX A

ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The primary purpose of the Advocacy Subcommittee shall be to act in an advisory capacity to the Policy and Governance Committee and the Board.

Advocacy subcommittee work plans shall be created annually based on the Board's annual plan for advocacy and meetings will be scheduled as needed through the agenda setting process.

Advocacy Subcommittee Responsibilities:

- Annually review advocacy needs and recommend changes to the Board's Advocacy Plan to the Policy and Governance Committee. All recommended changes must be in alignment with Board Policy, applicable legislation and support the achievement of the Board's strategic objectives.
- Identify and recommend to the Policy and Governance Committee effective advocacy tactics that can be employed to advance the accomplishment of the goals identified in the Board's Advocacy Plan.
- Monitor and report on progress in the implementation of the Board's Advocacy Plan and provide regular updates to the Board via the Policy and Governance Committee.
- Review matters referred to the subcommittee by the Board and make recommendations as requested.

Membership and Quorum

Advocacy subcommittee membership includes one trustee appointed as Chairperson, one trustee appointed as Vice Chairperson, one trustee appointed as member and two trustees appointed as alternate members. The Chairperson of the Policy and Governance Committee shall be a member of the Advocacy subcommittee. The appointments are made by the Board on the recommendation of the Board Chairperson.

A quorum shall be a majority of subcommittee members, two of which may be the alternate subcommittee members.

Any member of the Board may attend the advocacy subcommittee meetings and participate in discussions, but only appointed members of the subcommittee may vote.

Inherent Rights Holder and Stakeholder Representatives

The Board shall invite inherent rights holder representatives and stakeholder representatives as identified in Policy 8 - Board Committees.

Representatives attending subcommittee meetings are entrusted with the responsibility of presenting the perspectives and interests of the organizations that they represent. It is essential that they articulate these collective views rather than their personal opinions.

Advocacy Subcommittee Resource Staff

The Superintendent of Schools shall appoint resource staff to work with the advocacy subcommittee.

EDUCATION PLAN COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Committee Report to the Board, October 29, 2025

The Chairperson of the Committee called the meeting to order at 7.00 pm. He acknowledged with deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

This meeting was live-streamed, and both the audio and visual recordings were also available to the public for viewing after the meeting. Footage from this meeting may be viewed from Canada or anywhere else in the world.

A presentation detailing the flow of the agenda was shown throughout the meeting, a copy of which is on file with the meeting agenda.

1. Board/Authority Authorized Course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12

Director of Instruction, R. Bains presented a report, titled ***Board/Authority Authorized Course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12.*** The report included information about Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses, the purpose of these courses, and the process to create, review and offer these courses in secondary schools. BAA courses are authorized and approved by Boards/Authorities according to requirements set by the BC Ministry of Education and Child Care. An overview of the First Peoples Visual Arts 12 course was also provided.

Committee members, trustees, inherent rights holders and stakeholder representatives provided comments, and the Director of Instruction answered questions and provided clarification on various points from the BAA Course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12 presentation and report.

There was unanimous consent from committee members to forward the following recommendation to the Board for consideration:

THAT the Board approve the *Board/Authority Authorized course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12*.

In response to a trustee's question, the Director of Instruction informed the committee that the feedback provided at the meeting by inherent rights holder representative of Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) would be incorporated in the *BAA Course Framework for First Peoples Visual Art 12* before it is presented to the Board for approval.

2. Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) K-12 Literacy Supports

Associate Superintendents M. McRae-Stanger and A. Ogden presented a report, titled ***Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) K-12 Literacy Supports.*** Information was provided about the Ministry of Education and Child Care's K-12 Literacy Supports initiative, which focuses on improving literacy outcomes for all students in British Columbia. Key requirements of this initiative include mandatory literacy screening for K-3 students, professional learning for K-12 teachers in literacy instruction, pedagogy, and interventions, and parent/caregiver education about literacy learning.

The presentation included information about the actions VSB is taking to implement and support these requirements.

Committee members, trustees, inherent rights holders and stakeholder representatives provided comments and asked questions, and staff provided clarification.

Following the presentation, committee members engaged in small group facilitated discussions with district staff to learn more about the Ministry's literacy assessments as well as the initiatives that the VSB is implementing to support improved literary success for all students.

