

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 (DELTA)
FEBRUARY 17, 2026

TIME AND PLACE: February 17, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Main Boardroom, School Board Office, 4585 Harvest Drive, Delta

PRESENT: Trustees: J. Muego, Chairperson
A. Dhillon, Vice-Chairperson
E. Beard
M. Gooch
N. Kanakos
V. Windsor

D. Sheppard, Superintendent of Schools
B. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent
J. Gray, Assistant Superintendent
C. Bromley, Director, Information Technology Services
R. Dhiman, Director of Finance
D. Duff, Director of Human Resources
J. Duffin, Secretary-Treasurer
P. Klassen, Director, Learning Services – Inclusive Learning
P. McLoughlin, Director, Facilities & Planning
L. Tait, Director, Learning Services – Equity & Success
C. Tucker, Director of Communications

REGRETS: Trustees: N. Daula

N. Stephenson, Director, Learning Services – Education Programs
K. Symonds, Director, International Student Programs

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Muego called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Chair Muego opened the meeting by addressing the room in the wake of the tragic events that took place in Tumbler Ridge on February 10. He expressed the board's heartbreak at hearing the devastating news while gathered for a working session. He acknowledged that this is the second instance of extreme violence affecting British Columbians in under a year and noted that although this tragedy was not geographically close, it struck close to the work that many of those present in the board meeting have dedicated their lives and careers to. He expressed deep gratitude for the resilience and support shown by school and district staff in supporting students and one another, emphasizing the collective choice to lead with heart and uplift others. Chair Muego also quoted C.S. Lewis stating "Children are not a distraction from more important work, they are the most important work" – and affirmed that children provide hope. He concluded his address with the hope that the tools we provide to students to help them thrive in future, including the values of

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 (DELTA)
FEBRUARY 17, 2026

compassion, kindness and resilience, will reinforce the truth he already knows: that love and humanity always prevail over the damage and hurt of violence.

He then acknowledged the traditional territory of the Tsawwassen First Nation and Musqueam Indian Band and of all the Hun'qumi'num speaking people who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial. He offered his respect to all the Elders who have gone before us and to all Canadians who are on the journey of Reconciliation.

Chairperson Muego introduced the following education partners attending the meeting, and thanked them for their participation:

- Terri Farnden, Principal, Sands & Delta Principals & Vice-Principals Association
- Alison Kerr, President, Delta Teachers' Association
- Kathy Macfarlene 1ST VP, Delta Teachers' Association
- Jessica Van Ryk, Executive Secretary, Delta Teachers' Association
- Natasha Dhaliwal, Social Justice Chair, Delta Teachers' Association
- Daun Frederickson, President, CUPE Local 1091
- Deb Kabesh, Secretary-Treasurer, CUPE Local 1091
- Hannah Johnson, ESW Unit Chair, CUPE Local 1091
- Jennifer Rak, DPAC Vice Chair

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

M/S Trustees Windsor and Beard.

THAT the Agenda be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

EDUCATION PARTNER BUDGET INPUT – 2026/2027

The following education partners provided input to the 2026/2027 budget:

- a. Kathy MacFarlane, DTA
- b. Daun Frederickson, CUPE Local 1091

Chairperson Muego thanked the speakers for their input.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S Trustees Kanakos and Gooch

THAT the Minutes of the Regular meeting of January 6, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 (DELTA)
FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Trustee Kanakos reported the following:

- January 29: Attended the BCSEA AGM to discuss key topics, approved the 2026 budget, and elected trustees from the Northern Interior and Metro regions.
- January 31: Attended the South Delta Minor Hockey Associations fundraiser at Ladner Leisure center.
- February 7: Attended a fundraising game at Sungod arena in North Delta. The focus of NDMHA Fights Cancer 2026 is to raise awareness, education and funds to aid cancer research and patient care.
- February 7: Attended 8th Interfaith Annual dinner at the Baitur Rahman Mosque in Delta. The event was attended by over 150 individuals, the speakers were from from 6 different denominations, and the theme was Love of God and Love of Neighbour.
- February 12: Attended the District Emergency Preparedness meeting and discussed the tragic shooting at Tumbler Ridge - remembering those who lost their lives and those heroic teachers, police officers, fire, ambulance services. who placed their lives on the line to protect students.

