

**Policy Committee**  
**Public Meeting Agenda**

**Monday, May 11, 2026 – 11:00 am**  
**via Zoom**

<https://sd38.zoom.us/j/64093448840>

Passcode: 6000

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledges and thanks the First Peoples of the hən̓q̓əmi̓ñəm language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

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- 1. Adopt Agenda**
- 2. Approve Minutes**  
Public minutes from meeting held April 13, 2026 attached.
- 3. Policy 701.11-R: Naming and Renaming of Schools and District Facilities**  
Report from the Superintendent attached.
- 4. Status of Current and Anticipated Items**  
Status Update attached.
- 5. Next Meeting Date – Monday, June 8, 2026 at 11:00 am**
- 6. Adjournment**

**Policy Committee**  
**Public Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, April 13, 2026 – 11:00 am**  
**Via Zoom**

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**Present:**

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Trustee Member

Trustee

Superintendent

President, Richmond Teachers' Association

Vice President, Richmond Association of School Administrators

President, Canadian Union of Public Employe 716

Chair, Richmond Management and Administrative Professionals

Vice President, Richmond District Parents Association

Member at Large, Richmond District Parents Association

Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

D. Tabolotney

H. Larson

D. Yang

A. Wong

C. Usih

L. Baverstock

A. Goulas

S. Robinson

K. Gibson

A. Gong

K. Ching

J. Coronel

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 11:00 am.

The Richmond Board of Education acknowledged and thanked the First Peoples of the hən̓q̓əmiñəm language group on whose traditional and unceded territories we teach, learn and live.

**1. Adopt Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

**2. Approve Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held February 9, 2026 were approved as circulated.

**3. Status of Current and Anticipated Items**

A Status of Current and Anticipated Items was attached to the agenda package. In response to a question from the President of Richmond Teachers' Association, the Superintendent clarified that the Policy 701.12-G: Official School Openings will be presented for information at the April public board meeting.

**4. Next Meeting Date – Monday, May 11, 2026 at 11:00 am.**

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 am.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Debbie Tabolotney  
Chairperson, Policy Committee*

DRAFT

## Report to Policy Committee Public

**Date:** May 11, 2026  
**From:** Christopher Usih, Superintendent of Schools  
**Subject:** **Policy 701.11-R: Naming and Renaming of Schools and District Facilities**

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### RECOMMENDATION:

**THAT** the Chairperson of the Policy Committee bring forward a Notice of Motion to the Board of Education at the May 20, 2026, regular meeting that a recommendation for the board's consideration will be presented at the June 17, 2026 public meeting to approve revised ***Policy 701.11-R: Naming and Renaming of Schools and District Facilities.***

### BACKGROUND:

Over the past several years, the topic of school renaming has been raised by members of the school community. This matter has gained increased attention across the country, reflecting broader discussions about the naming of public institutions. In response, the board has consistently supported the development of a policy for renaming schools and district facilities, recognizing the importance of having a clear and inclusive process in place.

Work was initiated in 2020-2021 by the former superintendent and deputy superintendent. With board support, the work was paused to allow for the development of a district diversity, equity, and inclusion policy. On May 25, 2025, Policy 102: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was adopted by the Board of Education. It was determined that it would be important to have Policy 102 adopted to ensure alignment with a future renaming policy.

### POLICY REVIEW:

Staff have conducted a broad search of renaming policies throughout British Columbia school districts. The review revealed that the majority of school districts in BC have not to date developed school renaming policies and/or procedures. There are however a few good exemplars (e.g., North Vancouver, New Westminster, Vancouver). In addition, staff reviewed district policies from Calgary and Toronto. The policies of the district listed above have informed the development of the attached draft renaming policy.

At the February 18, 2026, public board meeting, the board approved the draft rewrite of Policy 701.11-R for entry into the partner group review process which took place from February 19, 2026, to April 10, 2026. During this period, staff received feedback from the Richmond Teachers' Association (RTA) which

was subsequently shared at the April 13, 2026 Policy Committee In-Camera meeting. The RTA’s proposed revisions and comments have been incorporated into the draft rewrite (highlighted), and staff’s responses to RTA’s feedback, as well as revisions from Policy Committee, are noted in blue.

