

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 43 (COQUITLAM)
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**REGULAR PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
EDUCATION LEARNING CENTRE, ROOM 104**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

Chair: Michael Thomas
Vice Chair: Craig Woods
Trustees: Chuck Denison
Kerri Palmer Isaak
Lisa Park
Christine Pollock
Zoë Royer

Regrets: Carol Brodie

Administration:

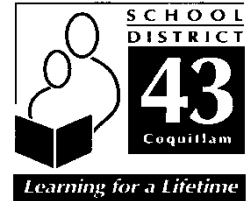
Acting Superintendent of Schools/CEO	Randy Manhas
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO	Randy Manhas
Assistant Superintendent	Anthony Ciolfitto
	Gerald Shong
	Carey Chute
	Nadine Tambellini
	Paul McNaughton
	Stephen Whiffin
	Ken Hoff
Assistant Director, Communications and Community Relations	
Executive Director, Human Resources	Michelle Daycock
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Corporate and Financial Services	Nita Mikl
Recording Secretary	Nicole Schenato

Michael Thomas, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

The Acknowledgment of Territory was expressed by Trustee Park.

The Chair asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.

POLLOCK/ROYER moved acceptance of the agenda.



*Our mission is to ensure
quality learning opportunities for
all students of all ages*

PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF
TERRITORY**

**ACCEPTANCE OF
AGENDA**

**a) Acceptance of
Agenda**

Question was called.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Representatives in attendance from the Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA), District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), CUPE Local 561, and Coquitlam Principals and Vice Principals Association (CPVPA) introduced themselves. The Student Leadership Council (SLC) representatives in attendance introduced themselves. The District Leadership Team (DLT) members in attendance introduced themselves.

Harriette Chang, Real Acts of Caring (RAC) Coordinator and Teacher, Porter Street Elementary, delivered a presentation on RAC. Established in 2005 at Central Community School in Port Coquitlam, this year marks the 20th anniversary of RAC.

Ms. Chang was accompanied by current Grade 5 students from Porter Elementary, who discussed the Real Acts of Caring Week activities and key initiatives throughout the district.

A trustee acknowledged the initiative's origins within the district and expressed gratitude to Ms. Chang for her ongoing dedication and efforts.

Board Chair Thomas officially proclaimed the week of February 9 - 15, 2025, as "Real Acts of Caring Week".

Harpreet Esmail, Vice Principal, Maillard Middle, along with Co-Chairs Kashvi Kothiyal, and Tyson Mattu, delivered a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the council's impact, purpose, and mission. They introduced this year's theme of Empowerment – "It starts with you," focusing on Inspiration, Collaboration, and Tool Building. The presentation included key initiatives and projects planned for the year, such as the student leadership summit, aimed at inspiring and meaningful connections with members and the broader community

Trustee question regarding the lack of funding for initiatives was responded to.

The Board expressed gratitude to the Co-Chairs for their numerous contributions over the years.

INTRODUCTIONS

- a) Partner Groups**
- b) DLT**

DELEGATIONS/ PRESENTATIONS

- a) Real Acts of Caring Week**

- b) Student Leadership Council – Next Directions**

There were no education matters to report.

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to the consent agenda, which included the following items:

- a) Approval of November 26, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- b) Trustee Calendar Planning Report for Information
- c) Trustee Reports for Information
- d) Administrative Procedure Review Update

PALMER ISAAK/ROYER moved approval of the consent agenda.

Question was called.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A copy of the Trustee Reports is attached to the official minutes.

There were no responses to previous delegations.

Randy Manhas, Acting Superintendent, provided a report on news and events. The Superintendent elaborated on the many events that have occurred in December 2024 and early January 2025 along with a summary of recent school fundraisers. Related information is available on the district website.

Trustee questions and comments regarding the Coquitlam Firefighters' contribution and the recent inclusive fair held at Terry Fox Secondary were responded to.

A copy of the Superintendent's News & Events report is attached to the official minutes.

Randy Manhas, Acting Superintendent, provided an update on the government's delay in funding, the 2024-25 Student Learning Survey, and the EDX 1701 training for Superintendents and Secretary Treasurers. Anthony Ciolfitto, Assistant Superintendent, provided additional information on the submission of 1601 and 1701 data.

Trustee comments and questions regarding the budget and the potential impact of the delay was responded to.

EDUCATION

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS DELEGATIONS

DISTRICT STAFF REPORTS

- a) Superintendent Report**
- i) News & Events**

- ii) Superintendent's Update**

Stephen Whiffin, Assistant Superintendent, along with Coordinators Alicia Linden and Karla Allen, presented the district’s e-Book Library initiative to the board. The presentation highlighted the new platform that provides students with universal access to e-book and audiobook resources.

Trustee questions and comments regarding the use of Sora, the possibility of adding e-textbooks to the platform, the initial investment and cost to the district, the visibility tool for student progress, navigation for diverse students, and the district’s collection were responded to.

The discussion also covered the partnership with Coquitlam Public Library and the potential to partner with other local libraries in the Tri-City area.

A copy of the Tech Twenty – SD43 eBook Library Project presentation is attached to the official minutes.

There was no unfinished business.

At 8:17 p.m. the Chair opened the floor to questions.

There were no trustee questions.

There were no questions from the gallery.

There was no new business.

There were no Notices of Motion.

Board Chair Michael Thomas provided information regarding Board Committee appointments.

SD43 Finance Committee: Committee of the Whole, Chair: Craig Woods

SD43 Education Foundation: Christine Pollock, Kerri Palmer Isaak

BCSTA Metropolitan Branch: Carol Brodie, Kerri Palmer Isaak (alternate)

BCSTA Provincial Council: Zoë Royer, Michael Thomas (alternate)

iii) Tech Twenty

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

QUESTION PERIOD

a) Trustees

b) Gallery

NEW BUSINESS

NOTICES OF MOTION

ITEMS OF TRUSTEE BUSINESS

a) Board Committee Appointments

BCSTA ELL Consortium: Christine Pollock, Lisa Park (alternate)

BCPSEA: Michael Thomas, Craig Woods (alternate)

Coquitlam Foundation: Chuck Denison, Michael Thomas (alternate)

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC): Craig Woods, Chuck Denison (alternate)

Student Leadership Council (SLC): Carol Brodie, Zoë Royer (alternate)

Communities Embracing Restorative Action (CERA): Christine Pollock, Zoë Royer (alternate)

DENISON/PALMER ISAAK moved the adoption of the Board Committee appointments.

Question was called. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At 8:19 p.m. the Chair opened the floor to questions.

There were no trustee questions.

There were no questions from the gallery.

ROYER/PALMER ISAAK moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Question was called. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

QUESTION PERIOD

a) Trustees

b) Gallery

ADJOURNMENT

“Original Signed by”

Chair

“Original Signed by”

Secretary-Treasurer