SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51 (BOUNDARY)

Open Meeting of the Board of Education
October 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present:	S. Hall	Chair
	R. Zitko	Vice Chair
	B. Bird	Trustee
	L. Van Marck	Trustee
	M. Danyluk	Trustee
	K. Jepsen	Trustee
	J. Massey	Trustee
	A. Davidson	Superintendent
	I. Zare	Secretary-Treasurer

Absent: Nil

Acknowledgement of the Indigenous peoples and ancestors.

Adoption of Agenda

MOVED/SECONDED

"That the Agenda for October 27, 2026, be adopted as presented."

CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes

MOVED/SECONDED

"That the September 22, 2026, Regular Board Meeting minutes be adopted as presented."

CARRIED

Recognition, Presentation and Delegations

- West Boundary Elementary School (WBES)– Developing Our School Growth Plan presented Nick Bond and Celia Brower. Sharing the growth plan story. When you're at a school for a long period, you develop different items to focus on over the years. When WBES team looked at data in 2022- Literacy emerged as the greatest area of need. From this data review, they made some large changes in 2023 to address these numbers and pivoted them from writing to reading. Looked at the science behind reading instruction. Looked for a balance and programs which UFLI mostly early learning focus and had large buy in from teachers. Used Secret Stories to supplement these learning. No more Levelled Readers and focused on skills and what needed to be worked on. Focused on patterns and started working in small groups which is important for inclusion and normalize break out groups and support groups. Groups became not only for students that need extra support but everyone. The trends are

showing that this approach is working. The love of reading is big focus, but science is used to support these changes. Take aways – Consistency and daily bases plus common language and evidence-based practice. Now pivoting to Mathematics because it is on par with other schools. Trying to go to fundamentals approach and looking for a program that can help develop students in Numeracy. When kids get to school, looking for rhythm and reptation for students to help be successful learners. Student Voice is on a steady increase. Goal is that every student sees themselves as capable mathematicians. Team support from all the teachers. Staff are trying new things and support each other with feedback loops to make it better. All events are reflected on and scheduled and planned at the beginning of the year.

10-Minute Comment Period for Rightsholder and Partners

Janine Frsaser – reflected on previous discussions regarding the implementation of new K-3 screening assessments, emphasizing the need for adequate resources and release time to support the wellbeing of both teachers and students. She expressed appreciation to My Home School West Boundary for its presentation on explicit instruction and its emphasis on balancing effective literacy practices with student engagement and joy in learning. Drawing connections to recent professional learning with literacy expert Adrian Gear, Janine highlighted the importance of balancing decoding, comprehension, and fostering a love of reading, while also commending the school's focus on mentorship, intervention, and meeting student needs. She welcomed and congratulated both returning and newly elected trustees, acknowledging the challenges of the role and thanking them for their commitment to students and staff. Janine noted her appreciation for the board's collaborative and respectful approach during a time of changing government priorities and funding uncertainties. She also expressed support for Policy 124 (Trustee Code of Conduct), particularly the board's annual reaffirmation of its commitment, and praised the board's focus on student achievement, equity, and wellbeing. Janine emphasized the connection between teacher and student wellness and recognized ongoing district efforts to promote wellbeing through consultation and regular district meetings. She further commended the board's commitment to advocating for high-quality public education and encouraged trustees to continue representing the needs and perspectives of Boundary students and staff to government decisionmakers. Janine concluded by thanking all trustees for their service and dedication, with special recognition for those completing their terms and their valuable contributions to School District 51.