**IMPORTANT POLICY ELEMENTS:**

Recognizing that renaming of schools and district facilities can be controversial, it is critically important that policy development reflect a commitment to honouring diverse viewpoints while fostering a sense of belonging amongst all members of the school community. Prioritizing education, engagement, and respect for historical context, while balancing contemporary values that contribute to a positive and inclusive learning environment is the goal of an effective renaming policy.

**LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATIONS:**

School Act - Section 85: Power and Capacity

For the purposes of carrying out its powers, functions, and duties under the School Act, a board has the power and capacity to determine local policy.

**PROPOSED TIMELINE:**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
June 9, 2025	Policy Committee (In-Camera)	Proposed timeline shared with the committee.
June 18, 2025	Board of Education (In-Camera)	Proposed timeline shared with trustees.
September 15, 2025	Policy Committee (Public)	Proposed timeline shared with partner groups.
October 30, 2025		Complete review on renaming (examine best practices in B.C. and other jurisdictions in Canada).
November 10, 2025	Policy Committee (In-Camera)	Revised proposed timeline shared with trustees.
November 10, 2025	Policy Committee (Public)	Revised proposed timeline shared with partner groups.
January 12, 2026	Policy Committee (In-Camera)	Policy report (incorporating review of other district renaming policies) and draft policy shared with the committee. Opportunity for trustee feedback.
February 9, 2026	Policy Committee (Public)	Policy report and draft policy incorporating trustee feedback shared with the committee. Recommendation to place into partner group

		review process from February 19, 2026, to April 10, 2026.
February 18, 2026	Board of Education (Public)	Possible board approval for entry into partner group review process from February 19, 2026, to April 10, 2026.
February 19, 2026, to April 10, 2026		Partner group review process.
April 13, 2026	Policy Committee (In-Camera)	Draft policy rewrite incorporating partner group input brought to the committee.
April 22, 2026	Board of Education (In-Camera)	Draft policy rewrite incorporating partner group input shared with the board.
May 11, 2026	Policy Committee (Public)	Final revisions based on partner group and trustee feedback brought to the committee, with a possible Recommendation for Notice of Motion for approval at the May Board of Education (Public) meeting.
May 20, 2026	Board of Education (Public)	Possible Notice of Motion for final approval of draft policy rewrite at June Board of Education (Public) meeting.
June 17, 2026	Board of Education (Public)	Recommendation for approval of policy rewrite.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Christopher Usih  
Superintendent of Schools*

*Attachments:*

1. *Draft rewrite of Policy 701.11-R*
2. *Current version of Policy 701.11-R*
3. *Policy research summary*
4. *April 8, 2026, Letter from RTA re partner group feedback*

## Governance

## Policy 701.11-R

### Naming of Schools and District Facilities

The Richmond Board of Education recognizes that schools and district facilities are an integral part of the community in which they are located. Community pride and involvement in the naming process serves to deepen the connection between the school district and community. As such, the naming of a school or district facility will be decided by the board following its commitment to robust consultation with students, parents/guardians, partner groups<sup>1</sup>, and the community.

The Board of Education is committed to reconciliation and decolonization as outlined in [Policy 102](#).

#### Guiding Principles

1. The Board of Education, in its absolute discretion has the right to name schools and district facilities. **Question from RTA:** *Why is the term absolute discretion used? Is this in reference to a Bylaw or the School Act? If so, it would help clarify this reference.*  
**Staff's response:** *The Board of Education reserves the right to name schools and district facilities.*
2. The relationship between the school or district facility and the land on which it is located is significant in the naming process.
3. In selecting a place-based name that acknowledges and honours Indigenous history, it is essential to seek early engagement with the appropriate rights holder(s).
4. Generally, schools and district facilities will not be named after individuals.
5. If naming after an individual, consideration will be given to Indigenous Peoples and historically under-represented communities such as visible minorities and women.  
**Question from RTA:** *Is it customary for Indigenous rights holders to use people's names when naming a building?* **Staff's response:** *There is no requirement by Indigenous rights holders to use people's names when naming a building. However, engaging Indigenous rights holders when an Indigenous name is being considered is consistent with our commitment to truth and reconciliation.*
6. Schools and district facilities will not be named after a living person.

