

Board of Education Meeting Highlights | January 27, 2025

On January 27, 2025, the Board of Education for School District 27 held its monthly meeting. We've created this summary to keep families, caregivers and community members informed about important updates, developments, and decisions.

1. We've started to set School Calendars so they're always two years into the future.

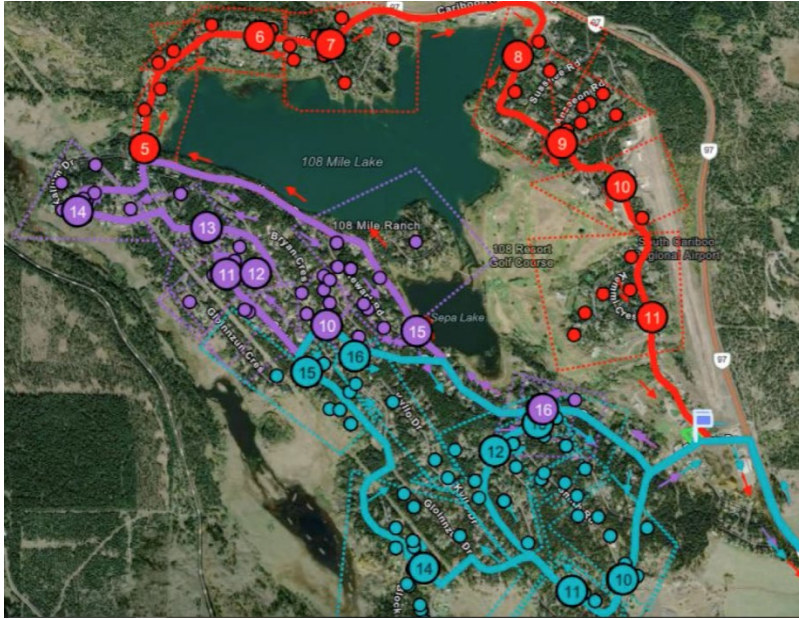
We're seeking community input on the draft calendars for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027, which can be offered by [email](#) or through [this survey](#). We'll share feedback with the Board before March 2025 when the finalized calendars will be circulated. Families and staff should please be aware that the Pro-D days are placeholders at the moment as they are determined by both the District and the Union.

2. We've partnered with the Gavin Lake Forest Education Centre to expand free forest education to Grade 4!

This Spring, Grade 4 participants will experience light bouldering (climbing); shoreline cruises in 10-person canoes and/or camping 101, including tent set-up; and a scientific introduction to lichen. This is an expansion of the no-cost, [community partner-led program](#) for Grade 6 students that has touched the lives of 26,000 kids in the District over the last three decades.

3. The District's Principals and Vice Principals are engaging in ongoing professional learning with the Outdoor Council of Canada. By working towards their certification and creating a community of practice, we're preparing to embrace more opportunities for safe and valuable, place-based and experiential outdoor learning for students.

4. Community engagement with Mile 108 and Horse Lake school communities and PACs, Area Directors, bus drivers, and the District's Transportation Department has resulted in bus route adjustments in both communities. These adjustments reflect stakeholder input and collaboration. We communicated these route adjustments to parents and caregivers in both communities prior to their implementation in January and early February 2025.



5. **Trustees advised a community member**, who made remarks on behalf of the Concerned Parents & Caregivers of Williams Lake, that the Board would take their requested changes to the Board agendas as information. The member was invited to connect directly with their Area Trustee. Trustees are locally-elected representatives of the public and they are the community’s representatives on their school district’s Board of Education.

Leadership Changes

- **Anita Richardson** has moved to Nechako Lakes School District as Superintendent. **Grant Gustafson**, District Principal, has expanded his role to Director of Instruction and continues to lead Indigenous Education for the District. Supporting Director Gustafson is **Dancing Water Sandy**, whose knowledge and commitment to teaching and leading through Indigenous ways of knowing will further enhance the learning journeys of students and staff.

The next Board of Education Meeting for SD 27 takes place on February 24, 2025.