Strategic Plan Update

- Superintendent Davidson presented the Strategic Plan Update that has a strategic commitment to create learning environments where every student experiences a sense of belonging, is valued for their unique identity and strengths, and has equitable access to opportunities for success.
- School Trustee – Student Trustees – GFSS: Emma Irwin & Isys Simard – The Student Trustee reported that school sports are underway, with both boys' and girls' volleyball teams participating in recent games. Several clubs have begun meeting, including the Global Citizenship Club, which has been organizing fundraisers and a bake sale. The club also coordinated the school's student vote, in which students selected the NDP candidate. The art class continues its school beautification project by painting classroom doors with subject-themed designs. Preparations are underway for the drama production *The Sound of Murder*, supported by fundraising efforts, while extracurricular activities such as archery continue after school. Student Council is also organizing the school's Halloween costume contest, including judging and prize distribution.
- BCSS: Kaela Colin & Montana – The Student Trustees reported on a variety of BCSS activities, including Halloween Week events, Roadrunner Club activities, preparations for the Remembrance Day show

choir performance, outdoor learning opportunities at Wilgress Lake Community Forest, and rehearsals for *Little Women: The Musical*. Updates were also provided on athletics, student engagement in the recent provincial election student vote, the Textiles Club thrift store fundraiser, the adoption of a new student-designed school logo, and Youth Advisory Council discussions focused on school improvements and enhancing the student experience.

Business Items

1. **Committee Reports**

POLICY

- Policy 124 – Trustee Code of conduct

MOVED/SECONDED

MOTION: "That the Board of Education adopts the Policy 124 as presented"

CARRIED

2. **Board Chair Report**
   - Annual Board Work Plan – this is to be updated and presented at Novembers meeting.
   - Board Chair Hall provided an update highlighting As Board Chair and trustee, she is deeply grateful for the opportunity to have served alongside such dedicated colleagues, staff, and community members. This term has been a rewarding journey of learning, collaboration, and shared commitment to student success. She extends her sincere congratulations to newly elected trustees Katie, Liddie, and James, and thank all candidates who participated in the democratic process. She also acknowledge returning trustees Rose, Mark, and Katie for providing continuity and leadership, and offer heartfelt thanks to Larisa, Bronwen, and Jamie for their dedicated service and contributions throughout their terms. She would also like to recognize the School Board Office teams, past and present, whose professionalism and support have been invaluable to the Board's work. As her term comes to a close, she leave with immense gratitude for the trust placed in her and confidence that the Board will continue building on a strong foundation in service of students, families, and communities.

3. **Senior Management Reports**

- Superintendent Davidson presented report **Key Highlights such as:**
  - Continued school visits and leadership learning focused on school growth plans, evidence of student learning, instructional leadership, and building leadership capacity to support student achievement and well-being.
  - Significant progress was made toward establishing the **Boundary Indigenous Education Council (BIEC)** through collaboration with Indigenous partners, development of Terms of Reference, and ongoing relationship-building activities.
  - District leadership focused on staff wellness and organizational culture, using Guarding Minds at Work survey results to identify strengths and areas for growth related to communication, trust, employee voice, and workload management.
  - Community engagement remained a priority through partnerships with Indigenous organizations, community agencies, parent groups, educational partners, and regional leaders to support student success and well-being.
- The Superintendent reported continued progress on the District's Strategic Directions through ongoing school visits, leadership development, and community engagement activities. Work toward establishing the Boundary Indigenous Education Council advanced through collaboration with Indigenous partners and development of governance structures. School growth planning

discussions highlighted strategies to strengthen student engagement, achievement, and agency, while district leadership learning emphasized the importance of high-quality teaching and leadership in improving student outcomes. District leaders also focused on staff wellness, organizational culture, and relational leadership, informed by Guarding Minds at Work survey results and Compassionate Systems Leadership training. Community partnerships continued to strengthen through engagement with Indigenous communities, family service organizations, parent groups, and educational partners, supporting responsive programming and positive outcomes for students across the district.

