



## **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, 2021**

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- ✓ Julie Brown, Osteopathic Practitioner asked the Board to consider potential health risks from quaternary ammonium chloride compounds found in various cleaning products such as Vital Oxide used by the district in its schools and facilities. Ms. Brown indicated that the information she shared is based on best practices that consider current evidence, applies the regulatory framework, and inter disciplinary collaboration. Ms. Brown indicated that while Vital Oxide is listed by Health Canada as an authorized cleaning product shown to be an effective disinfectant against Coronavirus, she stated that it is not an endorsement by Health Canada for its use as stated on their website. She cited current research showing the harmful effects of quaternary ammonium chloride exposure include but are not limited to fertility, asthma and immune system, as well as mitochondria injury. Ms. Brown also indicated that while this class of compounds is generally regarded as safe, she stated that there is growing evidence of health harm as research continues. Ms. Brown asked the Board to consider substitutes for Vital Oxide including products with active ingredients containing citric acid, thymol, and hydrogen peroxide by September 2021. The Chairperson thanked her for her presentation.
- ✓ Meadow Smith, Chairperson of Columbia Valley Learning Centre Society presented information to the Board regarding the Rocky Mountain Research Centre. The concept for the Centre was developed in collaboration with Bill Swan who was hired to develop a website, promotional videos, and connect with potential investors. The society is proposing that the Board consider the closed school in Parson, BC as the location for the Centre due to its availability and proximity to the wetlands of the Columbia River valley. The Board viewed the video presentation, and Ms. Smith responded to questions. The Chairperson thanked Ms. Smith for her presentation.

## STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

### Third Reading:

- Policy 4104, Departing Exempt Employee Compensation
- Policy 4950, Service Recognition

Ms. Shipka presented the Board with the proposed amendments for the two (2) policies above for third and final reading. Ms. Shipka indicated that there has been no feedback received or changes made since second reading. The Policy Committee is recommending that the Board consider third and final reading of both policies at this meeting and the Board approved the policies at third and final reading.

### Second Reading:

- Policy 4105, Staff Conflict of Interest

Ms. Shipka presented the Board with the proposed amendments for the policy for second reading. Ms. Shipka indicated that there has been no feedback or changes made since first reading. The Policy Committee is recommending that the Board consider second reading of the policy at this meeting and the Board approved the policy at second reading.

### First Reading:

Nil

## OPERATIONAL ISSUES

Nil

## REPORTS

- ✓ BC School Trustees Association Jane Fearing

Trustee Fearing indicated that she had nothing to report from Provincial Council; however, she will forward a copy of the poster created through her work on the Indigenous Committee.

- ✓ BC School Trustee Association, Kootenay-Boundary Branch Jane Thurgood Sagal

Trustee Thurgood Sagal provided an update on the branch brunch meeting scheduled for the BCSTA AGM. Several trustees indicated that they would like to present topics for discussion to the membership at that meeting.

- ✓ Public School Employers' Association Sandra Smaill

Trustee Smaill indicated that she had nothing to report.

- ✓ Budget Utilization Summary Dale Culler

Mr. Culler presented to the Board with the March budget utilization summary for the end of the third quarter. Mr. Culler indicated that the Government Reporting Entity (GRE) is being prepared for submission to the Ministry of Education on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Mr. Culler responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his report.

✓ District Resource Centre Report

Steve Wyer

Mr. Wyer presented the plan to modernize the District Resource Centre (DRC) to the Board. Mr. Wyer explained the DRC has served the district well over the years; however, it is time to revisit how the DRC operates. Schools are purchasing instructional resources with their own resources and there is greater availability of resources online. Mr. Wyer indicated that the DRC currently sees very little traffic from teachers and he would like to see a shift from printed materials to high traffic items such as robotics and expensive kits that are not feasible for each school to purchase. Mr. Wyer responded to questions and the Chairperson thanked him for his report.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- ✓ The April and May 2021 Calendars are available [here](#).