

School Trustee Elections 2026 Information Session

Thursday, June 4, 2026
Henry Grube Education Centre

Tuesday, June 9, 2026
Online

Mike St. John, Superintendent
Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops - Thompson)

Land Acknowledgement



We respectfully honour and acknowledge that we are meeting on the unceded territory and lands of the Secwépemc peoples, specifically Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Nations.



School District No. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson)

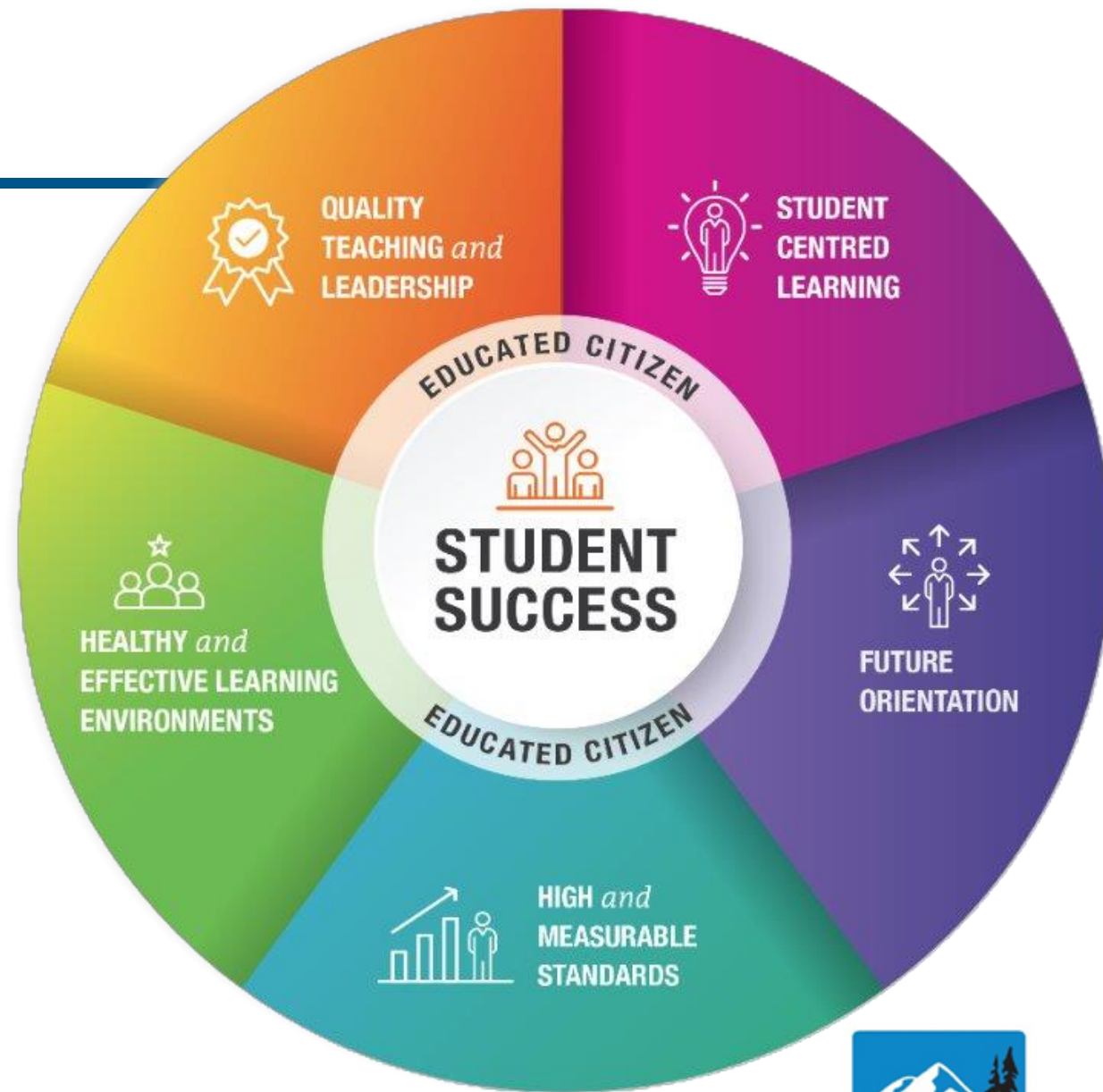
- **Students:** 16,000+ students
- **Geographic Area:** 12 urban and rural communities:
 - Kamloops, Chase, Barriere, Logan Lake, Pinantan Lake, Sun Peaks, Heffley Creek, Westwold, Blue River, Vavenby, Savona and Clearwater
- **Schools:** 49 schools
- **Staff:** 2,650 employees
- **Budget:** \$255.9 million



