
2022 School Trustee Election

Trustee Candidate Information Session
June 22, 2022



Land Acknowledgement

Éy swáyel.

We acknowledge the Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Stó:lō people, the Semá:th First Nation and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.



Agenda

Trustee Candidate Information Session

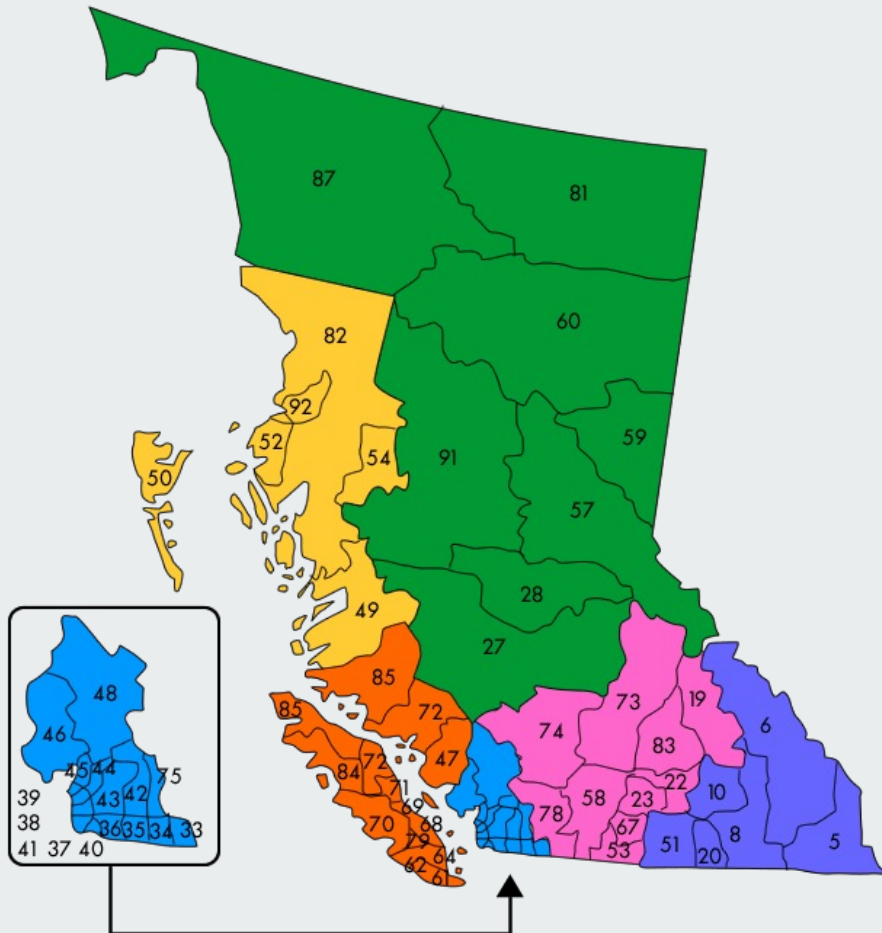
1. The role of School Trustees
2. Relevant Legislation
3. What Trustees Need to Know
4. About Abbotsford School District
5. General Election Information

Who are School Trustees?



- Trustees are elected members of a **board of education**
- Boards of Education are a corporate body and authority lies with corporate board
- Boards of Education co-govern their school districts with the Ministry of Education & Child Care

School Boards in BC



Enrolment and Schools

- 60 School Districts
- There are 1,566 public schools and 360 independent schools in B.C.
- Approx. 580,000 students in the 2021-22 school year.
- Based on student head-count in the 2021-22 school year, there were:
 - 72,740 students with special needs
 - 68,313 Indigenous students
- **\$5.9B** in Provincial Operating grants to school districts

