

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

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BOARD MEETING - BUDGET
DISTRICT OFFICE, BOARD ROOM**

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

Chair:

Vice-Chair

Trustees:

Michael Thomas
Rosey Manhas
Carol Brodie
Chuck Denison
Kerri Palmer Isaak
Lisa Park
Christine Pollock
Craig Woods

Administration:

Superintendent of Schools/CEO
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Assistant Superintendents

Nadine Tambellini
Nita Mikl
Anthony Ciolfitto
Jeremy Clarke
Andrea Hunter
Paul McNaughton
Stephen Whiffin
Ivano Cecchini
Patricia Bigonzi
Ken Hoff
Jennifer Toderas

Executive Director, Facilities & Planning Services
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer,
Corporate and Financial Services
Assistant Director of Communications and
Community Relations
Executive Assistant

Michael Thomas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

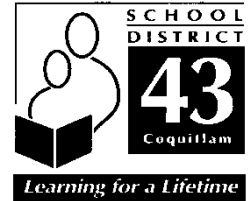
The Acknowledgement of Territory was expressed by Board Chair, Michael Thomas

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

PALMER ISAAK/MANHAS moved acceptance of the agenda.

Question was called.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



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

PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF TERRITORY**

**ACCEPTANCE OF
AGENDA**

Representatives in attendance from the Coquitlam Teachers' Association (CTA), Coquitlam Principals and Vice-Principals' Association (CPVPA), the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) and Student Leadership Council (SLC) introduced themselves.

The District Leadership Team (DLT) members in attendance introduced themselves.

The Board Chair reviewed the budget process, guidelines, and sequence of events for the Special Public Board Meeting.

Michael Thomas, Board Chair delivered remarks regarding the Board's continued financial focus and decision making guided by the goals and objectives of the *Directions 2025* strategic vision document.

The Chair commented that the Board's key budget objective continues to be to maintain a balanced, financially stable, and sustainable school district for the long term, ensuring the vision and mission continue to be achieved.

Nadine Tambellini, Superintendent, praised the Board of Education and the District Leadership Team for their dedication. Guided by the Board and aligned with *Directions 2025*, the district has maintained high student success rates while ensuring financial stability. Transparency and accountability remain key commitments.

Secretary-Treasurer Mikl was commended for her leadership within the finance department, aligning efforts with the district's strategic vision.

The district is currently financially stable and achieving positive student outcomes.

Diether Malakoff, First Vice President, Coquitlam Teachers' Association, reemphasized those recommendations from the CTA's more fulsome presentation to the Board on January 27, 2026, including:

- a request that the district take all necessary steps to avoid layoff/recall;
- a request to add additional counselling time in schools, which is not fully addressed by the counsellor for mental health services;

INTRODUCTIONS

a) Partner Groups

b) DLT

OVERVIEW OF BUDGET PROCESS AND

REMARKS FROM BOARD CHAIR

REMARKS FROM SUPERINTENDENT

BUDGET FEEDBACK QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS COQUITLAM TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (CTA)

- a request for additional Learning Services Teacher staffing; and
- a request to increase Teacher Librarian staffing.

There were no questions or comments from Trustees.

Jennifer Morgan, sponsor administrator for the Student Leadership Council (SLC) introduced Tyson and Daniel, SLC co-Chairs thanked the Board for their support of the SLC's initiatives.

A trustee's inquiry into if the SLC had a budgetary request for the Board resulted in the co-chairs asking for continued financial support from the Board.

Jamie Manchester, President and Christopher Hilliker, Vice President of the District Parent Advisory Council thanked the Board of Education and District Leadership Team for presenting a stable budget that avoids human-impact cuts, and a student-first focus.

There were no questions from Trustees.

Meggan Crawford, CTA Member, read a submission from Jessica Bell, Indigenous Resource Teacher. Ms. Bell's submission highlighted the following:

- the need for greater financial stability for the Indigenous Education Department;
- the capacity of the three 1.0 teachers supporting Indigenous Education across the district;
- the prioritization of professional learning as a sustained, multi-year commitment;
- the need for additional supports for the coordination of several key district Indigenous Education Department led events; and
- the need to recognize that the work of the Indigenous Education department extends beyond the single students but is guided by broader commitments toward Truth and Reconciliation.

Trustee comments regarding the benefits of stable staffing and appreciation for an effort to formalize thoughts from other consultative opportunities were expressed.

Trustees indicated their support for the Coquitlam Teachers' Associations request for no layoff/recall this year.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (SLC)

DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (DPAC)

SD43 EMPLOYEE

TRUSTEE DISCUSSION

At 6:54 p.m. the Chair opened the floor to questions.

There were no questions from trustees.

Ronak Pahlevanlu, Coquitlam Teachers' Association asked a clarifying question regarding the changes in teaching time for school administrators, despite the overall net increase in administration positions.

PALMERISAAK/POLLOCK motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Question was called.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

QUESTION PERIOD

a) Trustees

b) Gallery

ADJOURNMENT

"Original Signed by"

Chair

"Original Signed by"

Secretary-Treasurer