



**Qualicum School District
Education Committee of the Whole Report
Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Via Video Conferencing
2:00 p.m.**

Facilitator: Trustee Elaine Young

Mandate:

To discuss and make recommendations to the Board on aspects of teaching, learning and educational equity. We will strive to have all students receive whatever they need to develop to their full academic and social potential and to thrive every day.

We would like to give thanks and acknowledge that the lands on which we work and learn are on the shared traditional territory of the Qualicum and Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose) First Nations People

A. PRESENTATIONS (15 Minutes Each)

I. SCHOOL/STUDENTS

i. Errington Elementary School – National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day) Activity

Students talked about the recent assembly they presented. They reflected on the what they had learned – Connection to nature, story telling, being curious, repairing the land, and kindness. Their presentation was not available at the meeting but will be sent for posting on the QSD website (pdf attached).

One student shared the impact of bullying and ended with the statement “Kindness is reconciliation.” Students in most of our schools are learning and practicing Hul’q’umi’num daily.

II. PROGRAM(S)

i. District and Provincial Assessment

Director of Instruction Terpstra presented an overview of the assessments being done in schools. Assessments are done at nearly all grade levels and these inform us on student progress and on Professional Development needs for educators.

The Literacy Screening in Kindergarten is new this year and is province wide. The Education Committee will have a presentation on this in January or sooner.

ii. Education Committee Change of Time and Revised Schedule of Topics

Trustee Young confirmed that the Education Committee would now be held at 2:00 p.m. which would be more convenient for student participation.

She then reviewed the schedule of topics as attached to the agenda, noting that it was a fluid document with additions/revisions being made as necessary.

B. EDUCATION UPDATES**I. Associate Superintendent/Director of Instruction****i. Enrollment Update**

Associate Superintendent Wilson reported that the District is still not entirely certain of its enrollment; however, it may be very close to being out of funding protection. For more on funding protection and what this means follow the budget cycle through the Finance and Operations Committee of the Whole.

ii. Other Updates

Director of Instruction Terpstra stated that the professional development on the District sponsored day focused on the work of Indigenous Education Services. Note: information provided on that day will be condensed and presented at the next Education Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Math specialist Carol Fullerton continues to provide Professional Development for Numeracy.

C. SHARED LEARNING/INFORMATION**i. Zero Waste – Denise Spencer-Dahl**

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) has granted \$20,000 to the Qualicum School District. Applications are open for educators to access the grant money until November 13.

Last year there were student and staff-led projects to reduce paper, garbage, lamination, alternative energy, worm bins, composting and a climate symposium, etc. This year could be centred on reducing soft plastics and could be tied to the Recycle BC exhibit at Science World.

D. ITEM(S) TO RECOMMEND FOR APPROVAL TO THE BOARD MEETING

No items were recommended for approval to the Board Meeting.

E. UPCOMING TOPICS

- i. Indigenous Education
- ii. Results of the BCSTA Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ADEI) Working Group
- iii. Racial Equity Together: K-12 Anti-Racism Action Plan
- iv. State of the Child and Youth Report (when available)

F. NEXT MEETING

November 12, 2025 (Due to Remembrance Day) at 2:00 via video-conferencing

G. ADJOURNMENT

Please note that this session was recorded and is available on YT through the main page of the District's website at www.sd69.bc.ca.

Education Committee Presentation

October 14, 2025

Errington Elementary's focus on Reconciliation



Reconciliation board symbolism

- Each shell on the board is unique - just like the shells in the ocean and each student in our school
- The idea of the board came after reading the book “Abalone Woman” in June
- The abalone and scallops have been harvested by Coast Salish peoples for centuries - uses were for food, tools, jewelry and decorations
- At Errington Elementary, we are learning about the local lands that we live on (Snaw’na’was and Qualicum First Nations), and about the hul’qu’mín’um language
- Each shell on the board was coloured by a student at EES - we started the shells in June for National Indigenous Peoples Day, and finished it for September 30th - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Our Truth and Reconciliation Assembly

Was student led and focused on 5 things we all could do to work towards reconciliation. These were:

1. Spending time in nature and taking care of the lands we live on
2. Reading Indigenous stories and learning about the Snaw'naw'as and Qualicum peoples and their territories
3. Being curious and open to learning about others
4. Working together and repairing relationships if we disagree
5. Being kind and accepting of others

Shyanne's Story

My sister and I have skin condition called ICHTHYOSIS

- Ichthyosis cannot be cured - it causes us to have dry, scaly skin
- We were born with ichthyosis, no one can catch it from us though
- We need to be careful in the sun
- It hurts us when people make fun of us, or say mean things
- If people are curious about our skin condition, you can ask us questions
- Being mean to others because of their uniqueness is NOT ok
- Please remember to be kind to everyone.
- Kindness is reconciliation.

Learning hul'qu'min'um

Our grade 7 students read out announcements daily.

Each day, we greet the school speaking in hul'qu'min'um. We have learned how to say Good morning, respected friends and Wildcats. We acknowledge the territories, the season and the moon - following the seasonal rounds information. We also make notices and wonderings about the land, weather and time of year.

We say a word of the week in hul'qu'min'um each week too. This week it is thqet - which means tree