K-12 Education in BC

Our co-governance structure

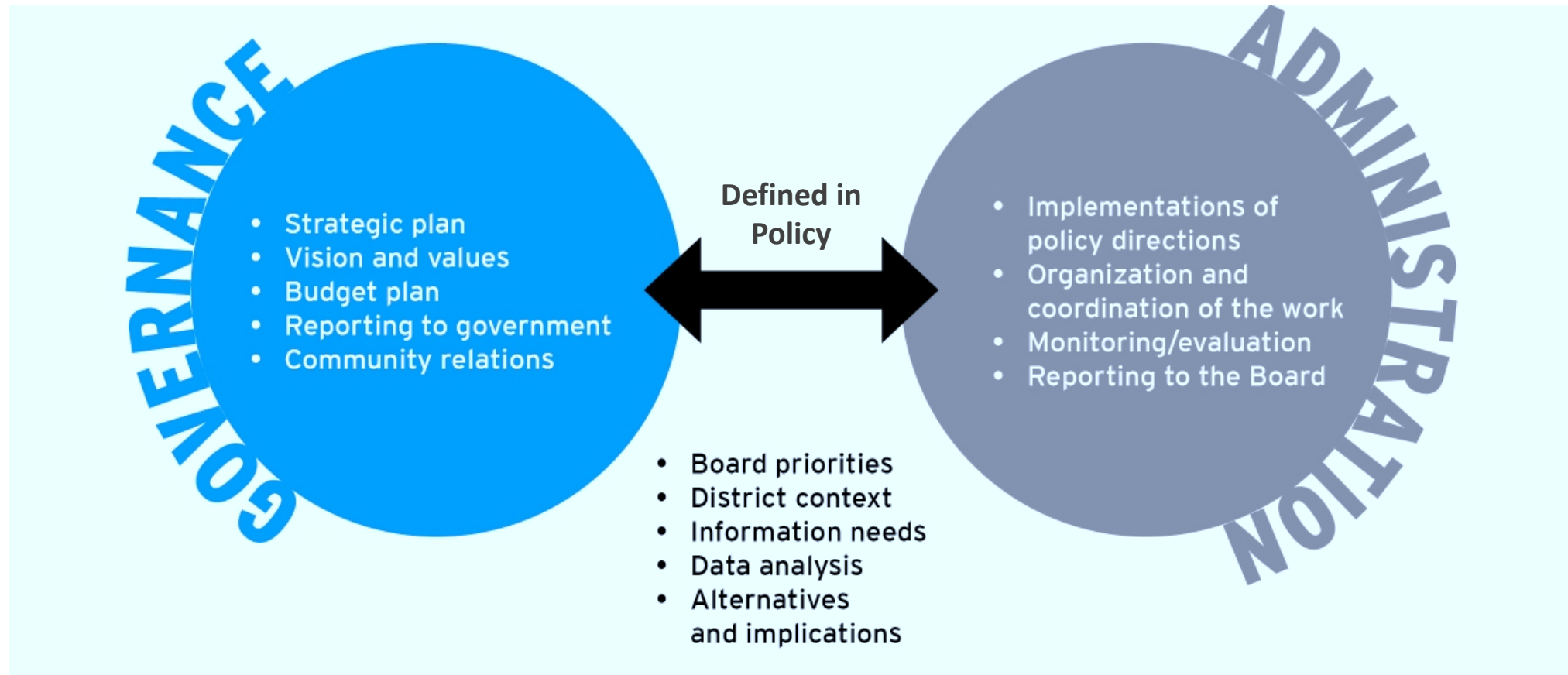
- **Ministry of Education & Child Care**
 - Sets overall direction for K-12 education (curriculum, funding)
 - Determines legal framework from which Boards operate (*School Act*)
Responsibilities of boards of education and trustees are outlined in the *School Act* and related orders & policies.
- **Boards of Education**
 - School trustees are elected to be a member of a Board of Education for a 4-year term
 - There are seven (7) trustees on the Abbotsford Board of Education
 - Operate school district in accordance with Ministry direction & based on aspirations of the community.
 - Ultimately responsible for student achievement.

What is Governance?



- Structures and processes by which an organization is directed, controlled and held to account.
- Governance provides the framework and process for the allocation of decision-making powers.
- Governance is the responsibility of the governing body of an organization.

Governance vs Operations



How the Board does its work



- Public Meetings
- In-camera (closed) Meetings
- Standing & Ad hoc committees
- Planning sessions
- Policy

Relevant Legislation

School Act

Part 4 - School Trustees

- Establishment of Boards of Education
- Trustee Qualifications
- Elections
- Electors
- Election Proceedings
- Holding Office

Part 5 - Conflict of Interest

Part 6 - Boards of Education

- Corporate status and meetings
- Powers and duties
- School Calendars
- Health & Other support services
- Limitation of Actions and Indemnification



<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/administration/legislation-policy/manual-of-school-law>

What skills do I need to be a School Trustee?