The Board of Education reserves the right to remove a name in the event of an exceptional circumstance. **Exceptional circumstances** are defined for the purpose of this policy to mean, where any of the following applies:

- a. the existing name no longer aligns with the board's vision, mission, and value; or
- b. the existing name no longer reflects the values, culture, and significance of the school population or community in which the facility is located

7. Existing or rebuilt schools and district facilities or parts of facilities will only be renamed in exceptional circumstances (see #7 above).
8. A school or facility name that is in use in a neighbouring district is to be avoided.
9. Following the selection of a school name, secondary schools will officially use the designation "Secondary School", while elementary schools will use the designation "Elementary School."
10. An education and communication plan will be developed and implemented to support understanding of the historic significance of a new school or district facility name and to teach the proper pronunciation of the name given.

***RTA's suggestion for implementation, but not to change guideline 11: As part of the education and communication plan, consider adding a QR code to teach proper pronunciation and to incorporate story or history of the name given.***

## **A. Naming of New Schools and District Facilities**

1. When the need to name a new school or district facility arises, a Naming Committee of the Board shall be formed, whose mandate it will be to recommend to the board a suitable name for the school or district facility. [Prior to commencing the process, the district will share this information with the Indigenous rights holders and the district's Indigenous Education Council.](#)
2. The Naming Committee will consist of:
  - Two Trustees - one will be the committee chairperson
  - Assistant Superintendent who will be responsible for the new school
  - Director of Facilities Services
  - Director of Communications and Marketing
  - One representative from each partner group (i.e., CUPE, RASA, RDPA, RMAPS, RTA)
  - ~~One student advisory representative (i.e., Table 38)~~ **Two student representatives who will be attending the school**
3. The Naming Committee of the Board will:
  - (a) establish a communications strategy to seek input (i.e., naming suggestions and rationale) from the public. The designed communication strategy will advise the public of the following:
    - (i) that all submissions by members of the public will be held in confidence.
    - (ii) that there is no limitation as to the number or type of suggestions that will be received by the board.
    - (iii) that submissions include a rationale or explanation for the proposed name.

- (iv) that submissions should be sent to the attention of the secretary-treasurer.
  - (v) that submissions will be received from members of the public for a period of three months. The communications strategy will state the closing date by which submissions must be received.
  - (vi) that a decision will be made by the board within twelve months of the initiation of the communications strategy, whenever possible.
  - (vii) that the decision of the board will be made by resolution at an in-camera meeting and that a public announcement will be made at the next public meeting of the board.
- (b) receive in confidence all submissions from members of the public and provide a summary of the submissions received, or previously received, regarding the naming and will provide such summary to the board at the next available in-camera meeting after the closing date for submissions.
  - (c) within one month of the closing date for submissions, establish a draft shortlist of names to be considered and forward all details of the shortlisted submission to the board along with a summary of all of the submissions that have been received.
  - (d) following board approval of a shortlist, the committee will undertake the research it deems necessary to provide the board with further background to the shortlisted names.
  - (e) provide the board at an in-camera meeting, within six months of the closing date for submissions, the background associated with each shortlisted submission along with its recommendation and a draft press release.
  - (f) The board is not bound by the recommendation of the committee.
4. After receiving, at an in-camera meeting, the background associated with each shortlisted submission, the board may, in accordance with [Policy 201](#) (section 7.7 Committee of the Whole), resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Naming Committee's recommendation.
  5. The board will, by resolution, vote in-camera on the naming of a new school or district facility.
  6. If approved, the board will announce the name of the new school or district facility at its next public meeting.

## **B. Naming of Parts of Board-Owned Facilities**

The board may contemplate naming part of a board-owned facility on its own initiative or at the suggestion of a member of the public, at which point it will determine the necessity of asking for submissions of names from the public. If the board decides to seek submissions from the public, it may follow the same process as that listed for the naming of new schools

or district facilities in section A of this policy.

## **C. Renaming of Schools and District Facilities**

The district will consider proposals to rename schools and district facilities, only in **exceptional circumstances**. Any decision to rename a school or district facility must follow the guiding principles set out in this policy. Written proposals to rename a school or district facility can be initiated by the school administration, staff, students, the Parent Advisory Council, district staff, and community members.

