

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 52 (PRINCE RUPERT)**

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR OPEN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MEETING HELD IN THE BOOTH MEETING ROOM**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.**

Trustees Present: J. Beil, J. Horne, K. Toye, D. Dalton, L. Sanchez, K. Maier

Staff Present: A. Samoil, B. Verissimo, T. Dickens, K. MacIlroy, L. Burger, C. Rourke, A. Lihou

Regrets:

Chair Toye acknowledged that the meeting is being held on traditional Ts'msyen territory. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

**Motion 20260421-1.0**

Sanchez "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Dalton (Prince Rupert) that the Agenda is approved as presented."

**Carried**

**2. Presentation**

The Superintendent, Andrew Samoil introduced Nicole Boutin, Kate Lyon & Erin Trask to present on Literacy.

There has been a shift in literacy practices and how to teach reading. Children enter school with different literacy experiences and needs. Early screening gives educators an efficient way to understand those needs, plan effective instruction for the whole class and ensure students who need extra support can get help sooner, before they fall behind.

Universal screening is being implemented in BC and should be ready for use in 2027. The Ministry has committed to shift instruction to align with evidence. The Ministry released the K-4 Foundational English Language Arts Learning Progressions guidance tool.

Recent highlights in our District have included Kindergarten & Grade 1 screening, Acadience Training, Monthly newsletter, Beginning/middle of year screening, January pro-d session.

Dr. Una Malcolm will provide a full day of literacy learning on our upcoming Pro-D day.

The Ontario Right to Read Inquiry report states "Investment in early reading significantly reduces the social and economic costs of low literacy to the individual, their family and society as whole. It also improves equity outcomes."

Trustees thanked them for the presentation and can see the many benefits for students. Trustees could see how engaged students were in this learning as well as the pride radiating from them.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the**

3.1 Open Board Meeting held March 10, 2026

**Motion 20260421-3.1**

Sanchez "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Horne (Prince Rupert) that the minutes of the open Board meeting held  
March 10, 2026 be approved as presented".

**Carried**

3.2 Special Open Board Meeting held March 25, 2026

**Motion 20260421-3.2**

Beil "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Horne (Prince Rupert) that the minutes of the open Board meeting held  
March 25, 2026 be approved as presented".

**Carried**

4. **Necessity of Closed Meetings and Agenda**

- 4.1 Approval of Agenda
- 4.2 Approval of Minutes of the In-Camera Meeting held March 10, 2026.
- 4.3 Human Resources Report
- 4.4 Secretary-Treasurer's Report
- 4.5 Other
- 4.6 Legal Items
- 4.7 Information Items
- 4.8 Old Business
- 4.9 Items for Release

**Motion 20260421-4.0**

Horne "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Sanchez (Prince Rupert) that the closed meeting be held and that agenda  
items 1 through 9 be approved."

**Carried**

5. **Correspondence**

- 5.1 Addressed to the Board  
None
- 5.2 Copied to the Board  
None

6. **Superintendent of Schools Report**

- 6.1 For Board Information:
  - 6.1.1 Enrolment  
The Director of Instruction, Carla Rourke reported enrolment is 1775 on  
March 31, 2026.
    - 6.1.1.1 Enrolment graph  
Review of graph and trends.
  - 6.1.2 Upcoming Projects/Learning/Other  
Superintendent Samoil shared that:  
Conrad Div. 7 students welcomed their Roosevelt pen pals on April 10<sup>th</sup>.  
Other field trips around the district have included spending the day at  
Butze Rapids, visiting Acropolis manor, and PRMS band trip to Terrace at  
the Pacific Northwest Music Festival.  
On May 10-14<sup>th</sup>, ten students and three staff from PCS are going to  
attend the Indspire – Soaring Indigenous Empowerment conference in  
Halifax. This is a very positive event full of Indigenous leaders, inspiration,  
musical guests and access to a wide range of opportunities. This trip was  
fully funded by Indspire. For some students this will be the first time on a

plane and staff is helping students prepare in advance for this travel. Last week, grade 10-12 Student Learning Surveys & Core Competency Self-Assessments were completed. The Provincial Student Learning Survey collects valuable feedback from students, parents/guardians, and school staff on school environment, safety, and achievement. The results help guide school, district, and provincial planning. Grade 4 students will also complete Student Learning Surveys.

