



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)

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

April, 2020

PRESENTATIONS

- ✓ Clint Dolgopol, Principal of Selkirk Secondary School (SSS) provided the Board with an update on the leadership program. Mr. Dolgopol indicated that the program has been running for a couple of years providing students with leadership class opportunities each semester. He indicated that the teacher, Scott McInnis, has done a really good job attracting students to the program which has opened it up to more students. The classes allow students to demonstrate leadership by working with businesses and other organizations from the community. They bring in guest speakers and organize a number of events throughout the year.
- ✓ Mr. Dolgopol also provided the Board with an update on the programming being offered to students due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation. Mr. Dolgopol indicated that he is really proud of his staff as they have transitioned from the traditional model of instruction to facilitating student learning at home. He indicated that it has taken a lot of planning, with the bulk of his staff working remotely. All families were surveyed to find out if there were any technology issues and where necessary, support staff have been providing students with hard copies of material where there are internet challenges. Mr. Dolgopol responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his presentation.
- ✓ Amy Shoup, Manager of the Rocky Mountain International Student Program (RMISP) provided the Board with an update on the program. She indicated that for the 2019-20 school year there were 199 students (142.4 FTE) enrolled in the program across the three districts (SD5, SD6 and SD19). Ms. Shoup informed the Board that there are currently forty-two (42) students, mostly from Mexico and Germany, remaining in Canada. Seventy-seven (77) students have returned back to their home countries. Program coordinators found it was very challenging finding flights home for those students, due to limited flight availability and cancellations. For the 2020-21 school year the program is in a good position, with only a few cancellations to date. Currently there are 150 FTE enrolled which only leaves a few spaces available. Some registrants have asked to defer their start date till October, and they are seeing increased interest for the second semester. Ms. Shoup reviewed some of the excursions that the students go on which are included in their fees, and she also reviewed the Rocky Rewards program stating it is an attainable goal for students and it helps to maximize their experience by enhancing their integration into the school and community. Ms. Shoup ended her presentation by stating that the program is always looking for more host families. Ms. Shoup responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked her for her presentation.

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

- ✓ Mr. Carriere presented the following seven policies to the Board for consideration at second and third final reading:
 - Policy 4100, Staffing
 - Policy 4400, Non-Certified Teachers on Call
 - Policy 4500, Occupational Health and Safety
 - Policy 4510, Workplace Bullying and Harassment
 - Policy 4550, Prevention of Violence in the Work-place
 - Policy 4560, First Aid Attendants
 - Policy 4605, Use of District Facilities and Equipment by Staff

Mr. Carriere reported that these policies were considered by the Policy Committee, and that they are housekeeping matters. All seven policies received second and third reading at this meeting.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- ✓ Mr. Culler reported on the March 2020 Budget Utilization summaries for the Board's information.
- ✓ Mr. Culler stated that at the April 9, 2019 regular meeting the Board approved a motion to provide transportation services to Conseil Scolaire Francophone de la Columbie-Britannique (School District No. 93) for their students in Golden. Mr. Culler also stated that at the same meeting the Board passed a motion to have this item brought back to them in no more than one year's time so that the Board could review the agreement prior to it being renewed. Mr. Jackson provided an update on bussing in Golden indicating that there have been no operational issues in providing this contracted service to the Francophone school. Mr. Culler and Mr. Jackson responded to questions and the Board agreed to renew the contract for one additional year.
- ✓ Senior staff provided an update on the district response to the COVID-19 pandemic, covering four main areas:
 - The Safety of students and workers. The District Response Team was activated. Mr. Jackson reviewed the pandemic plan, WorkSafe BC requirements, and the framework and safe work practices developed.
 - Services for essential service workers. Ms. Lenardon reviewed the framework that was developed to support essential service workers by providing educational services at school sites for their children.
 - Services for those who are vulnerable or have unique circumstances. Ms. Lenardon reported that staff has been working really hard to provide respite relief, technology, food and adaptive equipment for these students.
 - Providing continuity of educational opportunities for all students. Ms. Lenardon reported that staff had to adapt to a new way of providing educational opportunities for all students without overwhelming parents. There has been a lot work done around identifying the personal needs of students and developing programming to meet those needs.

REPORTS

- ✓ The Learning Leadership Report was presented to the Board. The report is available on the SD6 website main page, either as a scrolling news item or under the “about us” menu.
- ✓ Trustee Fearing provided an update on the Provincial Council indicating that most of the committee items have been tabled.
- ✓ Trustee Thurgood Sagal reported that she participated in the BCSTA Strategic Planning Session webinar and provided an overview of the session. She advised Trustees that the presentation material can be found on the BCSTA Hub.
- ✓ Vice-Chairperson Smaill provided an update on Provincial bargaining for teachers indicating that a proposed Provincial Collective Agreement was reached on March 26, 2020 between the British Columbia Public School Employers’ Association and the British Columbia Teachers’ Federation. Both parties are currently in the process of ratifying the agreement and she is hopeful to have this matter resolved for the next three years.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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