



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.83

(NORTH OKANAGAN-SHUSWAP)

Trustee Candidate Information Session

May 7, 2018

DISTRICT CONTEXT

School District No. 83 covers an area of 8,500 square kilometers located on Secwepemc territory, through a variety of sites located around the Shuswap Lake and North Okanagan.



DISTRICT CONTEXT

The school district encompasses many distinct communities:

- ❖ Malakwa
- ❖ Sicamous
- ❖ Grindrod
- ❖ Enderby
- ❖ Armstrong
- ❖ Spallumcheen
- ❖ Falkland
- ❖ Ranchero/Deep Creek
- ❖ Silver Creek
- ❖ Salmon Arm
- ❖ Tappen
- ❖ Sorrento
- ❖ Celista
- ❖ Seymour Arm

DISTRICT CONTEXT

The school district includes 4 First Nations Bands:

- ❖ Adams Lake Indian Band
- ❖ Neskonlith Indian Band
- ❖ Little Shuswap Indian Band
- ❖ Splat sin Band



DISTRICT CONTEXT

- ❖ 6,167 students (projected to be 6,330 in September)
- ❖ 23 schools
 - 16 Elementary
 - 3 Middle
 - 4 Secondary
 - 1 Storefront Program



DISTRICT CONTEXT

- ❖ 5 Board of Education Trustees
- ❖ Staff (as of April 30, 2018)
 - 460 teachers
 - 108 (teachers teaching on call - TTOC)
 - 471 support staff
 - 36 principals and vice-principals
 - 23 exempt staff
 - 70 support casual



DISTRICT CONTEXT

The school district has a strong focus on literacy, numeracy, and social responsibility, and is proud to provide students with diverse learning opportunities that include:

- ❖ Music Program
- ❖ Performing Arts
- ❖ French Immersion
- ❖ Trade Apprenticeships
- ❖ Japanese Exchange Programs
- ❖ Outdoor Learning Programs
- ❖ Sports/Athletics Programs
- ❖ Indigenous Education
- ❖ Support for diverse and special learners



MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is to engage all students in meaningful and relevant learning experiences that develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes, creativity and the pursuit of personal success.



VISION STATEMENT

The district's vision is for all students to develop social, personal, thinking, and communicating competencies in preparation for life. This includes, but is not limited to:

- ❖ literacy and numeracy skills
- ❖ critical and creative thinking abilities
- ❖ responsibility for wellness of self and others
- ❖ effective career skills and habits
- ❖ the desire to participate in learning throughout life.

CORE VALUES

The school district has adopted the following core values:

1. For learning to occur, our relationships inside and outside the classroom need to be respectful and caring.
2. Joy, fun, satisfaction and celebration are essential to learning.
3. To nurture creativity and innovation is to motivate and encourage commitment to learning.
4. It is important to approach all issues and problems with a positive attitude focused on finding solutions collaboratively.
5. Students and their learning are our prime focus.
6. We need to build on the diversity and strengths of students, staff, and families.
7. The pursuit of both excellence and participation are worthy of our attention and support.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. Students First

- ❖ Student success is our top priority every day.

2. Organizational Efficiency

- ❖ Decisions and actions are clear, purposeful, and responsible.

3. Culture of Health and Wellness

- ❖ Students and staff are healthy and connected to the learning community.

ANNUAL BUDGET

Total Budget - \$81M

- ❖ Operating Fund - \$64.7M
- ❖ Special Purpose Funds - \$10.2M
- ❖ Capital Fund – \$6.1M

Approximately 79% of the school district's operating budget is spent on instruction, with about 12% for operations and maintenance, 5% for district administration, and 4% for transportation.

DISTRICT PARTNERS

- ❖ North Okanagan-Shuswap Teachers Association (NOSTA)
- ❖ Canadian Union of Public Employees – Local 523 (CUPE)
- ❖ District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)
- ❖ North Okanagan-Shuswap Principal and Vice-Principals Association (NOSPVPA)
- ❖ First Nations Education Council (FNEC)

BOARD GOVERNANCE

School District No. 83

Special Advisor Report

June 3, 2016

Liz Watson

“A Review of Governance Practices in School District No. 83”

BOARD GOVERNANCE

June 2016 – Special Advisor Report

42 Recommendations:

Recommendation # 1 – Dissolve the Board immediately.

