



## **SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6 (ROCKY MOUNTAIN)**

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

**March, 2019**

### **STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES**

- ✓ Mr. Carriere reported the discussion that had taken place with the Board's Policy Committee regarding proposed amendments to Policy 5100 – Student Safety. The Committee talked about the fact that the current policy does not specify that secondary-aged students are required to wear a helmet for ice-skating, and that no students are required to wear protective headgear while curling. As amendments were already at the second reading step in the process, a resolution was passed at the request of the Committee to delay second reading until April, to allow for more discussion of this matter by the Committee and to allow more time for community and school input.
- ✓ The Board considered a new Policy at first reading, Policy 3110. Mr. Culler created the policy draft based on examples from some other Districts, and submitted it to the Committee for their consideration. The Policy is about providing guidance to schools when they apply for various grants to support local projects. It specifies that if the project has an aggregate value of up to \$5000 it could be managed at the school level, but if higher, that it be submitted to the Secretary Treasurer. One of the main objectives is to ensure that schools do not obtain approval for a grant if a project that it would fund is not actually possible from a regulatory, policy or other standpoint.

### **OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

- ✓ Mr. Culler reported on the Budget Utilization of the District. Maintenance costs appear lower than expected, mainly because of differences in utility costs at this point in the year from previous years (it was colder earlier in the winter last year). Otherwise, utilization of the budget is as expected.
- ✓ The Capital Plan Bylaw was presented by staff and passed by the Board in three readings. The District has been approved for \$1.7 million under the school enhancement program and \$137,691 for the purchase of a new bus. School enhancement projects include a building envelope upgrade at Edgewater Elementary (siding, windows, doors, and accessibility improvements) and new flooring and upgraded lighting in various buildings.
- ✓ Vice Chairperson Fearing proposed that the Board begin the practice of acknowledging the traditional territory of the Ktunaxa and Shuswap people at Board meetings and other formal gatherings within the District. She provided a rationale including the fact that this is done by the BCSTA at their meetings, and that it is an important part of reconciliation with First Peoples. After some discussion the Board passed a resolution to begin this practice going forward.
- ✓ Mr. Culler reported that the District's banking advisor recommends a change to district credit cards reflecting a new partnership that exists between the credit union and the credit card provider. The Board passed a resolution approving this, that Mr. Culler be appointed the authorized business representative of the Board, and also approving an aggregate credit limit of \$150,000 for the District.
- ✓ Mr. Jackson reported that he and Mr. Culler attended a community meeting in Field on behalf of the Board, and that the disposition of Field Elementary School was discussed. Representatives of Parks Canada were also present, and the meeting was well attended by members of the public. The main

outcome of the meeting is that Parks Canada expressed their interest to work with the School District to take over the building, rather than requiring that the building, which is no longer needed for educational programs, be demolished. The Board passed an amended resolution confirming that Field Elementary is surplus to the needs of the District, and giving approval for disposal of the property.

## **REPORTS**

- ✓ Ms. Lenardon reported that the [Learning Leadership Report](#) is published for this month and that it highlights many student and staff activities and successes. She responded to questions from Trustees, who acknowledged the importance of this report in highlighting District Directions.
- ✓ Vice Chairperson Fearing reported that the BCSTA AGM will be held April 25-28 in Richmond and she also confirmed the Trustee Leadership Program which is taking place in Cranbrook April 15-16.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

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