The meeting adjourned at 8.34 pm.

____

Alfred Chien, Chairperson

Committee Members Present:	Alfred Chien (Chair) Suzie Mah Victoria Jung (Alt.)
Other Trustees Present:	Janet Fraser
Committee Members Absent:	Christopher Richardson (Vice-Chair) Lois Chan-Pedley
Senior Team Members Present:	Helen McGregor, Superintendent Maureen McRae-Stanger, Associate Superintendent Alison Ogden, Associate Superintendent
Inherent Rights Holder Representatives Present:	Kirsten Baker-Williams, Sḵwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) Kirsten Touring, səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)
Association Representatives Present:	Bruce Garnett, VASSA Deborah Tin Tun, VEAES Riley McMitchell, VEPVPA Carl Janze, VSTA Theo Huberman, VDSC Angela Waterlow, DPAC
Also Present:	Shannon Burton, Director of Instruction Ranjit Bains, Director of Instruction Rosie Poetschke, Director of Instruction Suzie Polzin, District Principal, Learning Services Rochita Gondhalekar, Recorder

Vancouver School Board

ITEM 6.2.2.1

October 29, 2025

TO: **Board of Education**

FROM: **Education Plan Committee**

RE: **Board/Authority Authorized Course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12**

Reference to *Education Plan*	**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**	Goal 1: The Vancouver School Board will improve student achievement, physical and mental well-being, and belonging by … • Encouraging students to reach beyond previous boundaries in knowledge and experience. • Improving school environments to ensure they are safe, caring, welcoming and inclusive places for students and families. • Increasing literacy, numeracy and deep, critical, and creative thinking. • Ensuring the alignment among school, district, and provincial education plans. Goal 3: The Vancouver School Board will continue its Reconciliation journey with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit by … • Increasing knowledge, awareness, appreciation of, and respect for Indigenous histories, traditions, cultures and contributions.

INTRODUCTION

Board/Authority Authorized Courses (BAA courses) are offered by Board of Education or Independent School Authorities to respond to local needs of the schools and their communities while providing choice flexibility for students. BAA courses are authorized by Boards/Authorities according to requirements set by the BC Ministry of Education and Child Care.

This report includes a recommendation from the Education Plan Committee for the Board to approve the Board/Authority Authorized Course, First Peoples Visual Arts 12.

BACKGROUND

Teachers submitting new course proposals must adhere to the Guidelines for Board Authority Course Requirements and Procedures outlined by the Ministry.

Grade 10-12 BAA courses that Boards/Authorities wish to offer need to align with the Ministry curriculum to reflect the Ministry's Know-Do-Understand curriculum design.

When reviewing new Grade 10 to 12 BAA course proposals, the following Ministry criteria are considered:

- BAA courses may overlap with Big Ideas and Curricular Competencies of Ministry courses.

* BAA courses are not:
    * Courses with significant overlap with provincial curriculum content: This includes adapted courses, partial versions of Ministry courses, and hybrids of two or more Ministry courses.
    * Remedial courses or those preparatory in nature: for example, a math course designed to help students who have completed Pre-calculus 11 that provides review and remediation for them before they enroll in Pre-calculus 12; or a writing course designed to help students develop the skills needed to meet the learning standards of Creative Writing 11.
    * A modified course: for example, a social studies course designed for Grade 11 students with intellectual disabilities with significantly different learning standards from Ministry Exploration in Social Studies 11.
    * An adapted course: adaptations are teaching and assessment strategies especially designed to accommodate a student's needs so they can demonstrate that they are meeting the learning standards of the curriculum. A student working to meet learning standards of any Grade or course level may be supported through the use of adaptations.

ANALYSIS

As part of the Vancouver School Board's annual BAA course approval process, the BAA Course Review Committee reviewed submissions for the 2026-2027 school year. This committee is comprised of district staff, secondary school-based administrators, and Vancouver Secondary Teachers' Association (VSTA) members.

The BAA Course Review Committee, guided by the criteria outlined above, reviewed the proposals, provided feedback and opportunities for resubmission. The following course met the stated criteria:

* First Peoples Visual Arts 12

Please refer to curriculum framework for this course in the attachment.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approve the *Board/Authority Authorized course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12*.

