



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
School District #6



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

October 2021

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

Policy Development • Karen Shipka

First reading

Several policies and district practices were presented for first reading. The policies and practices are found in the policy manual sections covering human resources and students. The topics under consideration in the human resources section include leaves for exempt employees; personal property; management of union grievances; and the roles of the secretary treasurer, superintendent, director of instruction; principals and vice principals.

The topics under consideration in the students section include student enrollment; verification of BC resident status; student travel for work experience; student safety; student threat assessment; admission of international students; custody of children and educational information; and nursing support services. The policies were sent out to stakeholder groups and have invited feedback to be sent back by October 22. It is anticipated that these policies will be taken to the Board on November 9 for second reading. Feedback at second reading will be accepted up to November 26 at noon.

Second reading

Sections found in the 1000 and 2000 policy manual were presented to the Board of Education. No feedback was received and the policies and district practices received second reading.

Third reading

The policy and district practice 9400, district parent advisory committee incorporated feedback that was received after second reading. The superintendent was removed from the membership of the DPAC.

REPORTS

Budget utilization summary - September 30, 2021 • Alan Rice

Mr. Rice presented the Board of Education the year-to-date operating expenditures compared to the budget and prior year data. Expenditures to date are below budget but greater than the prior year for the same timeframe. The current situation is as follows:

- Instruction: increase of approximately \$907,000 from prior year. Primarily attributable to increase in salaries and benefits, and homestay fees.
- Administration: increase of approximately \$28,000 from prior year. Primarily attributable to increases in salaries and benefits.
- Operations and Maintenance: increase of approximately \$106,000 from prior year. Primarily attributable to supplies, utilities and equipment costs due to COVID.
- Transportation and Housing: increase of approximately \$88,000 from prior year. Attributable to resumption of travel and bus trips.

Enrollment report • Trent Dolgopol

The student enrollment count is based on the students who were registered and accounted for on September 29, 2021. Enrollment data indicates an increase from 3,325 in 2020 to 3,518, an increase of 193 students across the district. International student enrollment has rebounded this year. Our International student enrollment has gone from 78 students in 2019, to 17 students in 2020, and now back up to 83 students at September 29, 2021.

District website and portal • Trent Dolgopol

After considering the options available from multiple vendors it was determined that a vendor named Rally could provide the District with the best product and services to meet District needs. The new District and school websites, once implemented, will include enhanced capabilities and functionality that allow for improved communication with all students, families, staff, and the broader community. Teachers will also have the option of hosting class websites where they may post information and resources for access by students and families. Additionally, the District will be incorporating more social media presence.

District vice principals update • Steve Wyer

Mr. Wyer introduced the district vice principals (DVP) and shared that they work as team of leaders to support schools in advancing learning in specialized areas throughout the District. As a team, they began this work methodically by examining each school plan to identify areas where the DVP could support the principal in realizing the objectives in the school success plan. The DVPs have met individually with each school principal to discuss ways to support collective school strategies for growth as well as how to assist principals in sharing and talking about evidence of learning with staff. Arising from this process, a number of district objectives lead by our school principals in partnership with the DVP are already underway. The district vice principals are:

- Barb Carriere – District Vice Principal Literacy
- Kristin Insull – District Vice Principal Numeracy
- Kari Mason – District Vice Principal Learning Support Services
- Jenna Jasek – District Vice Principal Indigenous Education and Equity
- Crystal McLeod – District Vice Principal Early Learning

Trustee reports on association business • Trustees Fearing and Sagal Thurgood

Trustee Fearing and Trustee Thurgood Sagal reported that BCTEA and BCSTA Kootenay Boundary Branch activities. Trustee Fearing reported and presented the knowledge series that she has participated in to create as a member of the Indigenous Education Committee (IEC). Trustee Thurgood Sagal reported that the Kootenay Boundary Branch meeting was held via Zoom on Sunday, September 26, 2021. The Board of education appointed Rhonda Smith as the Kootenay Boundary Branch Representative for School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain).

Trustee Thurgood Sagal reported on the FESL volunteer sector working group's activities. She shared that the group has been developing descriptive statements to align the multi-year strategic plan, financial and operational plan, and school plans. She also noted that a sub-committee will continue working over several meeting dates this fall.