What Guides Our Work?

Provincially:

**The Ministry of
Education and Child Care's
Educated Citizen**



What Guides Our Work?

Locally:

Strategic Plan Priorities 2022-2027

▶ Intellectual Development



▶ Human and Social Development



▶ Cultural and Identity Development



▶ Career Development



▶ Systems Development

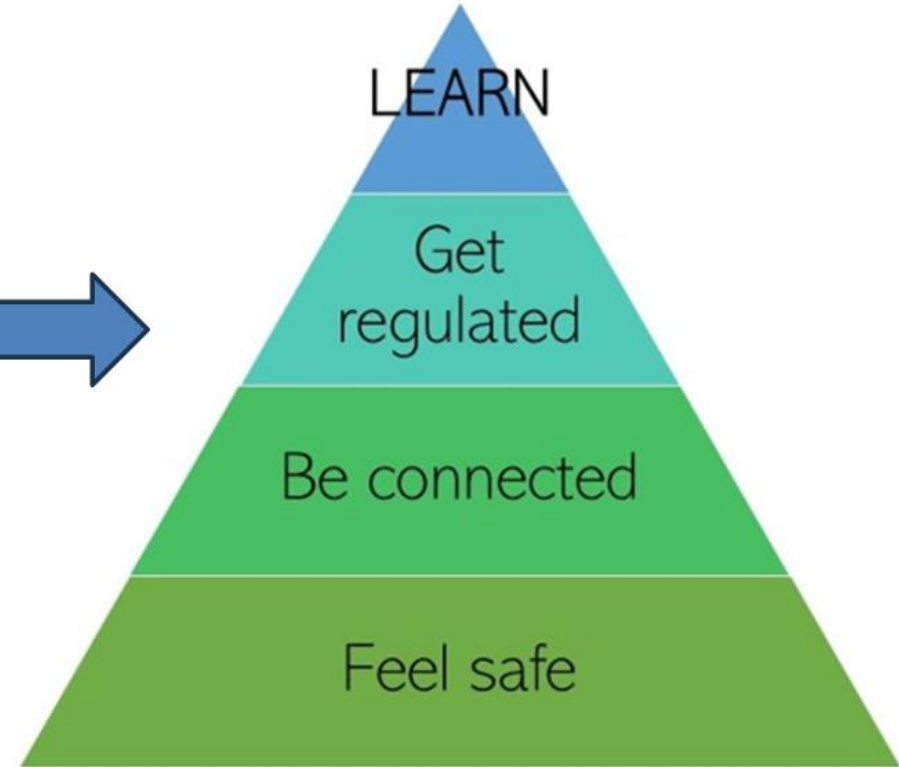


School District No. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson)

- **Our Mission:** *Supporting learning opportunities and environments which inspire students to thrive.*
- **Our Vision:** *Fostering educated and resilient citizens empowered to contribute to a diverse, caring, inclusive, and sustainable society.*
- **Our Values:** *Connections / Relationships, Equity, Well-being, Sustainability*



Run to School and Walk Home



What Guides Our Work?