Attachment: Board/Authority Authorized course: First Peoples Visual Arts 12

Board/Authority Authorized Course: **First Peoples Visual Arts 12 /FPVA12**

School District/Independent School Authority Name: Vancouver School Board	**School District/Independent School Authority Number:** SD39 Vancouver
Developed by: Jay Rudolph and Robin Roberts	**Date Developed:** 2023/2024/2025
School Name: Vancouver Technical Secondary	**Principal's Name:** Roberto Moro
Superintendent Approval Date (for School Districts only):	**Superintendent Signature (for School Districts only):**
Board/Authority Approval Date:	**Board/Authority Chair Signature:**
Course Name: First Peoples Visual Arts 10/11/12	**Grade Level of Course:** 10/11/12
Number of Course Credits: 4	**Number of Hours of Instruction:** 120
Course Category: Visual and Performing Arts	**Course Code:** YVPA-0F: First Peoples Visual Arts 10 YVPA-1F: First Peoples Visual Arts 11 YVPA-2F: First Peoples Visual Arts 12

Board/Authority Prerequisite(s): FPVA12 is developed by VSB Indigenous Teachers who specialize in traditional forms of art and textiles practices. Robin Roberts is a carver, designer and contemporary artist of Haida, Tsimshian, and Coast Salish (Musqueam, Squamish, Cowichan nations). Robin is from a family of Residential School survivors and has been studying Indigeneity - learning from Indigenous Artists in the community since 1998.

Jay Rudolph is a textiles artist from Mi'kmaq and settler traditions. She comes from a family of educators who've always maintained respect for traditions. Jay has been learning about Indigeneity and coming back home to her roots since being in Post-Secondary School.

Both teachers respect local Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh protocols, and take lead from local members who help school districts do the work to acknowledge local traditions.

Special Training, Facilities or Equipment Required:

Training:

- Art specialist strongly recommended.
- Art history background is an asset, must have familiarity with Coast Salish and other Indigenous art in order to teach local histories and art forms for understanding.
- Experience in two- and three-dimensional art forms, from a range of areas (visual arts, textile arts, and arts & crafts appropriate to a variety of Indigenous cultures.

Equipment:

- A variety of two-dimensional supplies: paper, pencils, felts, print making, acrylic and water colour paint, brushes, etc.
- A variety of three-dimensional supplies; this could be an extremely wide variety of needs, depending on the culture students choose. Example: Coast Salish arts: variety of wood mediums, carving knives, chisels, gouges, saws, tracing paper, light table, projector, planes, sanders, drills, clamps files, vices, adzes, workbench, rasps, emery cloths, sandpaper, glue, paint, oils, stains, dyes, to name a few.
- Textile Arts: Beading, looms, weaving supplies, and fabric art supplies (needle, thread, fabric, knitting needles, beading supplies, leather, wool, possibly a sewing machine, etc.).
- Other Indigenous cultures (Inuit, Eastern Canadian, Aztec, etc.) use similar tools but may require the resourcefulness of the teacher to find tools to enable students to proceed with inquiry of a culture that is not of the local Indigenous people. For example, soap stone carving would need soapstone, files, saws, masks, sandpaper, etc.
- Resource materials: access to internet, books, and Knowledge Keepers.

Course Synopsis:

Visual Arts offers a unique way of exploring one's identity and sense of belonging. Historical traditions, perspectives, and worldviews can be shared through the visual arts. In this First Peoples Visual Arts course, students will explore Indigenous perspectives and ways of knowing, and local cultural learning through looking at and creating works of art. Indigenous Ways of Knowing stem from connections to family, learning through generational knowledge. Coast Salish art practices will be the initial focus of the class. However, to understand their personal histories, students will be encouraged to explore and create art pieces reflecting the art styles of other Indigenous cultures, ultimately finding ways to their own cultures. Students will be expected to explore Indigenous knowledge systems through their family, connections to land/place, through resources shared with the public to teach local nations, and beyond to other Indigenous peoples.

Students will put in the time and patience needed to reflect, recognize, and create pieces of artwork that reflect both traditional and contemporary art forms. They're expected to engage in local and other traditional Indigenous Art forms that are rooted in histories, extending to contemporary/modern ways of making art.