This week, Provincial assessments for Numeracy 10, Literacy 10 and any missing grade 12 assessments are being completed.

Earlier this month, Specialized Science had the opportunity to join James and Harvey Russel with Oots'n Reconnection for the experience of fishing, throwing crab pots, and observing the herring spawn.

Spring sports are off to a start despite the snowy field conditions in which the season began. CHSS will be fielding Girls Soccer, Track and Field, and Girls and Boys Rugby, and Golf.

This week Student-Led conferences and scholastic book fairs are going on at all elementary schools.

The Git Waas Drumming Group has visited all elementary schools. They have been performing in the gyms for the entire schools.

CHSS grade 12 students have working on Scholarship and Bursary applications and long forms have been handed out for these students to complete the Commencement Eligibility Checklist.

Wednesday, April 22 is Earth Day.

There is a Community Framework meeting on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Booth, 3:30 pm.

#### **Early Learning & Child Care:**

Ready Set Connect (formerly known as Ready Set Learn) will take place at the end of April at 2 elementary schools. École Roosevelt Elementary School on April 28th and Lax Kxeen Elementary School on April 30th. The format has changed to include 2 sessions rather than 5 sessions with the goal of increasing participation of families with three & four (3&4) year-olds. There will be more exploration stations available which will include yoga with Mandy Lawson. Port Edward Child Care Program is progressing along with obtaining a license to operate and final approval from the District of Port Edward to complete a minor renovation in the classroom. Scheduled opening is set for September 1st, 2026. The program will accommodate 18 children aged 30 months to 5 years.

## **7. Secretary Treasurer's Report**

### **7.1 Statement of Operations March 2026**

The Acting Secretary-Treasurer presented the Statement of Operations March 2026 report and answered questions from Trustees. Review of variances. Labour settlement was paid out in March, and this was retroactive. We will receive the funding for this but have not yet.

### **7.2 2026-27 Annual Budget**

The Acting Secretary-Treasurer presented the 2026-27 Annual Budget and answered questions from Trustees. Preliminary budget projection is a deficit of \$786,712. We are

unsure at this time if the Ministry will fund the labour settlement changes, but we are hopeful. Review of unrestricted surplus.

7.3 2026/27 Minor Capital Bylaw

**CAPITAL BYLAW NO. 2026/27-CPSD52-01  
CAPITAL PLAN 2026/27**

WHEREAS in accordance with section 142 of the School Act, the Board of Education of School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert) (hereinafter called the "Board") has submitted a capital plan to the Minister of Education (hereinafter called the "Minister") and the Minister has approved the capital plan or has approved a capital plan with modifications,

NOW THEREFORE in accordance with section 143 of the School Act, the Board has prepared this Capital Bylaw and agrees to do the following:

(a) Authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to execute a capital project funding agreement(s) related to the capital project(s) contemplated by the capital plan or the capital plan with modifications.

(b) Upon ministerial approval to proceed, commence the capital project(s) and proceed diligently and use its best efforts to complete each capital project substantially as directed by the Minister;

(c) Observe and comply with any order, regulation, or policy of the Minister as may be applicable to the Board or the capital project(s); and,

(d) Maintain proper books of account, and other information and documents with respect to the affairs of the capital project(s), as may be prescribed by the Minister.

NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

1. The Capital Bylaw of the Board for the 2026/27 Capital Plan as approved by the Minister, to include the supported capital project(s) specified in the letter addressed to the Secretary-Treasurer and Superintendent, dated March 27, 2026, is hereby adopted.

2. This Capital Bylaw may be cited as School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert) Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27-CPSD52-01.

**Motion 20260421-7.3a**

Maier "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Horne (Prince Rupert) that all three readings of the Capital Bylaw No.  
2026/27 – CPSD52-01 be read the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2026."

**Carried**

**Motion 20260421-7.3b**

Maier "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Horne (Prince Rupert) that Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27 – CPSD52-01 be  
read a first time the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2026."