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT AGREEMENT

Locally:

**Enhancement
Agreement
2023-2028**



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops-Thompson)

Operations: Departments Working Together

Education

- Early Learning and Elementary
- Secondary Education
- Indigenous Education
- Inclusive Education
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Career Education

Human Resources

- Teacher & Support Staffing & Benefits Administration
- Health and Safety
- Disability and Attendance Management

Information Technology

- Computer hardware and software
- School and district wide area network
- Cyber security

Finance

- Budgets and Financial Reporting
- Risk and Insurance
- Payroll
- Procurement
- Community Rentals and Facility Leases

Facilities

- Maintenance
- Capital Planning
- Long Range Facilities Planning

Transportation

- Fleet management
- Route design and implementation
- Sports teams and field trips



Indigenous Education

- <https://www.sd73.bc.ca/indigenous-education>
- 20% of SD73 students are of Indigenous ancestry and the Indigenous student population in the District continues to increase
- Bill 40
- Indigenous Education Council
- Local Education Agreements
- Enhancement Agreement



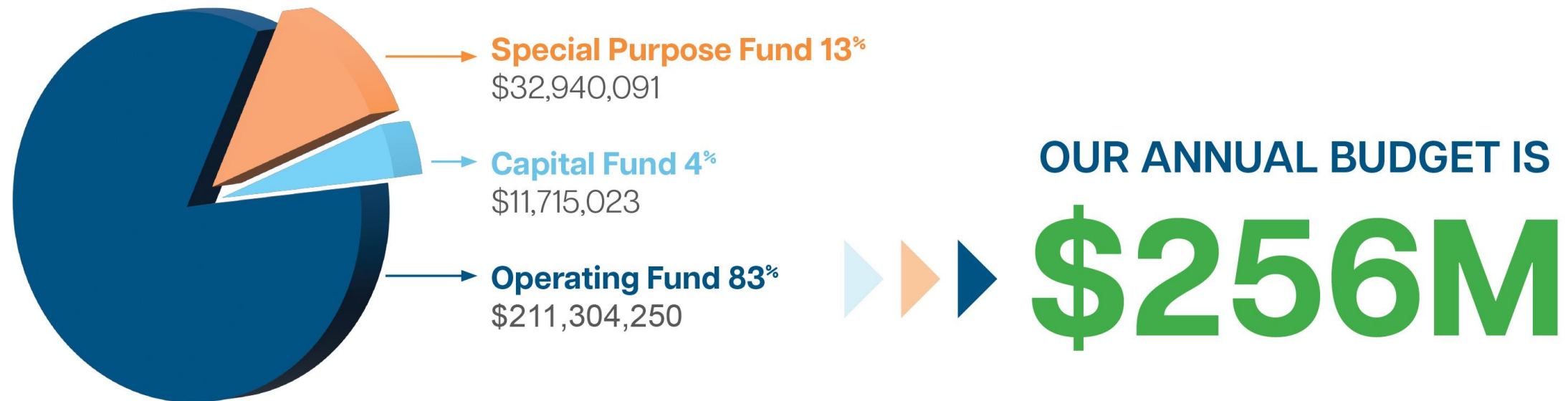
Inclusive Education

- Engage all learners in an inclusive school experience that is participatory and enabling.
- Equitable access, meaningful participation, and the support students need to succeed through collaborative, culturally responsive, and inclusive practices that promote well-being, belonging, and respect for diversity including all identities and lived experiences.
- Safe and Caring Schools
- CommunityLINK Funding
- Feeding Futures and National Food Program



Annual Budget

The Kamloops-Thompson School District's 2026–2027 annual budget is \$255,959,364 and is made up of three funds: Operating Fund, Special Purpose Fund, and Capital Fund.



Annual Budget

Basics about Budget



The **Operating Fund** is **83%** of the total budget. The Operating Fund covers the day-to-day operations of the District and includes salaries, benefits, utilities, fuel and supplies.

87% of the Operating Fund is spent on **salaries and benefits.**

13% of the Operating Fund is spent on **supplies and services.**



Annual Budget

Basics about Budget



The **Special Purpose Fund** is **13%** of the total budget. Special Purpose Funds are targeted for specific activities or purposes that are not covered by Operating or Capital Funds, such as Early Learning, and minor capital projects that prolong the life of a building.



Annual Budget

Basics about Budget



The **Capital Fund** is 4% of the total budget. Capital funding pays for the design and construction of new schools, additions, and school enhancements upgrades.