**Exceptional circumstances** are defined for the purpose of this policy to mean, where any of the following applies:

- a. the existing name no longer aligns with the board's vision, mission, and values; or
  - b. the existing name no longer reflects the values, culture, and significance of the school population or community in which the facility is located
1. Proposals must be submitted to the Office of the Secretary-Treasurer.
  2. Upon receipt of a renaming proposal, the secretary-treasurer will inform the superintendent, who will convene a meeting with the board chairperson and vice-chairperson (or alternate), to determine if the renaming proposal is deemed to qualify as an exceptional circumstance.
  3.
    - (a) If it is determined that the renaming proposal does not qualify as an exceptional circumstance, the board chairperson will inform the board at the next in-camera meeting.
    - (b) If the board decides that the renaming proposal does not qualify as an exceptional circumstance, then the matter will be closed. The superintendent or designate will communicate with the individual or group contact who submitted the proposal regarding the process and rationale for the decision.
    - (c) If it is determined that the proposal does qualify as an exceptional circumstance, then the superintendent will bring the proposal to the next in-camera meeting of the board for consideration of activating a Renaming Committee for further consideration.
  4. If the board, by resolution, determines that a Renaming Committee will be formed, the processes set out in section A. Naming of a Schools and District Facility will be followed, with the exception (if the matter is school related) of the committee composition which will be modified with a focus on representation from the school that is being considered for renaming.
    - (a) The Renaming Committee when school related will consist of:
      - Two Trustees - one will be the committee chairperson
      - Assistant Superintendent who will be responsible for the school
      - Director of Facilities Services

- Director of Communications and Marketing
- One representative from each partner group with a school focus where appropriate (i.e., CUPE, RASA, RDPA, RMAPS, RTA)
- **Two** student representatives from the school

<sup>1</sup>In the Richmond School District, the term "partner groups" includes our Indigenous rights holders and all officially recognized education partner representatives for Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 716, Richmond Association of School Administrators (RASA), Richmond District Parents Association (RDPA), Richmond Management and Professional Staff (RMAPS), and the Richmond Teachers' Association (RTA). Official representatives from partner groups participate on behalf of their members in committee meetings, engagements, and other activities to provide valuable input, feedback, and advice to the district. The Richmond School District values input from partner groups and voice from all members of the school community, including students, parents/guardians, and employees. Where appropriate, the Richmond School District will provide opportunities for public engagement to ensure all individuals can provide input to the district.

## FACILITIES

## Policy 701.11-R (previously Policy 901.11-R)

### Naming of Board-Owned Facilities or Parts of Board-Owned Facilities

#### A. Naming of a New Board-Owned Facility

1. When planning funding is announced by the Provincial Government for the construction of a new Board-owned facility, a Special Committee of the Board shall be formed, in accordance with Board Policy 201 (Special Committees of the Board), whose mandate it will be to recommend to the Board a suitable name for the facility in accordance with policy.
2. This committee will consist of:
  - (a) Two Trustees - the first named will be the Committee Chairperson; and
  - (b) Staff member(s) as deemed appropriate.
3. The Special Committee of the Board will:
  - (a) place appropriate advertisements in the local and provincial print media seeking input of the public (public to include members of the community, parents, students, employees). The advertisement will advise the public of the following:
    - (i) that all submissions by members of the public will be held in confidence.
    - (ii) that there is no limitation as to the number or type of suggestions that will be received by the Board.
    - (iii) that submissions include, where possible, rationale or explanation of the proposed name.
    - (iv) that submissions should be sent to the attention of the Secretary Treasurer.
    - (v) that submissions will be received from members of the public for a period of three months. The advertisement will state the closing date by which submissions must be received.
    - (vi) that a decision will be made by the Board within twelve months of placement of this advertisement, whenever possible.
    - (vii) that the decision of the Board will be made by resolution at an in-camera meeting and that a public announcement will be made at the next public meeting of the Board.

