



**ROCKY
MOUNTAIN**
School District #6



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

April 2024

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

Policy development • Steve Wyer, Acting Superintendent

Third reading – Policy 7000, Transportation of students

The proposed amendment would see the transportation assistance rate tied to the collective agreement between the Rocky Mountain School District and Rocky Mountain Teachers' Association. The rate for transportation assistance will be 75% of the rate described in district practice 3800. Mr. Wyer informed the Board of Education that no feedback had been received on this proposed amendment. Policy 7000 received third and final reading.

Second reading – NIL

First reading – Policy 5850, District code of conduct for students

On Friday, January 26, 2024, the Premier of British Columbia announced the province would be taking "actions to keep kids and young people safe from online threats, restrict cellphones in school and hold social media companies accountable".

The announcement includes three concrete actions to keep kids and young adults safe:

- restricting the use of cellphones in schools;
- launching services to remove images from the internet and pursue predators; and
- legislation to hold social media companies accountable for the harm they have caused.

The expectation is that schools will have policies in place by the start of the next school year to be able to restrict students' cell phone use in the classroom.

To meet this requirement, the Rocky Mountain School District is proposing a change to Policy and District Practice 5800, District Student Code of Conduct. The change would include a section on the use of electronic devices and communication.

[Review the proposed changes.](#)

Feedback is being collected until April 26, 2024. Please visit the [Policies Under Review](#) webpage to provide your comments.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

Capital Bylaw – Annual five-year capital plan submission 2024/25

In accordance with Section 143 of the School Act, Boards of Education are required to adopt a single Capital Bylaw for its approved 2024/25 Capital Plan.

As per the response from the Ministry of Education and Child Care, Rocky Mountain School District has been approved for the following capital projects:

- School Enhancement Program
 - Renovations (SEP) at Kimberley Alternate School - \$980,000
 - Lighting Upgrade (CNCP) at Martin Morigeau Elementary School - \$245,000
 - Kitchen upgrades (FIP) at Lindsay Park Elementary School, Marysville Elementary School, and Nicholson Elementary School - \$100,000
- Four Replacement Busses - diesel

REPORTS

Budget utilization report • Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer

Mr. Rice presented the Board of Education a report on year-to-date operating expenditures compared to budget and prior year. Expenditures to date are above budget by 0.66% and greater than the prior year by \$2,603,000 for the same timeframe. The operating variance of actual to budget for year-to-date is considered reasonable.

Annual facilities grant • Al Ure, Director of Operations

The school district is provided with funds each year to complete general maintenance of the facilities which is referred to as the Annual Facilities Grant (AFG). The AFG has been approximately \$1 million over the past few years. Nineteen projects totaling just over 1.2 million are planned for 2024-25 school year. Follow the link to view the [planned list of renovations](#).

First Nations school of choice • Trent Dolgopol, Director of Instruction

On November 7, 2023 the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia passed Bill No. 40 – *School Amendment Act*. The legislation identifies new requirements for engagement with First Nations to identify schools of choice, for those First Nations students who live on-reserve. Rocky Mountain School District collaborated with both ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation and Shuswap Band to establish a process for confirming schools of choice.

The school district has received confirmation of schools of choice from both ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation and Shuswap Band.

ʔakisq̓nuk First Nation's schools of choice:

- Windermere Elementary School
- David Thompson Secondary School

Shuswap Band's schools of choice:

- Eileen Madson Primary School
- J. Alfred Laird Elementary School
- David Thompson Secondary School