Trustee Role & Responsibility

- As locally elected representatives, school trustees understand their respective communities' particular strengths, challenges, and demands best.
- Trustees provide governance and oversight for their school district by setting direction, establishing policies, overseeing budgets, and supporting student success.
- School trustees listen to their communities, guide the work of their school district, employ the superintendent, and set plans, policies, and the annual budget.



Understanding The Role Of A School Trustee



Key Policies

- Role of Board: [Policy 2](#)
- Role of Trustee: [Policy 3](#)
- Delegation of Authority: [Policy 11](#)
- Role of Superintendent: [Policy 12](#)



Role-Aligned Leadership



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops - Thompson)

Understanding the Role of Trustee

- **Governance vs. Operations**

- As a school trustee, you'll focus on **Governance**: setting direction, creating policy, and ensuring accountability.
- Trustees and boards of education govern the “what” and the “why.”
- Staff manage the “how.”

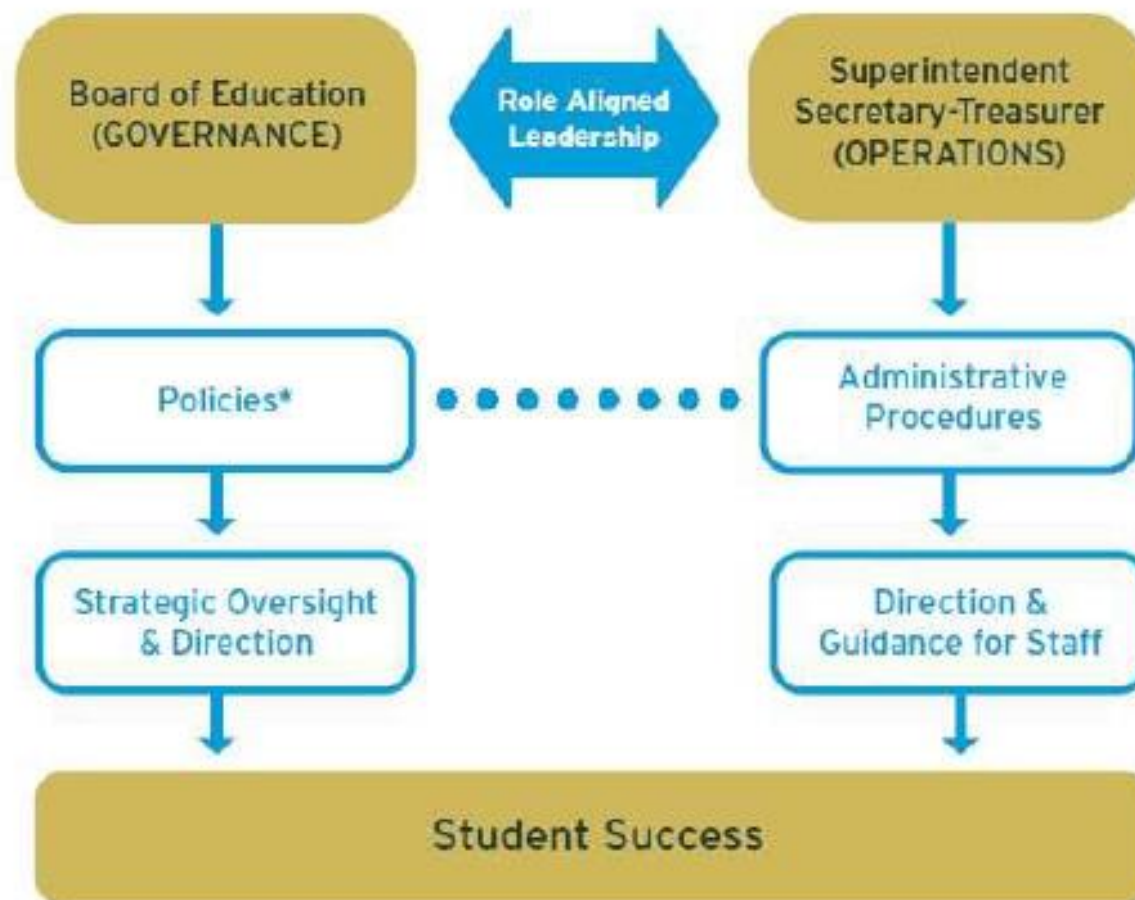
- **Key Responsibilities**

- Attend board meetings
- Set strategic direction
- Set district policy
- Delegates authority to superintendent
- Approve & manage district budgets
- Community advocacy
- Hear appeals affecting student education, health, or safety





