



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)

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

May, 2020

PRESENTATIONS

- ✓ Blaine Broderick, Principal of Lady Grey Elementary School (LGES) introduced three grade seven students and their adult allies who presented the Board a video on their experience at the Canada We Want Conference in Toronto. 170 youth and adult allies from every province and territory in Canada came together to take action on issues that are impacting young people. Some of the issues that were discussed included indigenous issues and Truth in Reconciliation. The students from LGES were asked to speak and present a video at the event explaining how they can contribute to our country and that felt like they had a voice and that their voice matters. The students were able to ask questions to Member of Parliament, Adam Van Koeverden, who is on the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs. The students spoke very positively about their experience and how they felt it was a safe environment and that they felt love from everyone at the conference.
- ✓ Mr. Broderick then introduced Vice-Principal, Laurie MacDougall, who shared a video from a student with the Board. Ms. MacDougall reported that she has received a number of videos from parents demonstrating how families are learning together with their children. The video demonstrated how one student is developing his mechanical and engineering skills by building a go-kart from parts in their home shop. The student explained how he was going to put the go-kart together and then ended with a demonstration of him driving it in the yard.
- ✓ The Board thanked Mr. Broderick and Ms. MacDougall for their presentations.

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented the following nine policies to the Board for consideration at first and second reading:
 - Policy 5000, School Catchment Areas
 - Policy 5120, Healthy Schools
 - Policy 5140, Medical Alert and Administering Medication to Students
 - Policy 5150, Allergic Reactions / Anaphylaxis
 - Policy 5500, Student Records
 - Policy 5510, Custody of Children and Education Information
 - Policy 5800, District Code of Conduct for Students
 - Policy 5850, Interrogation of Students

- Policy 3800, Expenses on Board of Education Business

Mr. Carriere reported that these policies were considered by the Policy Committee, and that they are housekeeping matters with the exception of Policy 3800, Expenses on Board of Education Business which is proposing to increase the mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.55 per km to \$0.57 per km effective July 1, 2020 to be consistent with the Teachers' Collective Agreement that was ratified on May 1, 2020. All nine policies received first and second reading at this meeting.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- ✓ Mr. Culler reported on the April 2020 Budget Utilization summaries for the Board's information. Mr. Culler indicated that April's financial results include the first full month of operations under COVID-19. Mr. Culler reviewed expense categories that resulted in cost savings and categories that have resulted in increased expenditures. Mr. Culler responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his presentation.
- ✓ Mr. Culler presented the 2020 – 2021 Annual Budget Bylaw for the Board's approval. Mr. Culler reviewed the District's revenue sources and proposed expenditures in detail. Mr. Culler explained that the Finance and Audit Committee met to review and provide input into the budget and is recommending that the Board consider first and second readings of the 2020 – 2021 Annual Budget Bylaw at this meeting. Mr. Culler responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his presentation.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented the Board of Education Schedule of Meetings for the school year 2020-21 for the Board consideration. Mr. Carriere responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his report.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere reported that annually in May the Board approves school fees for the upcoming school year. Mr. Carriere reviewed the fees that the schools propose to charge parents in 2020-2021 for various activities and programs that are permissible within the guidelines of the *BC School Act*. Mr. Carriere indicated that once approved, the fee schedule will be made available on the district website for parents to access. Mr. Carriere responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his report.
- ✓ Ms. Lenardon reported that due to the suspension of in-class instruction as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic she is requesting that the Board approve a variance to the District reporting practice. She indicated that the Ministry has provide flexibility to Boards to narrow the curricular focus to include literacy, numeracy and core competencies and allow teachers to evaluate students on their expression of study strengths in a format that is different from the usual practice. Ms. Lenardon explained how reporting would look at K – 7 and also at Grades 8 – 12. Ms. Lenardon responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her report.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere reported that he the Province has released the BC Restart Plan which lays out a plan for restarting the BC economy. The plan will reintroduce face to face instruction once guidelines from the Ministry have been released. Senior staff provided an update on the district response to the COVID-19 pandemic, covering four main areas.
 1. Safety of students and workers. Se Team was activated. Mr. Jackson reviewed the work that has been done to update safe work practices.
 2. Services for essential service workers. Ms. Lenardon reported that 42 children of essential service workers have bene receiving at least part of their instruction in schools largely from EA's and school based staff.
 3. Services for those who are vulnerable or have unique circumstances. Ms. Lenardon reported that there has been an increase in the number of vulnerable students that have been receiving services from the school.
 4. Providing continuity of educational opportunities for all students. Ms. Lenardon reported that the focus has been on literacy and core competencies.

REPORTS

- ✓ Trustee Fearing provided an update from the Provincial Council indicating that there is a new Director from the Sea to Sky School District. She indicated that the Directors are largely from the lower mainland noting that there is no representation from the East Kootenay's. She reported that the budget was adopted and an Auditor was appointed. Committees continued to be tabled.
- ✓ Trustee Thurgood Sagal reported that School District No. 51 was to host the AGM this fall; however, it has been postponed until spring of 2021.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- ✓ The May and June Calendars are available [here](#).