Rationale:

The course will allow students to reflect on the integrated worldviews held by traditional Indigenous cultures around the world, with the initial focus being the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. The links between people, land, story and art will be explored.

The balance of physical, emotional, mental and spiritual values exists in the world of Indigenous oral traditions and the art forms that represent these traditions, which remind us of these values and the importance of sharing them with others.

Within the Coast Salish Indigenous communities, for example, art works take the form of crests, house posts, photographs, weaving, knitting, beading, blankets, ceremonial objects, painting, etc. This list is not exhaustive because the variety of physical forms of representation is limitless due to the diversity of Indigenous cultures that have and still do exist around the world.

Students will be guided and encouraged to develop their skills, using a variety of tools and technologies, to work towards proficiency of various mediums.

Students will investigate their own histories, being encouraged to utilize their families' teachings. Some of our students come from all over the world; the course will help students see themselves as represented in the curriculum. Indigenous families may be separated from their own communities' teachings. This course aims to respect the local traditions as well as aid students from all over to see their connection to their history.

Goals:

- Students will gain a connection between art making and their own cultural heritage, finding inspiration to delve further into traditional means of art making, or expanding to include contemporary mediums, or blending traditional and contemporary images, ideas, and philosophy.
- Students will develop skills in using classroom, library, and internet resources to develop ideas for images, project concepts, and project development, with the understanding on how to gain inspiration without plagiarism or appropriation.
- Students will be given opportunities to complete inquiry-based projects through discussion with their teacher.
- Students will learn to use various mediums, tools, and processes associated with art productions in a safe manner.
- Students will work on self-calming strategies, to work through the frustration of learning new skills with success.
- Experiential learning requires practicing on scrap materials prior to working on actual projects, to build confidence and clarity on how to use the mediums, tools and processes associated with art production, such as problem solving, further developing ideas, and revisiting techniques to work towards mastery.
- How student projects are refined and finished will be determined through discussion with the teacher. Students will consider the merits of various ways to develop their art projects and finishing techniques. Reflective writing, one-on-one and small group discussions, and whole-class gallery-walks and critiques.

Indigenous Worldviews and Perspectives, including but not restricted to, the First Peoples Principles of Learning:

- Bringing in community members with specific skills in areas being studied to support on-going projects, i.e. carver, weaver, knitter, etc. Students will learn the protocol for inviting and respecting Elders and Knowledge Keepers that come to share their knowledge.
- Students will choose images that are culturally meaningful to them for their project development. They will consider how the chosen images and motifs represent self, family, community, the land, the spirits, and the ancestors.
- Adults and students will create a classroom culture that encourages creative risk taking in a safe environment and supports the development of art skills.
- The engagement of body and mind is essential for developing skills and for completing art projects. Students will need to recognize when and why projects are not happening as desired and work to overcome difficulties. To move towards mastery, students will have to take the time needed and be patient with themselves as they are developing new skills.

Recommended Instructional Components:

- Direct Instruction: by teachers and by community members, in a group setting and one-one-one, as needed and as available.
- Modelling habits and skills needed for successful skill development: teachers working on pieces alongside students, if possible.

- Skill development: working from more forgiving to more challenging materials, scaling up their work, and moving from two-dimensional towards three-dimensional pieces where appropriate.
- Peer teaching: encourage students to support each other, learn from their peers which builds confidence for the supporter.
- Experiential learning: give opportunities and materials for practice and to gain muscle memory with materials, processes, and technologies.
- Inquiry learning: students will research a variety of cultures, try different mediums and develop different skills with the tools that are available.
- Videos: access to seasoned artists working on their medium is inspirational, even if they cannot be brought into the classroom.

Recommended Assessment Components: Ensure alignment with the Principles of Quality Assessment

This course is assessed by using the Triangulation of Assessment, which allows the teacher to collect evidence of student learning; this evidence is collected from the following three sources: conversations, observations, and products.

The following **Principles of Quality Assessment** will be noted:

- Assessment is ongoing, timely, specific, and embedded in day-to-day instruction.
- Student is involved in assessment and feedback.
- Assessment focuses on all three components of the curriculum model - knowing, doing, understanding.
- Assessment provides ongoing descriptive feedback to students.