Governance & Operations



Role Aligned Leadership Example

Board Policy

- The Board supports responsible use of digital technologies and protects personal information in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Administrative Procedure

- Device allocation and replacement cycles
- Acceptable Use Agreements
- Data breach response protocols
- Password and access controls
- Records retention procedures



Role Aligned Leadership Example

Board Policy

- The Board promotes ethical conduct, effective labour relations, and high standards of professional practice.

Administrative Procedure

- Recruitment and hiring processes
- Employee evaluation procedures
- Discipline and investigation protocols
- Professional development planning
- Respectful workplace procedures



British Columbia School Trustees Association

- The British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) champions good governance practices among school boards through professional development and province-wide advocacy, all dedicated to student success.
- BCSTA is the sole nonpartisan organization representing democratically and locally elected boards of education in British Columbia



British Columbia
School Trustees
Association




SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops-Thompson)



British Columbia School Trustees Association



SERVE, LEAD, INSPIRE:
Your Guide to Becoming
a School Trustee




British Columbia School Trustee
CANDIDATES GUIDE



2026 EDITION



British Columbia School Trustees Association
**GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS
FOR SCHOOL TRUSTEES**



2026

bcsta.org



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops - Thompson)

Run For School Trustee 2026 - BC Elections



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
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Province & Ministries

- Ministry of Education and Child Care
 - Oversees B.C.'s K–12 education system, early learning frameworks, and licensed childcare programs.
- Honourable Lisa Beare, Minister of Education and Child Care
- Ministry of Infrastructure
 - Plans, funds, and delivers major and minor public capital projects—including schools—to support growing communities across B.C.
- Honourable Bowinn Ma, Minister of Infrastructure



Kamloops-Thompson Trustee Positions

- The Kamloops- Thompson Board of Education of School is comprised of 9 trustees representing the following areas:
 - **5 trustees** from Trustee Electoral Area 1 (City of Kamloops)
 - **1 trustee** from Trustee Electoral Area 2 (North Thompson, including the District of Clearwater)
 - **1 trustee** from Trustee Electoral Area 3 (Barriere/Little Fort)
 - **1 trustee** from Trustee Electoral Area 4 (Chase, Sun Rivers, Municipality of Sun Peaks)
 - **1 trustee** from Trustee Electoral Area 5 (Logan Lake)



Qualifications for Office

- A person is qualified to be nominated, elected, and to hold office as a school trustee if they meet the following criteria:
 - Canadian citizen
 - 18 years of age or older on general voting day October 17, 2026
 - Resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed
 - Not disqualified under the School Act or any other enactment from being nominated for, being elected to or holding office as a trustee, or be otherwise disqualified by law



Campaign Expense & Advertising Limits

Municipality	Electoral Area	Expense Limit (\$)
City of Kamloops	1	41,905
North Thompson, including Clearwater	2	6,161
Barriere/Little Fort	3	6,161
Chase/Sun Rivers/Municipality of Sun Peaks	4	10,065
Logan Lake	5	6,161

