



**PACIFIC RIM SCHOOL DISTRICT
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2025, 5:00 p.m.
Administration Office Board Office, Port Alberni**

Pam Craig - Board Chair
Cynthia Orr - Vice Chair
Janis Joseph - Trustee
Larry Ransom - Trustee
Chris Washington - Trustee (via Teams)
Helen Zanette – Trustee
Cherilyn Bray - Trustee
Peter Klaver - Superintendent
Barbara Ross - Secretary Treasurer
James Messenger - Assistant Superintendent
Michell Bennett – Director of Instruction, Inclusive Education
Lynn Brown – Manager of Mental Health
Jessica Gilchrest – Youth Outreach Worker
Nick Seredick – Principal, Eighth Avenue Learning Center
Ryan Dvorak – ADTU President
Nadine White – CUPE President (via Teams)
Paula Mason - Manager of Corporate Services

1. Call to Order/Land Acknowledgement

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Trustee Bray

Seconded by: Trustee Orr

THAT the Board of Education approve the March 11, 2025 Public Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

Carried

3. Conflict of Interest Declaration

There were no conflicts declared.

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Trustee Joseph

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education approve the February 25, 2025 Public Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Carried

5. Announcements of the Chair

6. Good News from the Schools

6.1 School Presentation

Principal Seredick presented an update on the INEO Employment Services program that over 30 students have accessed, enabling them to walk away with a host of certifications and credits preparing them for the workforce. He spoke to the students having better attendance and punctuality, the ability to converse in a group setting, and more success in a collaborative classroom setting. Local organizations such as Wynans Furniture, the Tseshaht Market and potentially Ryan Pike from Nourish Cowichan are working to provide work experience opportunities for students next year. The 2025 graduation ceremony for anywhere between 55-70 graduates, will be held on June 19, 2025 @ Alberni District Secondary School (Doors open @ 5:30pm/Ceremony at 6:00pm).

7. Trustee Statements

Trustee Craig spoke to recent meeting herself and Trustee Zanette had attended, as well as the Ministry of Education and Child Care meetings herself, the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer had attended in Vancouver.

8. Petitions/ Delegations/ Presentations

9. Unfinished Business

10. Staff Reports

10.1 2025/26 Amended Annual Budget (10 minutes)

Moved by: Trustee Orr

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education approve all three readings of the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the March 11, 2025, Public Board Meeting.

Carried

Moved by: Trustee Joseph

Seconded by: Trustee Bray

THAT the Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw as presented.

Carried

Moved by: Trustee Bray

Seconded by: Trustee Zanette

Be it resolved as having been read a first, second and third time as provided for in the bylaw, the Board Chair and the Secretary Treasurer be authorized to execute the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2024/25 on behalf of the Board and that the corporate seal of the Board be affixed thereon.

Carried

10.2 Substance Use and Overdose Safety in BC Schools (20 minutes)

Director Bennett, Manager Brown and Youth Outreach Worker Ms. Gilcrest presented to the Board answering questions from Trustees, such as but not limited to what experts are involved collaboratively. There are nurses, social workers and outreach workers available through YStar, a harm reduction team through USMA, and resources specific to substance abuse through ADAPS.

10.3 Literacy Grant - verbal (10 minutes)

Assistant Superintendent Messenger provided an update to the Board advising that the District has received a professional learning grant in the amount of \$238,867 designed to provide: 1) professional learning for teachers and support staff in the area of evidence-based approaches to literacy development, and 2) literacy information/resources for parents and caregivers. The grant needs to be spent by June 30, 2027, with a spending plan submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care by July 15, 2025.

11. Policy Development

11.1 Policies For Adoption

Moved by: Trustee Zanette

Seconded by: Trustee Orr

THAT the Board of Education adopt the following policies as presented:

Carried

11.1.a 401: Respectful Workplace (P)

11.1.b XXX: Anaphylaxis (P)

11.1.c XXX: Testing Lead in Drinking Water (P)

12. Notice of Motion

13. Correspondence - Action Required

13.1 2025-02-27 ACRD Bylaw P1524 - RF24015 Referral Package

There were no comments.

14. Correspondence - For Information

14.1 Board Motion Tracking

There were no questions.

14.2 2025-03-04 Minister's Letter to Board Chairs

14.3 2025-02-24 City of Port Alberni Council Meeting Summary

15. External Board Committees

16. Internal District Committees

17. Audience Question Period

Staff and Trustees answered questions from the audience related to the budget, an RCMP liaison position in schools, and policies for public consultation. ADTU President Dvorak congratulated staff on the balanced budget and looks forward to next year's budget process - Happy Spring Break!

18. Next Meeting

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm.

Board Chair

Secretary Treasurer