

Committee Report of Resources Committee Meeting of April 8, 2025 School Board Office

Present: Amanda Dowhy, Acting Chair
Christine Lervold, (Committee Member) Online via MS Teams
Russ Chipps, Trustee (Committee Member) Online via MS Teams
Paul Block, Superintendent
Brian Jonker, Secretary-Treasurer
Monica Braniff, Deputy Superintendent
Ed Berlando, STA
Trudy Court, CUPE
Tom Davis, SPEAC
Corinne Kosik, SPVPA
Mhairi Bennett, Director, Facilities
Nicole Gestwa, Network Analyst, Digital Solutions
David Lee-Bonar, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Regrets: Allison Watson, Committee Chair

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIRST NATIONS TERRITORIES:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by the Acting Committee Chair, who acknowledged that we are honoured to be meeting on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish, specifically Esquimalt Nation, Songhees Nation and acknowledge the three nation SD 62 works with directly in our schools; Scia'new Nation, Coast Salish, and T'Sou-ke Nation; including the West Coast Pacheedaht Nation Nuu-chah-nulth. (words gifted by the three Nations SD62 works with)

The Chair provided instruction to Trustees and attendees joining virtually on how to participate.

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board of Education of Sooke School District 62 (Sooke) received the Resources Committee Report dated March 5, 2025, at its Public Board Meeting dated March 11, 2025.

2. PRESENTATIONS – no presentations

3. BUSINESS



4.1 Resources Committee Work Plan April to June – Brian Jonker

The Secretary Treasurer provided an overview of the changes to the Resources Committee work plan highlighting the document is living and updates will be made to reflect point in time information and updates.

4.2 Major Capital Response Letter Info Note – Brian Jonker

The response letter from the Ministry of Infrastructure received March 25, 2025 was presented. No new major capital projects were supported. A summary of the projects in development was verbally relayed with continued work with the Province underway.

Sooke PAC has been informed of the Sooke Elementary seismic project deferral decision, Paul and Brian will be looking to meet with Sooke Elementary PAC to discuss further. Discussion ensued regarding the potential impact of tariffs on capital projects. Staff confirmed that they are working with the Ministry of Infrastructure on this issue and that the Province is alive to the potential challenges.

4.3 Minor Capital Response Letter Info Note –Mhairi Bennett

The response letter from the Ministry of Infrastructure received March 25, 2025 was presented. Details of the funding provided and associated projects was discussed.

Discussion ensued regarding opportunities for district staff to complete some of the work, as well as opportunities to upskill internal teams. In addition, discussion on opportunities to engage students interested in the trades to be part of the projects. Staff confirmed student participation this past year through the WEX programs with confirmation that both staff and students valued this initiative. Staff confirmed that where possible, work is completed with internal staff and that many projects are completed by contractors.

The Committee supported the following motions going forward to the Board:

Motion Requested: That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) allow all three readings of the Capital Plan Bylaw 2025/26-CPSD62-01 at its meeting of April 22, 2025.

Motion Requested: That the Board of Education of School District 62 (Sooke) give first, second and third readings of the Capital Plan Bylaw 2025/26-CPSD62-01.

4.4 Budget 2025/26 Update – David Lee-Bonar

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer provided an update on the budget development for 2025/26, now that annual budget instructions and the estimated operating grant allocation has been provided by the Ministry.



Staff confirmed that the process for providing further input into the budget development process would be through the budget survey and Education Committee of the Whole (ECOW) meeting on April 29, 2025. Staff confirmed that a draft version of the Strategic Plan will be shared with stakeholders in confidence while the ongoing work to confirm the territorial acknowledgement is underway with Malahat Nation.

4. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE: May 13, 2025

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