<https://elections.bc.ca/local-elections/candidate-expense-limits/>



Campaign Rules

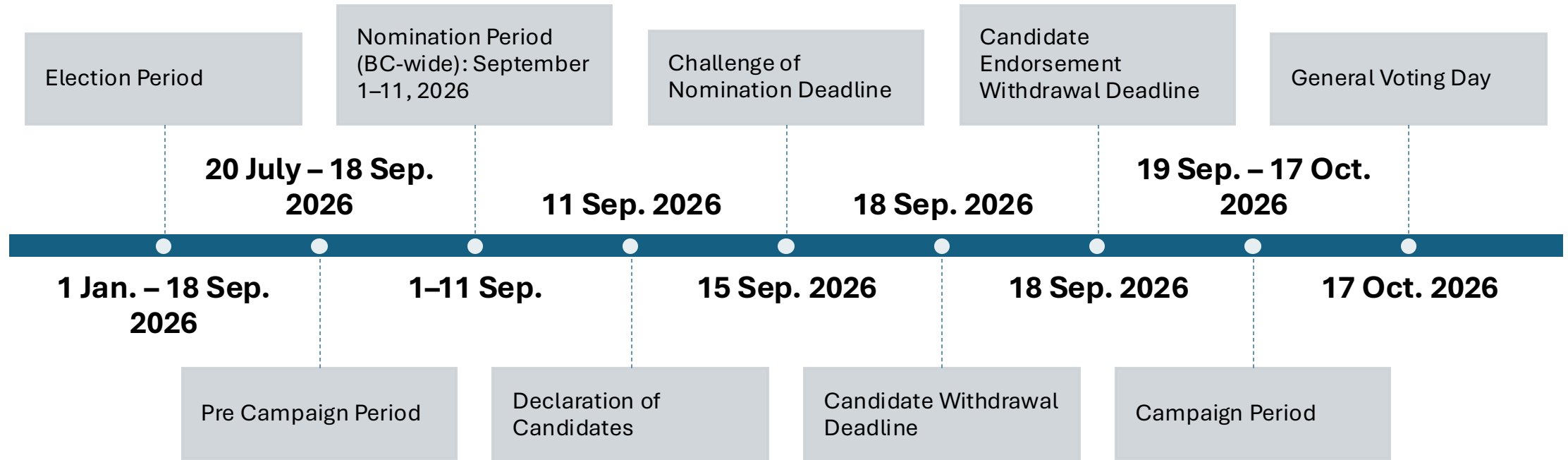
- **Signage** – Local Government Bylaws, and Ministry of Transportation’s sign policy apply
- **Campaign Financing and Advertising Limits** must be adhered to and reported on
- **Social Media**
- **Door to door canvassing**
- **Paid and unpaid media coverage**
- **All candidates meeting**

Schools are neutral with respect to all local candidates

Students should not be exposed to any campaign material



Key 2026 Election Dates



Trustee Remuneration

- As per Board Policy 7 – Board Operations and in accordance with the School Act, trustees shall receive remuneration paid on a monthly basis, the amount of which shall be set by Board resolution
- Annual remuneration 25-26:
 - Board Chair: \$33,634
 - Vice-Chair: \$30,429
 - Trustee: \$28,503
- Annual technology allowance 25-26
 - \$1,026 per year