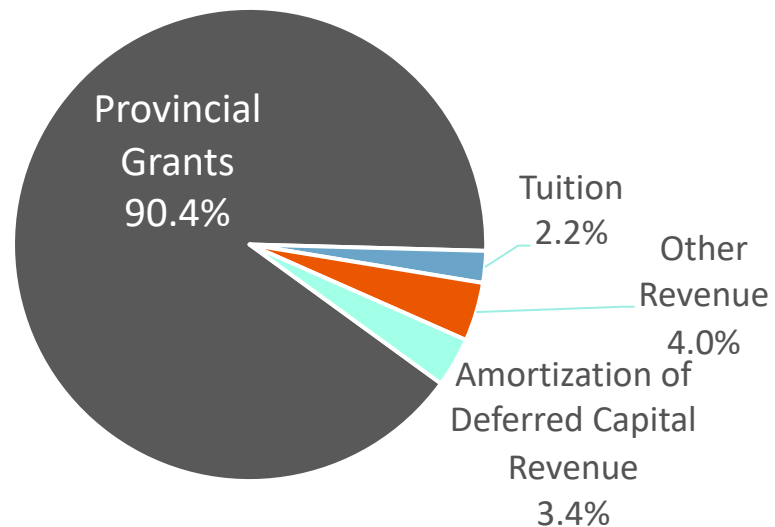
- Everyone brings unique skills and experiences to the role.
- You don't need a background in public education to be an effective school trustee.
- Review school district policies and procedures.
- Understand the laws that govern boards of education and the K-12 public education sector.
- Financial literacy.



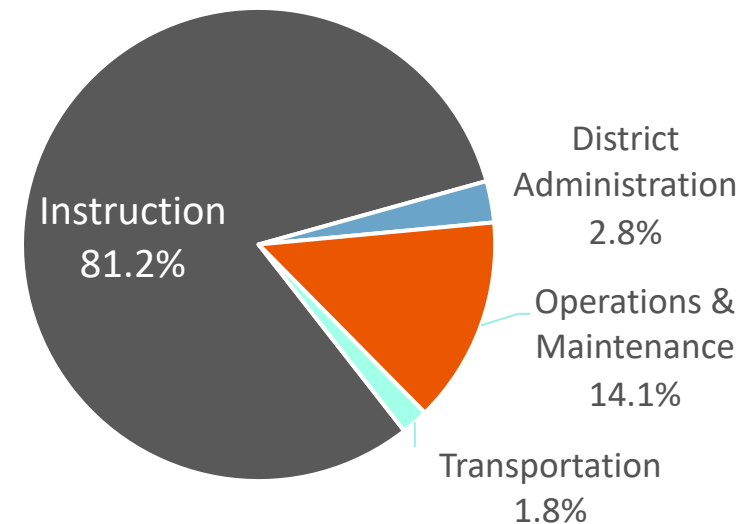
About Abbotsford School District

- **46 schools** (30 elementary schools, 8 middle schools, 1 combined middle-secondary school, and 7 secondary schools.)
- **19,750 students**
- The largest employer in the city, over **2,200** employees.
- A total budget of almost **\$240 million**

2022-23 Revenue



2022-23 Expenses

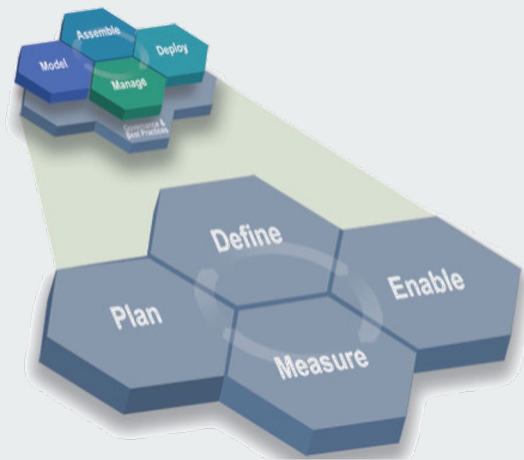


Board of Education

A framework for good *GOVERNANCE*

- **Board Policies**
 - Articulate **VISION** and **GOALS**
 - Define the Board's work (accountability & assurance)
 - Define Board/Superintendent relationship

