

MEDIA RELEASE
June 23, 2025

Superintendent Retirement



School District No. 51 (Boundary) Superintendent, Anna Lautard, has announced her retirement.

After over 30 years working in SD 51 as a teacher, vice principal, principal, Director of Instruction and finally, Superintendent, Anna will retire in July 2026.

Anna became Acting Superintendent in January 2021 and was then appointed by the Board in full capacity as Superintendent on July 1, 2022.

As Acting Superintendent, Anna led SD 51 through the second phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting safe in-person learning for staff and students during a time of great uncertainty. Anna then began the work of operationalizing SD 51's new five-year strategic plan. She influenced data-informed initiatives in literacy, numeracy and social-emotional learning and was instrumental in the formation of the District Youth Advisory Council, bringing student voice to all aspects of school district operations.

Anna also supported the Board through a major policy revision project and development of the District's first ever long-range facility plan.

As an educator and leader, Anna fosters both agency and innovation. She asks hard questions and prioritizes accountability at all levels and is committed to the success of all learners. Her dedication to Indigenous Education and guiding the District to understanding its role in Truth and Reconciliation has been critical.

On behalf of the Board, I want to thank Anna for her dedication to the staff and students of the Boundary. We are so grateful for Anna's commitment to a growth mindset and continuing her personal and professional development throughout her career. She truly embraced our beliefs that everyone has something to contribute and that mistakes are opportunities to learn.

As a result of this retirement, the Board of Education is pleased to share that educational consultant, Anne Cooper, has been engaged to support the Board in the selection of a new Superintendent.

Mrs. Cooper is a former superintendent of School District No. 19 (Revelstoke) and School District No. 81 (Fort Nelson) and has extensive experience in school district leadership, recruitment, and Board governance. Most recently, Anne has supported the Board with the successful completion of the policy renovation project. Anne will assist the Board with a comprehensive recruitment and selection process designed to identify the candidate whose skills and experiences will be best suited to the district's needs going forward.

Working with the consultant, the Board is establishing a recruitment plan that will feature meaningful input from staff and partners to assist in the development of a candidate profile. The recruitment plan will be finalized in the early fall and it is the Board's hope that, barring any unforeseen circumstances, the successful candidates will be announced in February with an anticipated start date of August 1, 2026.

For further information, please contact: Rose Zitko, Chair of the Board