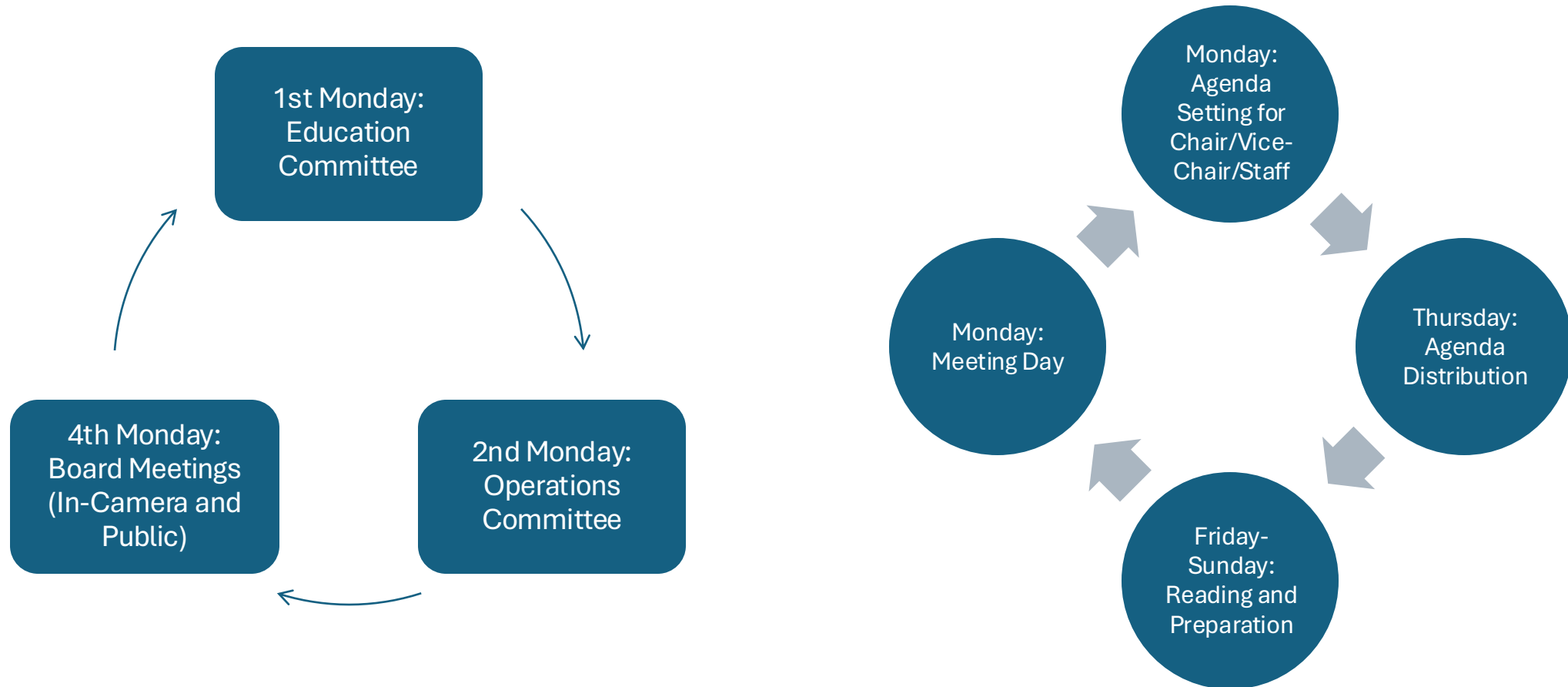


Your Commitment as a Trustee

- Board and committee meeting preparation
- Board and committee meeting attendance
- Other internal and external committees as assigned
- Board working/information sessions
- Community engagement as a board representative
- Professional development and current issues orientation
- Guiding resolution of constituent concerns through appropriate channels, policies and administrative procedures



Monthly Board and Committee Meeting Cycle



Meeting Structure

Committee

- Representative
- Not all trustees are voting members
- All trustees are invited to attend
- Make recommendations to Board
- No decision making powers

Board

- All trustees are voting members
- Receive recommendations from Committee
- Consider and debate recommendations
- Carry or defeat motions
- Decision making powers



SD73 – Trustee Competencies

- Willing to learn
- Understand official/formal meeting procedures, school district governance policies and bylaws
- Aware of the legal, political, and legislative parameters in which school boards operate
- Able to interpret financial information and data and ask questions
- Sound decision makers



Trustee and Board

Trustee

- Considers information and recommendations at Committee
- Helps form recommendations for Board debate
- Debates motions at Board table
- Members of a corporate Board
- Gathers information
- Keeps an open mind until Board debate
- **One of nine individual voices**

Board

- Corporate board
- Carries or defeats motions
- **One collective voice**
- Once decision is made:
 - All Trustees uphold the decision of the Board



Importance Resources

- [BC School Trustees Association \(BCSTA\)](#)
- [Elections BC](#)
- [Government of British Columbia General Local Elections](#)
- [City of Kamloops Municipal Election](#)
- [Thompson-Nicola Regional District Elections](#)
- [Local Government Act](#)
- [School Act](#)



SD73 Resources & Board Policy

- [2022-2027 District Strategic Plan](#)
- [Board Policy Manual](#)
- [SD73 Bylaw 3 – Trustee Elections](#)
- [SD73 Administrative Procedures](#)



Questions?



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Thank you for joining us!



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