



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)

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

October 2020

PRESENTATIONS

- ✓ Bob Wilson, Principal of Alexander Park Elementary School. Mr. Wilson provided the Board with an overview of the “Play Today” program which is part of the Province’s early learning framework. He felt the program fit well with the District Directions 2023 theme as well as the school’s vision. He outlined the four components of the program – Free Play, Inquiry Play, Collaborative Play and Playful Learning; and how the program moves into educator directed play.
- ✓ **STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES**
- ✓ There was one Strategic and Policies Issue to present to the Board.

Policy Development:

- Third Reading NIL
- Second Reading NIL
- First Reading Criminal Record Review

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- ✓ Ms. Harding presented the September Budget Utilization Summary. Expenditures are slightly lower than estimated. As we would expect, transportation amounts are the most significantly decreased with no trips and a very limited international program. Instruction, Admin and Maintenance are within 0.79-1.29% expended compared to September 30 last year. We have had increases to staffing and maintenance costs but these have so far been offset by COVID-19 related grant funds.
- ✓ Mr. Jackson presented the Board of Education with the Amended 5yr Capital Plan. The Board of Education amended the Capital Plan Bylaw which is required following the Minister’s approval on the plan.
- ✓ Mr. Dolgopol presented the enrollment report for the 2020-21 school year. The enrollment numbers are counted on September 30 of each school year. Our enrollment numbers show a reduction of 49 students. The reduction of students can be attributed to a decrease in the number of international students in our school communities this year as a result of COVID-19 travel restrictions and a few families choosing Home School options. The majority of families choosing alternative learning programs for their children as a result of COVID-19 have indicated their intention to return to in-class learning and, therefore, were counted in the enrollment count as usual.

- ✓ Ms. Johnson, Director of Instruction, Learning Services, presented a report on StrongStart Programs in SD6 schools. Programs experienced a delayed start up this year. All StrongStart Programs were required to implement the SD6 COVID-19 Health and Safety protocols and adjust programming accordingly. StrongStart programs in SD6 are operated in partnership with our community partners in each region. An extension of the StrongStart Program is a pilot project called Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transitions, a multi-partner initiative focused on improving early learning experiences and transition processes for children prior to entering the K-12 education system.

REPORTS

- ✓ Trustee Fearing informed the Board that three meetings have been scheduled by the BC Trustee Association – Provincial Council, Trustees Academy and Indigenous Education Committee. All meetings will be virtual.
- ✓ Trustee Thurgood Sagal updated the Board on the Trustees Academy indicating that there were 23 individuals who participated virtually. There is a need to appoint a Kootenay Boundary Branch representative since no Trustees from this District are on the Branch executive. Trustee Thurgood Segal accepted the nomination to continue to serve as the District's Kootenay Boundary Branch representative.
- ✓ Trustee Smaill had nothing to report on the Public School Employers' Association.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- ✓ The October and November Calendars are available [here](#).