Trustee Windsor reported the following:

- January 14: Attended the ELL Consortium Meeting where the main topic of conversation was the change in use of funding for Settlement Worker services.
- January 14: Attended a DYAC Meeting hosted by Burnsvie where the topic of the meeting was AI, including its uses and challenges.
- January 15: Attended a virtual Metro Trustees meeting to discuss current issues facing Boards.
- January 16 and 22: Participated in reading days at Gray, Cougar Canyon and Heath Elementary Schools.
- February 10: Attended a JEAP workshop presented by Destine Lord, anti-racism and inclusion consultant.

Vice-Chairperson Dhillon reported the following:

- January 14: Participated in reading day at Gray Elementary.
- January 27: Attended Healthy Schools Committee, where there was discussion around training to provide better support for neurodiverse learners, a presentation from our Fraser Health practitioner, and an update from Kirsten Hermanson on the work being done around Feeding Futures.
- February 10: Joined other Trustees at SOGI training, led by Destine Lord.
- February 13: Visited Port Guichon and Neilson Grove Elementary Schools, and connected with the school principals on a one-on-one basis.

Trustee Gooch reported the following:

- January 27: Attended the Healthy Schools Committee meeting, to hear about some of the projects and ideas that are being considered, worked on, and upcoming within the district.
- February 10: Attended the SOGI/JEAP workshop presented by Destine Lord.

Chair Muego reported the following:

- January 15: Attended the BCSTA Board Chair Call, with general topics related to governance and other Board issues being discussed.
- January 22: Participated at the Cougar Canyon and Heath Reading Days.

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 (DELTA)
FEBRUARY 17, 2026

- January 28: Participated in Elementary Vice-principal interviews at the Board Office.
- February 2: Attended an evening workshop held at the Board Office led by Dr. Mette Boelle, with a focus on compassionate leadership.
- February 10: Attended the SOGI/JEAP workshop presented by Destine Lord.

APPROVAL OF 2025/2026 AMENDED BUDGET & RESERVES

Jonathan Duffin, Secretary Treasurer, presented to the Board the 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw amount. He reviewed some of the highlights of the budget and reviewed where the dollars were spent. The submission due date to the Ministry of Education and Child Care is February 27, 2026. The full amended budget will be made available on the district website.

M/S Trustees Kanakos and Windsor

THAT the Board of Education give approval for three readings at one meeting of the 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw.

THAT the 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$249,998,700 be given three readings and adopted.

CARRIED

M/S Trustee Beard and Vice-Chairperson Dhillon

THAT the 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$249,998,700 be given a FIRST reading.

CARRIED

M/S Trustees Beard and Windsor

THAT the 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$249,998,700 be given a SECOND reading.

CARRIED

M/S Vice-Chairperson Dhillon and Trustee Gooch

THAT the 2025/2026 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$249,998,700 be given a THIRD reading and adopted.

CARRIED

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 37 (DELTA)
FEBRUARY 17, 2026

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Joe Muego, Board Chairperson and Audit Committee Chair, presented a recommendation from the District's Audit Committee, to continue the engagement with the firm of BDO Canada, as District financial statement auditors for the second of three additional optional 1-year terms.

M/S Trustees Kanakos and Vice-Chairperson Dhillon
THAT the Delta Board of Education re-appoint BDO Canada as its auditor for the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

No questions relating to agenda items were presented.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

March 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

M/S Trustees Windsor and Kanakos
THAT the Delta Board of Education Regular Board meeting of February 17, 2025, be adjourned.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: Time 7:56 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer