



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)

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

November, 2019

PRESENTATIONS

- ✓ Michelle Iacobucci, Vice- Principal of Lindsay Park Elementary School introduced a number of Grade 3 students to the Board. They each had prepared statements describing what they feel is important about learning at their school. They demonstrated how they are learning words in the Ktunaxa language, doing outdoor learning activities, visiting Cominco Gardens, learning songs in music class, focusing on their reading skills, building projects, and using the 6 Cedars book to identify their different traits and learn more about indigenous ways of learning. The Chairperson thanked the children and Ms. Iacobucci for their presentation.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere introduced Bob Johnstone, who is the President of the Meadowbrook Community Association. Mr. Johnstone introduced Andrea Chapman, Manager of Wildsight Kimberley/Cranbrook, Marty Musser, Meadowbrook Community Association Director, and Kim Urbaniak, who is the Wildsight Educator who organizes and delivers the McGinty Lake Program. Mr. Johnstone began by indicating that this educational program is supported with significant funding from the CBT as well as BC Hydro. He also expressed gratitude to the Board for funding transportation costs associated with SD6 students accessing the programming, which has helped them stretch the available funding and target it more to the actual program rather than to ancillary costs. Kim then proceeded with a presentation, where she illustrated a typical experience for the children at the site. She explained that they have the opportunity to explore the wetlands and that there are pre and post class lessons on a variety of topics. A sequenced curriculum for K-6 has been developed that aligns with the redesigned BC Curriculum. In the past year 684 students/34 classes from our District have been involved in the program. Kim responded to questions from the Board. The Chairperson thanked her for the presentation and thanked Mr. Johnstone and the other guests.

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented Policy 5130 – to the Board on behalf of the Policy Committee. Mr. Carriere indicated that no feedback had been received on this Policy since first reading. The Board approved second reading of Policy 5130, Provisions of Menstrual Products to Students at this meeting.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented Bylaw No. 1 – Procedural Bylaw for the Board’s consideration, for first reading. Mr. Carriere explained that the Policy Committee will be systematically reviewing the Policy Manual this year starting with the Bylaws. The proposed changes to Bylaw 1 allows for the Agenda on Regular Meetings of the Board to be adjusted to accommodate the election of officers of the Board and the making of committee appointments in each of the three November meetings between the general election of Trustees. In the past these agenda items have been added despite the wording of the Bylaw. There are also other housekeeping changes proposed. Mr. Carriere reported that the Policy Committee recommends all three readings at tonight’s meeting.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- ✓ The September 2019 and October 2019 budget utilization summaries were attached to the agenda for the information of the Board.
- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented the highlights of the report on achievement for the 2018-19 school year. Mr. Carriere noted the results in reading, writing, numeracy, on track score, graduation success and provided a narrative on these results. There continues to be significant alignment in the results for literacy between the provincial and local assessments and teacher marks. The alignment is not as strong in numeracy which is why we continue to have a focus on numeracy in school plans and as a staff development priority. Mr. Carriere also noted the extraordinary gains over time in results for both aboriginal learners and learners having special needs. He acknowledged the work of Assistant Superintendent Turner and the District Learning Services Team in supporting this improvement. Mr. Carriere finished his report by providing a narrative on groups of students we remain concerned about and how we are focused as a district on enhancing their achievement. He acknowledged the hard work of Assistant Superintendent Lenardon in the preparation of the report. He also noted that it would be featured on the District website. Mr. Carriere and Ms. Lenardon responded to a number of questions from Trustees and the Chairperson thanked him for the report.
- ✓ Steve Jackson explained an opportunity for our District to become involved in a project which would allow the District to utilize an electric bus. He indicated that over time this could prove to be a wise financial decision and would also show leadership in the area of reducing our carbon footprint. Trustees asked a number of questions about the specifics of the project. Following this dialogue, the Chairperson asked Mr. Jackson for his opinion. Mr. Jackson responded by indicating that while there were concerns that would have to be addressed with having this new technology a part of the fleet, the project is a good opportunity for the District. The Board approved the application for an electric bus and charging station including using local capital reserves for the District's portion of the purchase.

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 suggested that the Board may benefit from having a professional learning session on local aboriginal history, perhaps at a Board Working Session. She also recommended an excellent film in the Haida language for Trustees to watch.
- ✓ Trustee Thurgood Sagal indicated that she had nothing to report.
- ✓ Vice-Chairperson Smaill attended the BCPSEA Representative Council Meeting in Vancouver for the purpose of participating in the consultation regarding Mediator David Schaub's report. The Mediator had attended with the parties for 16 days, and there were only 3 items resolved in 59 days of bargaining as well as the mediation. BCSPEA asked the Mediator for a report with recommendations which was provided 2 Fridays ago. The parties were asked whether their executives would support the recommendations. BCTF executive decided that they would not accept the recommendations nor circulate them to the membership. Therefore, there was no vote at the BCPSEA Rep Council meeting as the matter was rendered moot.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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