

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 78 (FRASER-CASCADE)**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
January 6, 2026**

PRESENT:

Board Representatives:

Pattie Desjardins	Trustee	Chair
Wendy Colman-Lawley	Trustee	Committee Member
Linda Kerr	Trustee	Non-Voting Observer
Wendy Clark	Trustee	Non-Voting Observer
Andrea Hensen	Trustee	Non-Voting Observer

Special Guest:

Anne Cooper	Consultant
-------------	------------

Committee Representatives:

Greg Lawley	Representative	FCPVPA
Bernard Klop	Representative	FCPVPA
Belle Peters-Lepitre	Representative	Student
Coira Norwood	Representative	Student

District Staff:

Balan Moorthy	Superintendent
Gerry Slykhuis	Secretary-Treasurer
Renge Bailie	Assistant Superintendent
Deb McKinney	Executive Secretary
Antigone Snider	Executive Secretary

Regrets:

<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	FCTA
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	FCTA
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	CMAW
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	CMAW
Jacqueline Harper	Representative	DPAC
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	DPAC
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	IEC
<i>Vacant</i>	Representative	IEC

1. Call to Order and Acknowledgment

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm via Zoom conference call. The Chair acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the shared territory of the Cheam, Sts'ailes, Sq'ewlets, Sq'ewqel, Shxw'owhámél, Seabird Island, Nlaka'pamux and Chawathil people.

2. Approval of Agenda – January 6, 2026

KLOP/COLMAN-LAWLEY

THAT the agenda of the Policy Committee meeting for January 6, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Approval of Minutes – December 2, 2025

COLMAN-LAWLEY/DESJARDINS

THAT the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held on December 2, 2025, be approved as presented.

Carried

4. Drafts within Section 4.00 Human Resources

4.50 Recruitment of Executive, Exempt & Educational Leadership Staff

The Consultant provided a summary of their approach to updating the policy including the policy's scope to focus on recruiting and selecting candidates by way of a hiring committee and selection criteria. The Consultant provided a line by line review and recommended removing language focused on transfers. With respect to the policy guidelines, the language is intended to view each position uniquely. The Committee discussed the role of the Board with respect to the recruitment and selection of Principals and how best to reflect their role in the policy. The Consultant recommended this policy be refined and brought back to the February meeting.

5. Overview of Section 5 – Health & Safety

The Consultant provided an update on Section 5 – Health and Safety. The consultant confirmed drafts for the following two (2) Ministry required policies would be provided at a future meeting: 5.20 Provision of Menstrual Products and 5.30 Severe Allergic Reactions. These 2 policies would replace existing policies: 7315 Provision of Menstrual Products and 7340 Allergies and Life-threatening Allergies in Schools.

The following policies were recommended for repeal to be replaced with Administrative Procedures:

7008 – Student Threat Assessment

7300 – Treatment of Students with Medical Conditions

7330 – Pupils – Illness or Accident at School

7400 – Student Involvement with Alcohol, Intoxicants & Illegal Drugs

5500 – Head Lice

Policy 5080 – Unauthorized Visitors in Schools is held for further discussion to determine the optimal approach to addressing school safety and communicating with the staff, students and parents so all are well informed on the District's approach to managing unauthorized visitors.

KLOP/COLMAN-LAWLEY

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Education that Policies 7008, 7300, 7330, 7400 and 5500 be repealed and replaced with Administrative Procedures.

Carried

6. Section 5 Policies that are recommended to be repealed outright

The Consultant recommended that the following policies be repealed outright:

4010 – Emergency Plan

4033 – Smoking, Tobacco, and the Use of Vapor Products

6225 – Maintenance of Order and Protection of Pupils

6700 – District Health and Safety Practices

7320 – Communicable Diseases

7350 – Nutrition in Schools

The Consultant advised the information in the above policies is well covered in current Provincial Legislation, existing Education and Childcare Policy, current Provincial Guidelines, Fraser Health guidance, Collective Agreements and WorkSafe BC resources. The Committee discussed the benefits of making hyperlinks available to the external resources on the District’s website so that the topics and any associated health risks are easily searchable for parents, staff and students.

COLMAN-LAWLEY/KLOP

THAT the Policy Committee recommend to the Board of Education that Policies 4010, 4033, 6225, 6700, 7320, 7350 be repealed outright.

Carried

7. Questions & Comments - Nil

8. New Business - Nil

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 4:30-6:00 pm
Via Zoom conference call

ADJOURNMENT

DESJARDINS

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 6:05 pm