- (b) receive in confidence all submissions from members of the public and provide a summary of the submissions received, or previously received, regarding the naming and will provide such summary to the Board at the next available in-camera meeting after the closing date for submissions.
  - (c) within one month of the closing date for submissions, establish a draft shortlist of names to be considered and forward all details of the shortlisted submission to the Board along with a summary of all of the submissions that have been received.
  - (d) following Board approval of a shortlist, the Special Committee will undertake the research it deems necessary to provide the Board with further background to the shortlisted names.
  - (e) provide the Board at an in-camera meeting, within six months of the closing date for submissions, the background associated with each shortlisted submission along with its recommendation and a draft press release.
4. After receiving, at an in-camera meeting, the background associated with each shortlisted submission, the Board may, in accordance with Board Policy 201 (Committee of the Whole), resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Special Committee's report.
  5. The Board will, by resolution, vote in-camera on the naming of Board-owned facilities.
  6. The Board will announce the new name of a Board-owned facility at its next public meeting.

## **B. Naming of Parts of Board-Owned Facilities**

The Board may contemplate naming part of a Board-owned facility on its own initiative or at the suggestion of a member of the public, whereupon it will determine the necessity of asking for submissions of names from the public. If the Board decides to seek submissions from the public, it may follow the same process as that listed for the Naming of a New Board-Owned Facility.

**Policy on Renaming of District Facilities  
Research Summary**

*Google AI Mode was used to assist with the scanning process and resulting structural outline contained within this report. The author has reviewed and revised the output to ensure accuracy and is responsible for the final contents of this report.*

**Essential elements of effective school district renaming policies**

Effective school district renaming policies and procedures throughout Canada are guided by commitments to reconciliation, decolonization, transparency, and broad partner group engagement.

The following essential elements are commonly part of present-day Canadian school board policies:

<p><b>Guiding Principles and Values</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Alignment with district Mission, Vision, and Values: School renaming must support the board's mission, vision, and values, often prioritizing human rights, anti-racism, and equity.</li> <li>b. Truth and Reconciliation: Updated policies explicitly recognize Indigenous history, local First Nations' place names, and the reclamation of Indigenous languages.</li> <li>c. Inclusivity and Belonging: Renaming processes must ensure that names create a welcoming and safe environment for all and reflect the diverse demographic composition of the community.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Comprehensive Criteria for Selection</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Geographic and Historical Significance: Preference is often given for names that reference local landmarks, or historical events with positive community connections.</li> <li>b. Individual Recognition (Cautions):               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many school boards now avoid renaming schools after individuals entirely to ensure names "stand the test of time".</li> <li>• If individuals are contemplated, they must not be living, and their contributions should be extraordinary, with consideration given to historically under-represented communities.</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Prohibited Names: Policies exclude corporate names, current employees, or names associated with colonialism, racism, or catastrophic events.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Structured Procedural Steps</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Initiation and Activation of the Renaming Process: Clear guidelines for what activates a renaming process such as an exceptional circumstance, school consolidation, a major change in use, or "new</li> </ul>

	<p>knowledge" revealing that a current name no longer aligns with board values.</p> <p>b. Establishment of a Renaming Committee: A diverse committee led by a principal or board representative(s), including students, parents/guardians, staff, partner groups, and the broader community.</p> <p>c. Broad Public Consultation: A transparent process that includes surveys, public forums, and partner group input, etc., is activated. Policies often mandate a considerable amount of time for public input/feedback as it pertains to shortlisted names.</p>
<b>Direct Engagement with Impacted Groups</b>	<p>a. Indigenous Rightsholders: Consent from local First Nations is essential for using Indigenous names, often requiring the name to be "gifted" to the district.</p> <p>b. Addressing Harm: Effective procedures explicitly seek input from those who have experienced harm from a current school name.</p>
<b>Accountability and Implementation</b>	<p>a. Final Decision Authority: While committees provide recommendations and rationales, the Board of Education retains final approval authority through a public meeting.</p> <p>b. Post Renaming Education: Implementation plans often include a public dedication ceremony and an education plan to teach the history and significance (and correct pronunciation) of the newly selected name.</p>

**Scan of School District Renaming Policies**

For the purpose of the renaming policy development process (currently Policy 701.11), a scan of provincial (i.e., New Westminister, North Vancouver, Vancouver) and national (Calgary, Toronto) school district renaming policies was conducted. The following information is provided as an overview of the 5 school districts identified.

