



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)

*SD6 Board-Community Update
on the activities of the Board of
Education from the most recent
regular meeting*

December, 2019

PRESENTATIONS

- ✓ Darren Danyluk, Principal of David Thompson Secondary introduced two students, Aurora Orchiston and Masha Stich, to the Board. They gave a presentation on climate awareness. The students discussed how global warming is a serious issue and that climate change education is not substantial enough within our district during this current crisis. They further discussed that by incorporating more climate awareness into the education curriculum it would align with the District Directions 2023 and Student Success Plan which supports “learning that is plant-based, outdoors and focused on environmental stewardship” as well as “research based, collaborative learning community.” They expressed that while climate change has been politicized, the science has been “settled”. The students answered questions from the Board and the Chairperson thanked them for their presentation.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere introduced Duncan Whittick, Executive Director of the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network (CBEEN) who presented to the Board the results from the Take Me Outside for Learning Challenge. Mr. Whittick explained that the number of students participating has increased significantly from the 2016/17 school year where there were 18,000 student days with commitment to outside learning, to an estimated 389,000 student days in the 2019/2020 school year. Mr. Whittick explained that SD6 has 80% of teachers participating in the initiative. Mr. Whittick then presented Chairperson Byklum with an award for the highest participation in the Kootenay-Boundary region. A list of resources and stories are available at www.cbeen.ca.

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented Policy 5130, Provision of Menstrual Products, to the Board on behalf of the Policy Committee. Mr. Carriere indicated that no feedback had been received on this Policy since second reading. The Board approved third and final reading of Policy 5130.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented the following six policies to the Board for consideration at first reading:
 - Policy 1100, Policy Development
 - Policy 1210, Parents’ Advisory Council
 - Policy 1500, Code of Ethics for School Trustees
 - Policy 2200, Community Use of School District Property and Facilities
 - Policy 2202, Loans to Parents’ Advisory Council/Schools
 - Policy 2300, Business-Education Partnerships

Mr. Carriere reported that all six of these policies were considered by the Policy Committee and they involved largely housekeeping matters. All six received first reading at this meeting.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- ✓ Chairperson Byklum presented the Board Standing Committee appointments for the upcoming year. These appointments were approved by the Board.
- ✓ Ms. Lenardon presented the feedback received and recommendations on the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school calendars. The Board approved both calendars, however, the 2020-2021 calendar received an amendment to align the spring break with Easter holidays.

REPORTS

- ✓ Ms. Lenardon reviewed the Learning Leadership Report with the Board drawing their attention to a number of highlights. The report is available on the SD6 website main page, either as a scrolling news item or under the “about us” menu.
- ✓ Vice-Chairperson Fearing indicated that she attended the BCSTA Fall Academy and reported on a number of highlights from the event. She was extremely impressed with the quality of the speakers and presenters and was thankful for the opportunity to spend some time with her colleagues on the board and other boards from across the province. Other trustees that attended the Academy in turn also commented on what they considered to be the highlights. Trustee McRae emphasized how impressed he was with the organization of the event and the inspiring quality of the presenters.
- ✓ Trustee Thurgood Sagal reported on the BCSTA Kootenay Boundary Branch breakfast meeting that was held during the Fall Academy. She indicated that all the boards were asked to present the progress on their district’s strategic plan.
- ✓ Vice-Chairperson Smail reported that the BCTF and BCSEA continued with a further two days of negotiations with a mediator.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- ✓ The December 2019 and January 2020 Calendars are available [here](#).