



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

### November 2021

## PRESENTATION/DELEGATIONS

Shilo Cameron, Lisa Godlien, and Gwyn Robinson addressed the Board of Education about COVID-19 vaccine clinics held in School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) facilities. Presentation materials were reviewed by the Board prior to the meeting. Following their presentation, Trustee Byklum stated that both the Ministry of Education and the Board had already responded to many of their concerns and that they would review the presentation package to determine if an additional response was required.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Board of Education elected Officers of the Board. The results of the election are below. We congratulate all members of the Board of Education of SD6 Rocky Mountain and thank them for their service.

- Chairperson – Amber Byklum
- Vice-Chairs – Trustee Fearing (Golden) and Trustee Smail (Kimberley)
- BCPSEA Representative and Alternate
  - BCPSEA Representative - Trustee Smail
  - BCPSEA Alternate Representative – Trustee Thurgood-Sagal
- BCSTA Provincial Council Representative and Alternate
  - BCSTA Representative – Trustee Fearing
  - BCSTA Alternate Representative – Trustee Smith

# STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

## **Policy Development • Karen Shipka**

### Third reading

Ms. Shipka presented the Board with the proposed amendments to policies found in the 1000 and 2000 sections for third reading. Ms. Shipka reported that there was feedback received from Trustees and staff members on policy 2020 – traditional territory acknowledgement, flag, and national anthem protocol. The policy now states that each school and board office will fly the flags of Canada, British Columbia, Ktunaxa Nation, Métis Nation of BC, and the Secwépemc First Nation. The policy also states that acknowledgement of the traditional territories and the national anthem are important parts of the celebration of Canada and develops a sense of identity and purpose for the people of Canada.

Policy 2700.2 also saw proposed changes that will require all parents sign the acceptable use policy. The Board of Education agreed to the changes and the policies in sections 1000 and 2000 received third and final reading.

### Second reading

Ms. Shipka presented the Board with proposed amendments to policies found in the 4000 and 5000 sections for second reading. She stated that she had received feedback from RMTA after the deadline but will include it for the Board to consider prior to third reading. The Board of Education gave policy sections 4000 and 5000 second reading. Feedback can be provided until November 26 on the proposed changes.

### First reading

The Board of Education was provided with several policies found in sections 6000, 7000, and 8000 of the policy manual. The Board removed policy 6300 – use of district facilities and equipment by staff from first reading to consider it further. The remaining sections received first reading. Feedback can be provided until November 26 on the proposed changes prior to second reading.

# OPERATIONAL ISSUES

## **Capital bylaw – annual five year capital plan submission for 2021/22 amendment • Alan Rice**

The Board of Education gave three and final readings to capital plan bylaw no. 2021/22 CPSD6-02. The amendment provides additional \$30,000 of funding to supplement the electric bus and an additional \$50,000 for a charging station.

# OPERATIONAL ISSUES

## **COVID-19 risk matrix** • Karen Shipka and Surrena Craig

The school district implemented an overnight fieldtrip risk assessment to assist trip organizers determine whether trips are reasonable during a pandemic. The risk assessment is based on three factors:

- 1) High case rates according to BCCDC
- 2) Any additional and current regional public health orders that would impact a trip as listed on the relevant public health authority website (e.g. whether regional travel restrictions are recommended for the region, essential travel only, etc.)
- 3) If the activity includes or allows the public to participate. Public defined in the risk assessment as people outside of the SD6 group. (i.e. other schools, spectators, general public).

Selkirk Secondary School requested that a review of the overnight fieldtrip risk assessment be completed for school sport trips that follow the BC School Sport guidelines and the K-12 communicable disease guidelines. Selkirk Secondary School asked that these trips be approved regardless of the outcome of the risk assessment given they follow a specific safety plan and added controls for the trip.

After much deliberation, the Board of Education maintained that the District Practice Risk Assessment Tool be used for the approval process for overnight trips of students and staff, when travelling out of their home communities, during the COVID-19 pandemic status as directed by the B.C. Government.

# REPORTS

## **Rocky Mountain International School Program (RMISP) update** • Alan Rice

Mr. Rice provided a financial update on RMISP. RMISP contributes 11.5% of the tuition revenue (net of agent commissions) to SD6's budget on an annual basis. The program is designed to be self-sufficient covering the direct costs of running the program. The program enriches the experience for all students by sharing cultures, perspectives and creating life-long friendships. There is also a financial contribution to SD6 schools in the amount of \$6,000 per FTE which supplements the schools budget to increase services to all SD6 students. RMISP maintains a small surplus balance and uses funds from its operations to support extracurricular activities for all students through the purchase of Outdoor Education equipment.

## **Mental health** • Viveka Johnson

Ms. Johnson shared with the Board of Education that the Ministry of Education (MOE) provided additional grant funding this year to address emerging mental health concerns resulting from the pandemic. This funding is intended to identify mental health concerns, promote positive mental health, well-being and to provide additional supports to students, families and educators. Ms. Johnson shared many of the projects and capacity building initiatives that are being undertaken within the school district.

## **District vice principals update** • Steve Wyer

The district vice principals have been busy during the month of October rolling out initiatives related to their respective portfolios. Mr. Wyer provided an overview of activities.