**1. Commonalities Across Districts**

- a. *Public Consultation:* All five districts mandate surveys, public forums, and committees.
- b. *Indigenous Reconciliation:* Each district prioritizes names that honor local Indigenous history, language, and culture.
- c. *Final Board Authority:* The elected Board of Education retains the ultimate legal authority to approve or reject any renaming proposal.

## 2. Key Differences

	<b>North Vancouver</b>	<b>Vancouver</b>	<b>New Westminster</b>	<b>Calgary</b>	<b>Toronto</b>
<b>Naming After People</b>	Generally avoided; strictly posthumous only.	Allowed but discouraged; must be posthumous.	Prohibited for new or renamed schools.	Primary consideration for deceased or retired individuals.	Historically common; currently under systemic review.
<b>Primary Criteria</b>	Historical, geographical, or operational characteristics.	Place-based names reflecting local heritage or geography.	Mandates a "place-based" lens; priority for Indigenous practices.	Aligns with values of being safe, inclusive, and welcoming.	Driven by a "Celebrating Diversity" framework.
<b>Renaming Activation</b>	Requires proof of "overwhelming community support."	Formal request from the school community or board motion.	Actioned by community requests or changes in district identity.	Can be triggered by a petition with at least 5,000 signatures.	Currently Paused: Halted in 2025 due to new provincial legislative oversight.



## Richmond Teachers' Association

210 - 7360 Westminster Hwy.  
 Richmond, BC  
 V6X 1A1  
 Tel: 604-278-2539  
 Fax: 604-278-4320  
[www.richmondteachersassociation.ca](http://www.richmondteachersassociation.ca)

April 8, 2026

Via Email

Chris Usih, Superintendent of Schools  
 School District No. 38 (Richmond)  
 7811 Granville Avenue  
 Richmond, BC V6Y 3E3

Dear Chris,

### **Re: Policy 701.11-R Naming and Renaming of Schools and District Facilities**

The RTA has reviewed the proposed changes to Regulation 701.11-R Naming and Renaming of School and District Facilities and provides the following feedback. The RTA understands these revisions are written in response to staff, RTA and public requests for a Board process for the consideration of school renaming. We also recognize these changes align with the Board of Education's commitment to reconciliation and decolonization as per Policy 102. We generally agree and appreciate the changes being proposed.

The RTA recommends the following feedback is considered as part of the Partner Group review process.

#### **Guiding Principles:**

For point 1:

1. The Board of Education, in its absolute discretion has the right to name schools and district facilities.

*Why is the term absolute discretion used? Is this in reference to a Bylaw or the School Act? If so, it would help clarify this reference.*

For point 5:

5. If naming after an individual, consideration will be given to Indigenous Peoples and historically under-represented communities such as visible minorities and women.

*Is it customary for Indigenous rights holders to use people's names when naming a building?*

For point 11:

11. An education and communication plan will be developed and implemented to support understanding of the historic significance of a new school or district facility name and to teach the proper pronunciation of the name given.

*Suggestion for implementation, but not to change guideline 11.*

*As part of the education and communication plan, consider adding a QR code to teach proper pronunciation and to incorporate story or history of the name given.*

#### **A. Naming of New Schools and District Facilities**

For point 2:

2. The Naming Committee will consist of:

- Two Trustees - one will be the committee chairperson
- Assistant Superintendent who will be responsible for the new school
- Director of Facilities Services
- Director of Communications and Marketing
- One representative from each partner group
- One student advisory representative (i.e., Table 38)

*It is recommended to remove "advisory" and the example Table 38 from the bulleted point 'one student advisory representative (i.e., Table 38). To be more inclusive consider:*

- *Two student representatives who will be attending the school.*

*With a committee of adults, it would be helpful to have two student representatives.*

#### **C. Renaming of School and District Facilities**

*After the initial paragraph re-include the definition of exceptional circumstances.*

The district will consider proposals to rename schools and district facilities, only in **exceptional circumstances**. Any decision to rename a school or district facility must

follow the guiding principles set out in this policy. Written proposals to rename a school or district facility can be initiated by the school administration, staff, students, the Parent Advisory Council, district staff, and community members. The proposal to rename a school or district facility, under exceptional circumstances in this policy, must clearly outline the rationale and alignment with the guiding principles.