The students will play an active role throughout all stages of assessment to ensure that they feel ownership of their work and to hear and provide feedback about how they are doing, and where they will focus next.

Assessment specific to this course:

- Exemplars: made by students, teachers, and community members that will be used self-assessment and discussion with teachers to determine the level of skill students are developing.
- Ongoing feedback: regular feedback to students to discuss areas of strength and ways they can increase their skill development.
- Peer-assessment: students will be taught how to give positive feedback to their peers in a safe, kind and nurturing way.
- Oral and written self-assessment: Rubrics help students assess whether they meet the expected criteria. Indigenous cultures are rooted in oral tradition, therefore, allowing oral self-assessment and reflection acknowledges and honors those traditions. The teachers can take notes during or later, if necessary, for summative assessment and reporting. This allows space for student written self-reflection, but written and oral reflection will carry the same weight in assessment.

Learning Resources:

- Musqueam Kit
- Perpetual Salish – UVic
- Salish Weave Collection
- www.fnesc.ca
- Heart/Mind Coast Salish Principles of Learning
- Gilbert, Jim and Karin Clark, Learning by Designing, volumes 1 and 2
- Gilbert, Jim and Karin Clark, Learning by Doing Northwest Coast Native Indian Art Stanley, Robert Sr., Northwest Native Arts, Basic Forms
- Stanley, Robert Sr., Northwest Native Arts, Creative Colors, book 1 and 2
- Resilience Art Cards sets
- Indigenous Plant Card sets
- Classroom library essential: Bill Reid, Robert Davidson, Susan Point, Debrah Sparrow, Roy Henry Vickers, etc.
- Assorted videos
- VSB Indigenous Education lending library
- Access to internet for student inquiry

***this list is a starting point and is not exhaustive!**

Additional Information:

Access to artwork outside the classroom would enhance student engagement and interest in creating artwork:

- Artist Circle with community artists
- Host Nations' Heritage Centres
- Provincial, Regional and local Museums
- Museum of Anthropology
- Vancouver Art Gallery (youth under 18), also have learning resources from prior shows
- Bill Reid Gallery
- Camosun Bog walk
- Stanely Park
- Community and land based art work
- Computer(s) and access to internet for student inquiry

BIG IDEAS

First Nations Art is based on place, **land**, oral histories, knowledge, and community connections. The artist's intention is to transform **materials** into art to reflect traditional **cultural expression.**	Indigenous traditions, perspectives, worldviews, and stories can be shared through **aesthetic experiences**.	Growth as an artist and as a **storyteller** requires time, patience and reflection.	The creation of **personal and culturally significant** visual arts relies on the interplay of the body and mind.	Visual arts offer a unique way of exploring one's **identity and sense of belonging**.

Learning Standards

Curricular Competencies

Students are expected to do the following:

Explore and create

- Create artistic works that reflect **traditional histories**, imagination and inquiry
- Explore artistic possibilities and take **creative risks**
- Create artistic works with an audience in mind
- Express meaning, intent, morals, values, beliefs and traditions through visual arts
- Develop and refine artistic skills, reflecting **historical cultural traditions**
- Demonstrate safe and **responsible use of materials**, tools, and work space

Reason and reflect

- Describe and analyze how artists use materials, technologies, processes, and **environments** in art making, both in historical and in contemporary times
- Recognize and evaluate design choices in artistic creations, as a reflection of historical perspective and a contemporary perspective
- Develop personal answers to **aesthetic questions,** historically and contemporarily

Content

Students are expected to know the following:

- Identify the **shapes and motifs** specific to the cultural context of Indigenous culture being explored
- Identify the **materials, techniques, and technologies traditionally used** to make Indigenous art forms
- How the materials, techniques, and technologies traditionally were used to make Indigenous art forms
- Understand that traditionally First Nations artists are trained in **community** by family or by knowledge keepers, people with lived experiences
- Understand the **creative process as a reflection of the morals, values, beliefs, and traditions** within culture
- **Symbols and metaphors** are used to represent the moral, values, beliefs, and traditions within Indigenous cultures

	• Role of the artist as **story teller** of **traditional histories** • Role of the **audience** as receiver of traditional histories • Understand that creating art forms that reflect personal Indigenous identity helps to shape a better understanding of self and one's identity within the modern world