The Board should be immediately dissolved and replaced by a Ministry-appointed trustee. The Ministry appointed trustee should hold office until the next regularly scheduled election of school board trustees in the fall of 2018.

The Board was dissolved on June 15, 2018 and Mike McKay was appointed as Official Trustee for School District No. 83.

BOARD GOVERNANCE

June 2016 – Special Advisor Report

42 Recommendations:

Recommendation # 2 – Simplify Regional Representation and Reduce the Number of Trustees

The current regional representation model should be retained but simplified and the allocation of trustees be revised to better reflect population within the region.

The number of trustees should be reduced to five or seven.

On February 20, 2018, the Minister of Education, ordered that Ministerial Order 305/96, School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap) Trustee Electoral Order, be repealed and replaced with a new order (4 Trustee Electoral Areas with 5 trustees).

BOARD GOVERNANCE

June 2016 – Special Advisor Report

42 Recommendations:

Recommendation # 3 – Develop a Strategic Plan.

The district should undertake a strategic planning process that culminates in the development of a more specific vision and a long-term strategic plan.

Management should have responsibility for developing the plan under the direction of the Board.

At the December 2017 Board Meeting, the Official Trustee approved the district's Strategic Plan.

Management is charged with providing regular status updates to the Board on activities taken to address the plan.

BOARD GOVERNANCE

June 2016 – Special Advisor Report

42 Recommendations:

Recommendation # 42 – District Governance Framework and Policies

The district should establish a more comprehensive set of governance policies that outline the district's approach to governance and include roles and responsibilities (e.g. for the Board, Committees, individual trustees, the Superintendent, and the Secretary-Treasurer), a code of conduct, and important review and decision-making processes that guide the Board's work.

Board Governance Policies have been written and have approved First Reading. They will be adopted at the June board meeting.

BOARD GOVERNANCE - POLICIES

New Governance Policies

- ✓ Have received First Reading
- ✓ Will be adopted at the June board meeting
- ❖ Roles and Responsibilities of the Board
- ❖ Board Delegation of Authority
- ❖ Monitoring Board Performance
- ❖ Trustee Code of Conduct
- ❖ Trustee Conflict of Interest
- ❖ Trustee Remuneration and Expenses
- ❖ Trustee Professional Development
- ❖ Trustee Attendance



BOARD GOVERNANCE

June 2016 – Special Advisor Report

Other key recommendations contained within the report include the following:

- ❖ Strategic Planning and Performance Management
- ❖ Skills and Expertise
- ❖ Consultation and Enhanced Transparency
- ❖ Financial Oversight and Supporting Framework of Policies and Procedures

BOARD OF EDUCATION ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

VIDEO

Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Officials

[Province of BC - Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Officials](#)

BOARDS OF EDUCATION

What do they do?

- ❖ Shares a co-governance relationship with the provincial government and the Ministry of Education
- ❖ The Ministry sets the general direction for K-12 education, including curriculum, amounts of funding, and legal framework within which boards operate
- ❖ Boards are responsible for operating school districts based on educational aspirations of their local communities and in accordance with the general direction established by government.
- ❖ The respective responsibilities of the Ministry of Education and boards of education are described in the *School Act*.

BOARDS OF EDUCATION

What do they do?

The School Act outlines the primary functions of board of education, including:

- ❖ Attending meetings
- ❖ Setting local policy for the effective and efficient operation of schools;
- ❖ Employing the staff necessary for school district operations;
- ❖ Establishing conditions of employment for employees;
- ❖ Preparing and approving the school district's operating budgets and capital plans;
- ❖ Hearing appeals from parents and students where a staff decision significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student.

TRUSTEES

What do they do?

Trustees are locally elected representatives of the public and they are advocates for public education in their school district.

A trustee's role is to maintain a focus on student achievement and well-being, and to participate in making decisions that benefit the entire district while representing the interests of their community.

TRUSTEES

What do they do?

Trustees Establish the District's Strategic Direction

- ❖ The Board is responsible for setting the overall direction for the school district.
- ❖ Trustees work together to establish the board's strategic plan, which sets the direction of the district for parents, the public and the board's staff, and lays out the priorities and strategic direction of the school district.