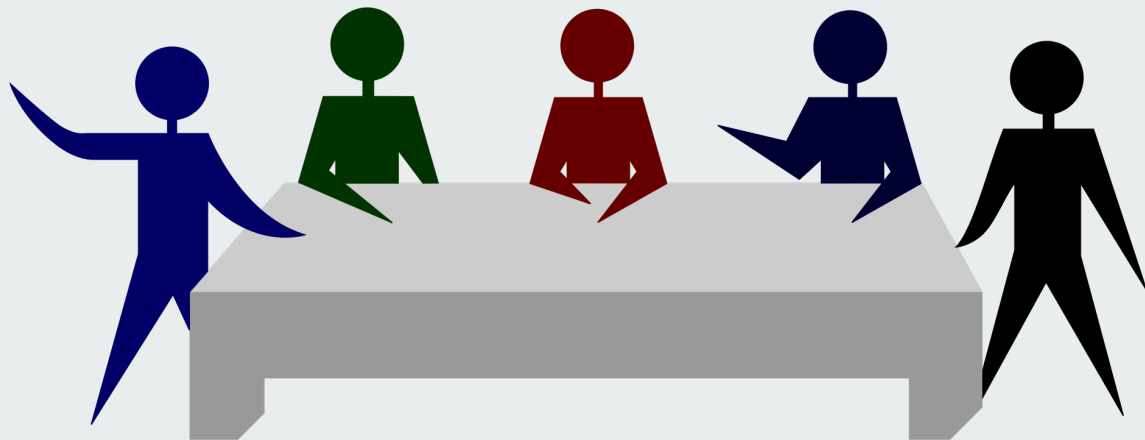
<https://www.abbyschools.ca/about/board/policies>



- Board Policy 1 - Foundations Statements
- Board Policy 2 - Role of the Board of Education
- Board Policy 3 - Role of the Trustee
- Board Policy 4 - Role of the Board Chair
- Board Policy 5 - Role of the Vice Chair
- Board Policy 6 - Trustee Code of Ethics
- Board Policy 7 - Board Governance and Operations
- Board Policy 8 - Board Committees
- Board Policy 9 - Board Representative
- Board Policy 10 - Policy Formation and Review
- Board Policy 11 - Role of the Superintendent
- Board Policy 12 - Delegation of Authority
- Board Policy 13 – Recruitment & Selection of Personnel
- Board Policy 14 - Appeals Process (Bylaw 18)
- Board Policy 15 - Student Code of Conduct
- Board Policy 16 - Programs-Schools of Choice
- Board Policy 17 - Conveyance of Students
- Board Policy 18 - School Catchment Areas
- Board Policy 19 - School Closure
- Board Policy 20 - Disposal of Real Property
- Board Policy 21 - Naming of School District Property

The Role of a School Trustee

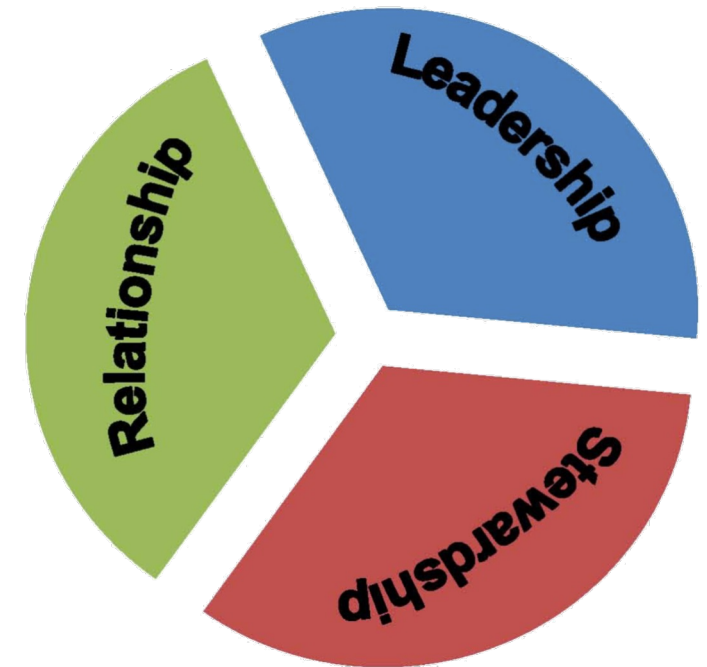
- Board policies 2 through 7 set out roles for trustees & the Board