*Add the definition under this opening paragraph of section C.*

**Exceptional circumstances** are defined for the purpose of this policy to mean, where the existing name no longer reflects the values, culture, and significance of the school population or community in which the facility is located, and/or no longer aligns with the board's core values.

For point 3:

3. If it is determined that the renaming proposal does not qualify as an exceptional circumstance, the superintendent will inform the board at the next in-camera meeting.
  - (a) Depending on the decision of the board, the superintendent or designate will communicate with the individual or group contact who submitted the proposal regarding the process and rationale for the decision.

*Does this mean the Board may overturn the initial decision that the renaming proposal does not qualify as an exceptional circumstance? For clarity, consider the following changes to (a).*

- (a) **The Board may decide to agree or disagree with the decision that the renaming proposal does not qualify as an exceptional circumstance.** Depending on the decision of the board, The superintendent or designate will communicate with the individual or group contact who submitted the proposal regarding the process and rationale for the decision.

For point 5:

5. *It is recommended that two student representatives from the school be included in the Renaming Committee.*
  - (a) The Renaming Committee when school related will consist of:
    - Two Trustees - one will be the committee chairperson
    - Assistant Superintendent who will be responsible for the school

- Director of Facilities Services
- Director of Communications and Marketing
- One representative from each partner group with a school focus where appropriate
- **Two** student representatives from the school

### **General Question about School Mascots or Logos**

Does the Board have regulations or guidelines about selecting or changing school mascots or logos or is this a school-based process? We recommend adding guidelines about selecting or changing a school mascot or logo to this regulation.

We thank you for your consideration and we welcome the opportunity to discuss Policy 701.11-R Naming and Renaming in more detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Liz Baverstock', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Liz Baverstock  
President, RTA

cc: Steve Wenglowksi, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, RTA  
Frano Marsic, Vice President, RTA  
Sherri Boljuncic, Vice President, RTA

## POLICY COMMITTEE: STATUS OF CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED ITEMS

COMPLETED FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2025/26		
Policy	Dates & Actions	
<b>1</b>	<b>Policy Refresh:</b>  <b>Policy 311/311-R:</b> Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy <b>Policy 311-G (A):</b> Privacy Impact Assessments <b>Policy 311-G (B):</b> Critical Incident and Privacy Breach Procedure <b>Policy 311-G (C):</b> Personal Information Management Program	Updated policy approved in September 2025
<b>2</b>	<b>Policy 501.8-R/501.8-G:</b> Student Admission, Registration, Placement and Transfer	Revised policy approved in January 2026
<b>3</b>	<b>Policy 701.12-G:</b> Official School Openings	<b>Final Administrative Guidelines shared at April 22, 2026 public board meeting for information and published on website on April 23, 2026.</b>

IN PROGRESS		
Policy	Dates & Actions	
<b>1</b>	<b>Policy 701.11-R: Naming and Renaming of Schools and District Facilities</b>  <b>Senior Staff Responsible:</b> Chris Usih	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public report on proposed timeline shared with partner groups (Sep 2025)</li> <li>Public report on proposed revised timeline shared with partner groups (Nov 2025)</li> <li>Public report with recommendation to place policy revisions into partner group review process from February 19 to April 10, 2026 (Feb 2026)</li> <li><b>Public report incorporating partner group feedback shared with committee, with recommendation for Notice of Motion at May board meeting (May 2026)</b></li> </ul>

