	stqaʔtxʷɬn'iwt sqilxʷⁱ **WESTBANK FIRST NATION** #301 – 515 Highway 97 South Kelowna, B.C. V1Z 3J2 Phone: (250) 769-4999 Fax: (250) 769-4377 www.wfn.ca *Community. Leadership. Pride.*	**MINUTES** **sənsísyustən** **SCHOOL BOARD** **skɫxʷíẃs, sknír'mn (Monday, February) 23, 2026**

The Meeting took place at Sensisyusten School and via Zoom.

SCHOOL BOARD:

Emma Dovell
Hailey Causton
Eden Derickson
Sara Tronson
Pamela Barnes

STAFF:

Denise Clough	Director of Community Services
Joanne De Guevara	Principal

CALL TO ORDER	**Agenda is attached to these minutes as Exhibit "A."**
	Called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
NEW BUSINESS	
	Approval of Minutes skɫxʷíẃs, spáqtan (Monday, January) 19, 2026
	Principals Report
	Band School Conference • The Band School Conference was hosted on February 13. • Approximately 120–130 attendees participated, including vendors. • Students opened the event with prayer and songs. • Positive feedback was received from attendees. • Several vendors and organizations attended, including elder vendors, ONA, and the Adoption Centre. **Siya Committee** • The first Siya Committee meeting was hosted at the school on February 19. • An SEA update was scheduled for later on the agenda. **RCMP Partnership**

- RCMP continued partnering with the school through multiple initiatives.
- A survival camp was held for Grades 4–6 students, where students learned:
  - Shelter building
  - Fire building
  - Outdoor survival skills
- RCMP continue providing monthly lunches.
- Boys' group sessions were completed, including:
  - Traditional northern stick games
  - Sports activities
  - Cultural teachings
- RCMP representatives committed to facilitating girls' group sessions through mid-April.

BC Lions Presentation

- Representatives from the BC Lions presented to the entire school about becoming "Energy Champions."
- Students were highly engaged during the presentation.

Student Leadership Activities

- Leadership students organized activities around:
  - Valentine's Day
  - Pink Shirt Day
- Classes continue rotating responsibility for leading weekly songs in the circle.

Basketball Program

- The basketball team continues regular practices.
- A staff versus student basketball game was held and ended in a 10–10 tie.
- Upcoming activities include:
  - A game against the RCMP
  - Participation in a tournament in Oliver/Osoyoos area (audio unclear)
- Students attended a UBCO women's basketball game and participated in team activities following the event.

Outdoor Cultural Space

- Meetings continue regarding development of the outdoor cultural space.
- Additional funding is still being sought.
- Approximately $100,000 remains needed to complete

	funding requirements. • Warren Kootenay from the Band Office is assisting with funding searches. **<u>Kindergarten Registration</u>** • Nine kindergarten applications have already been received. • A significant increase in registrations is anticipated. • "Ready, Set, Learn" activities are planned for mid-May following the fish release event.
	The School Board shared positive feedback regarding the basketball program and student engagement. Discussion highlighted: • Student commitment to practices and games. • Positive school spirit during the staff versus student basketball game. • Increased leadership and responsibility among students participating in extracurricular activities.

	Continue pursuing funding for outdoor cultural space
	• Warren Kootenay and administration to continue searching for approximately $100,000 in additional funding.
	RCMP girls' group programming
	• RCMP representatives to continue facilitating girls' group sessions through mid-April.
	Prepare for kindergarten intake / Ready, Set, Learn
	• Staff to organize and prepare Ready, Set, Learn activities for mid-May following the fish release event.
	Basketball program activities
	• Staff and coaches to continue organizing:
	  ○ RCMP basketball game
	  ○ Upcoming tournament participation
	  ○ Ongoing practices and student activities

ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.