TRUSTEES

What do they do?

Trustees are Financial Stewards

- ❖ Boards have important responsibilities for approval and oversight of school district financial decisions.
- ❖ Trustees must connect district goals, strategic planning and economic realities, through the establishment of the school district's annual budget.

TRUSTEES

What do they do?

Trustees are Part of a Team

- ❖ A trustee is member of a team: the Board of Education.
- ❖ Under the *School Act*, the trustee's power lies in membership on the corporate school board.
- ❖ This means that the board has the authority to make decisions or take action; individual trustees do not have this authority.

TRUSTEES

What do they do?

Trustees are Community Leaders

- ❖ Trustees work with their board of education colleagues and with other community partners to ensure that all the students within the board's jurisdiction have equal opportunities to reach their maximum potential.
- ❖ While members of the board act as representatives of their community, their primary job is to participate in policy-making and strategic planning that are in the interests of all the district's students, and are ground in promoting student achievement and well-being.

TRUSTEES

What do they do?

Boards are Employers

- ❖ As employers of all school district staff, boards have legal responsibility for employee relations with their management, teaching and support staff.

TRUSTEES

What do I need to know?

Understanding of Official Meeting Procedures and School District Governance Policies

- ❖ Review a copy of Board Bylaws, governance policies and codes of conduct
- ❖ Attend local school board meetings
- ❖ Speak to existing board members (Official Trustee) to get an understanding of the process

TRUSTEES

What do I need to know?

Awareness of the Legal, Political and Legislative Parameters in Which School Boards Operate

- ❖ Board operations are often highly prescribed by legislation or provincial policy
- ❖ In executing their duties, trustees will develop an understanding of the legislative process, the structure and relevant provisions of school legislation (especially the *School Act*), government policy and board policy.

TRUSTEES

What do I need to know?

Financial Literacy

- ❖ Financial oversight of a school district is complex work that requires trustees to be able to interpret financial statements, information and data, ask the right questions, and ultimately govern the financial, business and capital decisions of the school district.
- ❖ Trustees, through the BC School Trustees Association, will be provided with the support necessary to fulfil their financial oversight responsibilities.

TRUSTEES

What do I need to know?

Willingness to Learn

- ❖ The Board has the responsibility to competently protect the interests, image and credibility of the school district, to ensure its financial viability, and to act in accordance with all applicable laws and board policies governing the board and its actions.

TRUSTEES

What do I need to know?

Remuneration, Expenses, Professional Development

- ❖ Annual stipend for trustees
- ❖ Additional stipend for Board Chair and Vice-Chair
- ❖ Expenses related to attending appropriate professional development

TRUSTEES

What do I need to know?

Time Commitment

❖ **Average 15 hours per week**

- Preparing for and attending board meetings and committee meetings
- Attending community meetings as a representative of the school board
- Attending BCSTA Annual General Meetings
- Attending professional development/training/in-service sessions
- Responding to the concerns of parents and other community members
- Responding to telephone calls or emails, meeting requests or queries from parents or members of the community.

Getting Ready for the Election....



Key Election Dates

- ▶ Start of Nomination Period – September 4, 2018
- ▶ End of Nomination Period – September 14, 2018
- ▶ **Declaration of Candidates – September 14, 2018**
- ▶ Candidate Nomination Withdrawal Deadline – September 21, 2018
- ▶ End of Election Period – September 21, 2018 (midnight)
- ▶ **Start of Campaign Period – September 22, 2018**
- ▶ Required Advance Voting Opportunity – October 10, 2018
- ▶ **General Voting Day – October 20, 2018**
- ▶ End of Campaign Period – October 20, 2018
- ▶ Determination of Official Election Results – October 22, 2018

Getting Ready for the Election

Resources:

- BCSTA (www.bcsta.org)
- BC Ministry of Education
- Elections BC (www.elections.bc.ca)
- Civic Info BC (www.civicinfo.bc.ca)
- Local Elections Campaign Financing
- School District No. 83 – Chief Election Officer
 - Carrie Pratt – cpratt@sd83.bc.ca

School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)

If you are considering running for school trustee, we thank you for your commitment to public education in BC.