## POLICY COMMITTEE: STATUS OF CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED ITEMS

ANTICIPATED		
	Policy	Dates & Actions
1	<p><b>Policy 105-R:</b></p> <p>a. District Code of Conduct: How We Learn and Work Together</p> <p>b. Respect for Personal Public Property and Environment (i.e., District Facilities, Equipment) – <b>Senior Staff Responsible:</b> Cindy Wang</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review after completion of the new strategic plan</li> <li>• Public report on draft revised policy (Feb 2021)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Committee agreed that there would be more discussion and review around process for the revision to be brought back at a later date</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2	<p><b>Student Behaviour Policies</b></p> <p>a. <b>Policy 502:</b> Student Behaviour and Discipline</p> <p>b. <b>Policy 502.1:</b> Maintenance of Orderly Conduct</p> <p>c. <b>Policy 502.2/502.2-R:</b> Student Suspension or Exclusion from School</p> <p>d. <b>Policy 502.3/502.3-R:</b> Student Possession of Weapons</p> <p><b>Senior Staff Responsible:</b> Braunwyn Thompson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update provided by Deputy Superintendent. Policies and regulations will be updated in with District Code of Conduct and brought back to the Committee for further review and feedback (Jan 2021)</li> <li>• Anticipate submission of revised policy to public meeting in 2025</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Policy 522/522-R:</b> Transportation</p> <p><b>Senior Staff Responsible:</b> Cindy Wang/Christel Brautigam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy review <b><u>placed on hold</u></b></li> </ul>

## POLICY COMMITTEE: STATUS OF CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED ITEMS

ANTICIPATED		
	Policy	Dates & Actions
<b>4</b>	<p><b>PHASE 3 - Policy Section 700: Facilities</b></p> <p>Policy 703.1 - Accident Prevention and Safety Procedure</p> <p>Policy 703.2 - First Aid and Accident Reports</p> <p>Policy 703.5 and Regulation 703.5-R - Health and Safety</p> <p>Policy 703.6 and Regulation 703.6-R - Protection of Employees from Violence in the Workplace</p> <p>Policy 705 and Regulation 705-R - Telephones</p> <p>Policy 706 - Smoke Free Environments</p> <p>Policy 703.7 and Regulation 703.7-R - Closure of Schools Due to Emergent Conditions</p> <p>Policy 707 and Regulation 707-R - Post Disaster Procedures</p> <p>Policy 708 and Regulation 708-R - Video Surveillance</p> <p><b>Senior Staff Responsible:</b> Cindy Wang</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy revision <b><u>placed on hold</u></b> (Feb 2025) – for future consideration</li> </ul>

## POLICY COMMITTEE: STATUS OF CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED ITEMS

COMPLETED IN PREVIOUS SCHOOL YEARS		
	Policy	Dates & Actions
1	<b>Policy 101:</b> Goals and Objectives	Revised policy approved in May 2023
2	<b>Policy 201:</b> Board Operations	Revised policy approved in June 2023
3	<b>Policy 311/311-R:</b> Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	New policy approved in June 2023
4	<b>Policy 621/621-R:</b> Financial Planning and Reporting and <b>Policy 631-R:</b> Accumulated Operating Surplus and Capital Reserves	Revised policy approved in June 2023
5	<b>Policy 402/402-R:</b> Public Interest Disclosure Policy	New policy approved in December 2023
6	<b>Policy 701.2-R:</b> Capital Project Design Review Process	Revised policy approved in March 2024
7	<b>Policy 200:</b> Trustee Role, Responsibilities and Code of Ethics	Revised policy approved in May 2024
8	<b>Policy 204-R:</b> Creation and Revision of Policy and Regulations	Revised policy approved in May 2024
9	<b>Policy 105: District Code of Conduct</b>	Revised policy approved in June 2024
10	<b>Policy 203-R/203-G:</b> Trustee Stipend and Expenses	Revised policy approved in October 2024
11	<b>Policy 400-R5:</b> Smoking and Alcohol Consumption <b>Policy 804.1-R:</b> Community Use of District Facilities	Revised policies approved in October 2024
12	<b>Policy Refresh:</b> <b>Policy 101/101-R: Strategic Planning</b>	Updated policies approved in December 2024
13	<b>Policy Refresh:</b> <b>Policy 103:</b> Collaboration and Community <b>Policy 103-R (A):</b> Foundations for Learning <b>Policy 103-R (B):</b> Complaints and Appeals by Staff	Updated policies approved in February 2025
14	<b>Policy Refresh:</b> <b>Policy 105/105-R:</b> District Code of Conduct	Updated policy approved in March 2025
15	<b>Policy 102:</b> Diversity and Inclusion	Revised policy approved in May 2025
16	<b>Policy 103 Bylaw:</b> Complaints by Students, Parents & the Public	Revised policy approved in May 2025
17	<b>Policy 201 Bylaw:</b> Board Operations	Revised policy approved in June 2025

*Updated to May 11, 2026*