• Reflect on the influences of a **variety of contexts** on artistic works • Know that not all Indigenous students and Indigenous artists have access to traditional knowledge from their own communities due to the impacts of colonization. Explore (re)connections and (re)membering Indigenous identities. **Communicate and document** • **Document**, share, and appreciate works of art in a variety of contexts • Demonstrate respect for self, others, and **place** • Communicate ideas and historical culture through art making • Communicate and **respond** to **social and environmental issues** **Connect and expand** • Explore First Peoples perspectives and knowledge, other **ways of knowing**, and local cultural knowledge through artistic works • Create artistic works that demonstrate personal, cultural, and historical contexts	• Understand visual arts supports relearning **lost traditions, nations' members have been amidst various becoming or (re)membering due to impacts of colonialism, and displacement coming out of residential schools.** • Identify traditional, innovative, and inter-cultural artists • Understand how Indigenous art making develops modern cultural meaning • Ethics of **cultural appropriation** and plagiarism • Traditional and contemporary First Peoples worldviews, stories, and history as expressed through visual arts • Artists use images to convey messages that reflect historical and current social structures, and use art to comment, dissect or criticize

Big Ideas – Elaborations

- **land**: land means more than property– it encompasses culture, relationships, ecosystems, social systems, spirituality, and law. For many Indigenous people, land means the earth, the water, the air, and all that live within these ecosystems.
- **community**: a group of people with a historical continuity and connection to a particular territory before colonization, and who maintain their distinct cultural, social, and political identity.
- **materials:** the broad spectrum of materials, technologies and processes is open-ended and constantly evolving, and materials chosen will reflect the Indigenous culture chosen by the student to explore.
- **cultural expression:** is vast, in that it may be different for each student, depending on cultural heritage and on the culture with which a student may identify.
- **aesthetic experiences:** emotional and cognitive responses to creating and viewing traditional and culturally significant works of art.
- **storyteller:** within cultures with old and/or oral traditions, visual arts can take the place of the written word to tell stories.
- **traditional histories:** reflection of morals, values, beliefs and traditions within an Indigenous culture.
- **personally and culturally significant:** a culture with which a student has a personal or historical connections.

Curricular Competencies – Elaborations

- **traditional histories:** emotional connection through identifying with traditional shapes and motifs, to inform others of the morals, values, beliefs, and traditions of an Indigenous culture.
- **creative risks:** make an informed choice to do something where unexpected outcomes are acceptable and serve as learning opportunities.
- **historical cultural traditions:** works of art that share common visual characteristics can be described as belonging to the same Indigenous culture.
- **responsible use of materials:** using materials in an environmentally responsible way, considering their level of biodegradability and potential for reuse and recycling.
- **environments:** place-based influences on the creation of artistic work; art related to or created for a specific place.
- **aesthetic questions:** questions relating to the nature, expression, and perception of artistic works.
- **variety of contexts:** for example, personal, social, cultural, environmental, and historical contexts.
- **document:** through activities that help students reflect on and demonstrate their learning (e.g., writing an essay or article, journaling, taking pictures, storyboarding, making video clips or audio-recordings, constructing new works, compiling a portfolio).
- **place:** any environment, locality, or context with which people interact to learn, create memory, reflect on history, connect with culture, and establish identity. The connection between people and place is foundational to First Peoples perspectives on the world.
- **respond:** through activities ranging from reflection to action.
- **social and environmental issues:** locally, regionally, nationally, and/or globally.
- **ways of knowing:** First Nations, Métis and Inuit, gender-related, subject/discipline-specific, cultural, embodied, intuitive.