- Board Policy 2 - Role of the Board of Education
- Board Policy 3 - Role of the Trustee
- Board Policy 4 - Role of the Board Chair
- Board Policy 5 - Role of the Vice Chair
- Board Policy 6 - Code of Ethics
- Board Policy 7 - Board Governance and Operations

The Role of a School Trustee

- Creating and maintaining a system of good governance
- Setting the strategic direction & plan
- Adopting an annual, balanced budget
- Review and approve financial statements and other reports as required
- Hiring and evaluating the Superintendent of Schools
- Attending board meetings and contributing to the business of the board
- Establish and review the enterprise risk management plan
- Adjudicating policy or staff decision appeals
- Attend other meetings/functions as a representative of the board (community/provincial)
- Participate in the BC Public Schools Employer Association, (BCPSEA) & BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA)
- Communicate – (DPAC, PAC, schools, parents, community, other stakeholders)



Trustee Remuneration

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 34 (ABBOTSFORD)
REPORT OF THE 2022 EXTERNAL AD-HOC TRUSTEE INDEMNITY COMMITTEE

Introduction

01. This is the unanimous report of the 2022 External Ad-Hoc Trustee Indemnity Committee (Indemnity Committee).

Recommendations

02. The Indemnity Committee recommends that trustees make provision as follows for indemnities and expenses for the upcoming electoral quadrennium of December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2026 (Quadrennium):

- **Trustee Indemnity Committee**
 - Established by Board Policy
 - Sets compensation levels for trustees
 - Based on average employment income for full time workers
 - Adjusted for inflation
 - Board Chair \$32,270
 - Vice Chair \$28,400
 - Trustees \$25,810
 - Plus: Expenses, laptop, cellphone

Strategic Plan



Progressive Workforce

We provide a workplace
that fosters creativity,
inspires excellence, and
challenges everyone to
embrace growth



Engaging Opportunities

We provide engaging
opportunities for every
member of our learning
community to contribute to
student success.



Optimized Resources

We are creative and
responsible in the
management of
educational resources.



Student Success

Our students are
engaged, challenged
and prepared for a
lifetime of success.

Strategic Plan Alignment

HIGH ALTITUDE
Board of Education

Classroom
GROUND LEVEL



Roles in the Election



- Abbotsford School District elections are run by:
 - **City's Election Office** – nominations, voting and election results
 - **Elections BC** – campaign financing and advertising rules

What's new?



- Removal of 30-day residency requirement
- Mail ballot voting
- New campaign financing & advertising rules

IMPORTANT

- Candidates must be familiar with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* and its requirements.

<https://elections.bc.ca/>

Getting Elected – Where do I find out more?

City of Abbotsford – Election information

<https://www.abbotsford.ca/election>

- Candidate eligibility
- Nomination documents
- Disclosure of financial interests & campaign financing
- Election rules
- Campaigning

School Act Information

Part 4 - School Trustees

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Some Important Dates

Election Period	January 1, 2022 to September 16, 2022
Nomination Period	August 30, 2022 to September 9, 2022
Pre campaign Period	July 18, 2022 to September 16, 2022
Campaign Period	September 17, 2022 to October 15, 2022
General Voting Day	October 15, 2022 (Preliminary Results)
Official Results	October 19, 2022
Financial Disclosure Statement Deadline	January 13, 2023

If you are elected to the Board of Education:



- Trustee orientation session October/November
- Inaugural meeting
 - November 15, 2022
- Board of Education Meeting
 - November 22, 2022
- BCSTA Trustee Academy
 - November 30 – December 2 (Vancouver)

Learn More!

BC School Trustees Association

<https://bcsta.org/>

Elections BC

<https://elections.bc.ca/>

Elections BC Campaign Financing Guide

<https://elections.bc.ca/docs/lecfa/guide-to-local-elections-campaign-financing-in-bc-for-candidates-and-their-financial-agents.pdf>

School Act

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/administration/legislation-policy/manual-of-school-law>

Abbotsford School District

<https://www.abbyschools.ca/> (Board Policy, financial information, Long-Term Facilities Plan, Board Minutes)

Ministry of Education

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/education>

BC Public School Employers Association

<http://www.bcpsea.bc.ca/>



Questions