**Carried**

**Motion 20260421-7.3c**

Maier "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Horne (Prince Rupert) that Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27 – CPSD52-01 be read a second time the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2026."

**Carried**

**Motion 20260421-7.3d**

Maier "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Sanchez (Prince Rupert) that Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27 – CPSD52-01 be read a third time, passed and adopted the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2026."

**Carried**

7.4 2026/27 Annual Facilities Grant Proposed Spending

**Motion 20260310-7.4**

Maier "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Sanchez (Prince Rupert) that the Annual Facilities Grant Proposed spending for 2026-27 be approved as presented."

**Carried**

7.5 March 2026 Operations Department Report  
The Acting Secretary-Treasurer presented the report and answered questions from the Trustees. Discussion about the kitchen completion date.

7.6 March 2026 Information Technology Department Report  
The Acting Secretary-Treasurer presented the report and answered questions from the Trustees.

8. **Committee Reports**

8.1 Finance & Building Committee **(Trustees Beil, Maier, Horne)**

8.2 Framework for Enhancing Student Learning **(Trustees Horne, Toye)**

8.3 Provincial Council **(Trustees Horne, Sanchez)**

8.4 Policy Committee **(Trustees Toye, Maier)**

8.4.1 April 13, 2026, meeting

Trustee Maier presented the minutes of the April 13, 2026, meeting of the Policy Committee and answered questions from Trustees.

8.4.2 Policies for Approval

8.4.2.1 1440 – Diversity and Inclusion Policy

8.4.2.2 3510 – School Closure Policy

**Motion 20260421-8.4.2**

Maier "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Horne (Prince Rupert) that the policies 1440 – Diversity and Inclusion and 3510 – School Closure Policy be approved as presented."

**Carried**

8.4.3 Policies for Review

8.4.3.1 3210– Energy Conservation and Environmental Stewardship Policy

8.4.3.2 3220 – Building and Grounds Projects Policy

8.4.3.3 3350 – Acceptable Use of Technology Policy

8.4.3.4 1610 – Field Trip Policy

8.4.3.5 1380 – Anaphylaxis Policy

8.4.3.6 1370 – Physical Restraint and Seclusion Policy

**Motion 20260421-8.4.3**

Maier "Be it resolved by the Board of Education of School District No. 52  
Beil (Prince Rupert) that policies 3210, 3220, 3350, 1610, 1380, 1370 be  
deleted and move to regulations."

**Carried**

8.5 District Technology Steering Committee  
Have not met

9. **Old Business**

10. **New Business**

None

11. **Information Items:**

11.1 Professional Development Day, April 24, 2026

Chair Toye noted that the Professional Development Day is on April 24, 2026.

11.2 Professional Development Day, May 15, 2026

Chair Toye noted that the Professional Development Day is on May 15, 2026.

11.3 Victoria Day, May 18, 2026

Chair Toye noted that Victoria Day is on May 18, 2026.

11.4 Board of Education Meeting, May 19, 2026

Chair Toye noted that the Board of Education meeting is on May 19, 2026.

12. **10 Minute Question and Answer Period**

Q: Wondering if cuts of 50.913 to Ind. Funds are related to sm'alygax 9 and First Nations Art 11 not being offered for next year and the elementary class services being cut.

A: This funding was seed money to develop the Indigenous Ed Council. It is only connected to the development of the table.

Q: How is designated student support funding allocated? How much of the funding goes directly to the student and how much to administration?

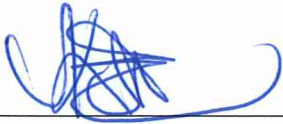
A: Money brought into district and is for students not just to one student. It is allocated based on the needs of the students and will go to specialists such as district school psychologist.

Q: Thank you for the districts continued focus on improving student outcomes. The Enhanced student learning report showed that student outcomes related to literacy are much lower than provincial averages. How is funding being allocated to address these gaps?

A: Tonight was an example of how we are working with teachers to develop their skills and working with students.

13. **Adjournment**

Chair Toye adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.



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Board Chair, Kate Toye



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Superintendent, Andrew Samoil