Content – Elaborations

- **shapes and motifs:** not in a western art context, but reflective of the Indigenous culture in a historical context. In traditional Northwest Coast Indigenous, for example, art forms use the basic motifs of formline, ovoid, trigon, crescent, and circle.
- **materials, techniques, and technologies traditionally used:** used by the creators of artwork in a historical context, not what we would use today. The tools discussed will vary depending on the culture(s) students wish to complete an inquiry on; this could be wood, fabric, cedar for weaving, soapstone, shell, etc. and the tools originally used to change the raw materials to artwork with cultural meaning.
- **creative process as a reflection of the moral, values, beliefs, and traditions:** artwork created to reflect the stories, histories, and religion of the Indigenous culture being explored. In this course the focus is on the visual arts, but students may, through their want to include dance, drama, and/or music as part of their projects, including multiple processes in their exploration, selection, combination, refinement, reflection, and connection with the culture chosen.
- **symbols and metaphors:** symbols are any motif, shape or image that has meaning, while metaphors are the meaning that develops when more than one symbol is juxtaposed.
- **storyteller:** within cultures with old and/or oral traditions, visual arts can take the place of the written word to tell stories.
- **traditional histories:** identifying traditional shapes and motifs, to inform others of the morals, values, beliefs, and traditions of an Indigenous culture.
- **audience:** within cultures with old and/or oral traditions, audience learn or are reminded of the stories that give meaning.
- **lost traditions:** old and/or traditions lost through colonization and the development of a narrow understanding of art as a Western Eurocentric perspective.
- **cultural appropriation:** use of a cultural motif, theme, “voice”, image, knowledge, story, song, or drama shared without permission or without appropriate context or in a way that may misrepresent the real experience of the people from whose culture it is drawn.

Vancouver School Board

ITEM 8.1

LIAISON TRUSTEE REPORT

Name of Committee/Organization: City of Vancouver Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee

Liaison Trustee: Suzie Mah

Date of Meeting: September 25th, 2025

Topics Discussed Most Relevant to the VSB: Childcare, Youth Mental Health Awareness Day

Committee / Organization Actions:

Two motions were passed by the committee.

1. To ask the CoV's Women's Advisory committee to come to the next meeting to present an update on their work related to childcare and to explore opportunities for collaboration.
2. To request City Council to commit to having a day set aside every year to focus on youth mental health and a request for councillors to ask staff to develop a campaign that would include activities to support youth mental health.

Vancouver School Board

ITEM 8.1

LIAISON TRUSTEE REPORT

Name of Committee/Organization: Older Persons Advisory Committee (CoV)

Liaison Trustee: Jennifer Reddy

Date of Meeting: June 27th, 2025

Topics Discussed Most Relevant to the VSB:

BC Senior's Advocate (65+) presentation - senior's issues affecting all areas of public life including housing, transportation, health, extreme heat, staying mobile, and aging in place. Challenges in income/affordability, housing, inadequate publicly funded home support (40,000 waiting), waitlists for long-term care/assisted living, ageism.

Committee / Organization Actions:

Issues affecting grandparents who are caring for 0-18 year old kids (e.g. strong start), youth taking care of parents/grandparents, and seniors programming that connects with intergenerational families.

Vancouver School Board

ITEM 8.3

LIAISON TRUSTEE REPORT

Name of Committee/Organization: City of Vancouver Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee

Liaison Trustee: Janet Fraser

Date of Meeting: September 22nd, 2025

Topics Discussed Most Relevant to the VSB:
Committee / Organization Actions:

The Committee approved by consensus a motion with respect to the Update on the Zoning and Development By-law Amendments for Development Permit:

THAT the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee supports, in principle, the Vancouver City staff presentation on the proposed Zoning and Development By-law amendments and Development Permit (DP) term extension for Temporary Modular Housing (TMH), as presented at its meeting on September 22nd, 2025, provided the following considerations are addressed:

1. Prioritizing of safety and wellness within TMH communities, with particular attention to preventing and proactively responding to the risks associated with human trafficking;

2. Strengthening access to mental health and substance use supports within and nearby TMH sites, including Indigenous-led and trauma- and violence-informed services;

3. Advancing Indigenous-specific housing solutions, with an emphasis on housing designed by and for Indigenous Peoples, including women, girls, and Two-Spirit Peoples;

4. Implementing a long-term evaluation and accountability framework that incorporates Indigenous-specific indicators and outcomes, developed in partnership with Indigenous TMH residents, Elders, Knowledge Holders, housing providers, and community organizations; and

5. Ensuring ongoing engagement with TMH residents, particularly Indigenous Peoples, to guide future improvements and policy decisions related to modular and permanent housing solutions.

A committee member announced that Vancity Reign will host the 2026 Junior All Native Basketball Tournament, and they are currently seeking support with securing additional gym spaces in Vancouver.