- Superintendent Allen, commented on the Upcoming School Events: Previously, there was a principal in the district that would scour the schools for events. Going to work on a plan to give trustees an opportunity to know how they can see what is coming up and how they can participate. PAC meetings can be used to bring information forward. Principal reports could be used to gather information to provide this information.
- Secretary Treasurer Zare presented an update on school Cash online – training of the staff and creating forms which will go live on November 3, 2026,
    - Government Reporting Entity (GRE) – every quarter needs this information submitted and one transition Zare made was to ensure that processes are transparent and consistent with use of the data,
    - Banking Transition – services like commercial card, tax payment and filing services, Cheque pro for electronic cheque deposits, and Business document solutions with cheque issuance, printing and distribution.
    - Budget Ownership and Monthly Reporting – showing ownership across departments and programs, including targeted funding – large sum needs to be spent through different departments so there is no surplus that could be taken back. Bringing more transparent budget so everyone is aware of our funds. Trying to affordability funds that can be allotted in the budget.
    - Classroom Enhancement Funding (CEF) submission – due mid-October, PVP played large roll in getting this data. Put the numbers of teachers needed and awaiting approval from the Government. Trustee Hall thanked Zare for showing them behind the scenes.
    - Secretary Treasurer Zare discussed enrollment update and highlighted trends. This was reported through 1701 submission. Indicates the allocation of 1,207.25FTE which shows a decrease in 8.50FTE from the Budget. With these submissions, it shows that there has been higher ELL and special needs. Enrollment across other districts has shown steady decline like SD51. Trustees would like to see individual school details.
    - Director of Operations Reid discussed the Long Rand Facility Plan Update that introduced the process with engaging a third party to provide an unbiased evaluation of space utilization, building performance, operational efficiency, future capacity requirements, regulatory and code compliance. When first started this process, looked to the Board and Secretary Treasure for guidance on what type of engagement we wanted from third party. Need to focus on student needs in the future with aging facilities. Functional efficiencies and every district are fighting for same pot of money so need to spend money wisely to maximize outcome. ThinkSpace has collected and reviewed the student number information both current and historical, the facility condition index numbers, school capacities both operational and nominal, and geographical locations. This will give us better data to make decisions about facilities.

4. Trustee Reports

- BCSTA Provincial Council – n/a
- Recreation Commission – n/a

- Boundary Integrated Services Model (BISM) – next meeting Nov 2, 2026
- BCSTA Kootenay Boundary Branch – n/a
- BCPSEA – additional general meeting
- PAC Highlights – Trustee Van Marck provided written reports – First Pow Wow was held at Perley on Oct 2 and 3, 3rd annual Harvest Fest on Oct 22, Halloween costume parade on Oct 29 – funding request from Marcie Carney for Lego league were approved by Hutton PAC. Roots and empathy will go ahead this year. Next fundraiser is Smelly Pencils. Hutton PAC is applying for BINGO license again and waiting approval from SBO office. Perley PAC – Hosted the Pow Wow. Perley received a large flower bulb grant (400 bulbs) from "Bulbs for Kids" and students will be planting them in the Re-Wild area on Oct 15th. Early Winter Market is set for November 14th. Gaming grant funds have been received and deposited for 2026/27 school year. Submission from Marcie Carney for Perley PAC was voted on and approved. West Boundary – Wilgress trip and community forest sponsored the bus trip, bike ride, skating started, Halloween celebrations. Beaverdell did bottle drive for fundraiser and had field trip to Kelowna.
- Okanagan Labor Relations Council – AGM and board of directors – 4th year of strategic plan completed and new one in place. Looking to communicate with new Trustee's and training online. Reviewing some policies for surveillance and GPS systems. Meet and greet at symposium. 256 investigations happened this year.
- Rural and Remote – Trustee – n/a
- DPAC – next meeting in January

Trustee Activities and Upcoming Events

- BCSTA Trustee Academy – November 26-28, 2026
- BCPSEA Symposium – November 30 – December 1, 2026
- BCPSEA AGM – February 5, 2027 (virtual)
- BCSTA Provincial Council – February 19, 2027
- BCSTA Provincial Council – February 19, 2027
- BCSTA AGM – April 15-17, 2027
- BCSTA Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM – TBA

Future Agenda Items

- Catchment Areas
- Strategic Plan
- Final Long Range Facilities Plan

Question Period

- Questions asked if there was data to be found specific to the Boundary from the McQueary Report the October 27, 2026 Regular Agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20p.m.

ORIGINAL SIGNATURES ON FILE

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Chairperson

ORIGINAL SIGNATURES ON FILE

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Secretary-Treasurer