



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

April 2022

# STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

### Policy Development • Steve Wyer and Mr. Rice

#### Third reading

Mr. Wyer and Mr. Rice presented the Board with proposed policy 1400, amendments to policies found in section 3000, policy 6000, and policy 8800. Mr. Wyer reported that no further feedback was received on policies 1400, 6000, and 8800. Mr. Rice answered questions related to amendments to changes to policies in the 3000s in the policy manual. He reported that the Ministry of Education and Child Care had provided feedback on language in the policy. The Board of Education gave policy 1400, amendments to policies found in section 3000, policy 6000, and policy 8800 third and final reading.

#### Second reading

Policy 8600, field trips, received first reading in December. The senior leadership team consulted with the principals and vice principals and received feedback. The District has made changes based on the feedback. Revised draft field trip forms are also included in the Board package to show what information is being sought through the application process.

Policy 8000 did not receive any further feedback. It was read a second time.

#### First reading

Policy 1300, presentations

Mr. Wyer presented the Board with the proposed changes to policy 1300, district practice 5225, and communications and media relations policy. Policy 1300 was revised to remove ambiguity about written submissions prior to presenting to the Board of Education. Policy 1300 received all three readings. District practice 5225, classroom placement, was presented to the Board as information only and no motion was required. This district practice was drafted in consultation with principals and vice principals. The communications and media relations policy was introduced for consideration.

# OPERATIONAL ISSUES

## **Capital Bylaw – Minor capital approval • Alan Rice**

In accordance with Section 143 of the *School Act*, Boards of Education are required to adopt a single Capital Bylaw for its' approved 2022/23 Capital Plan as identified in the Capital Plan Response Letter. As per the response letter the District received from the Ministry of Education, the District has been approved for funding through the School Enhancement Program for building envelope upgrades at Open Doors for \$792,000, HVAC Upgrade at EMP for \$265,000 and lighting upgrade (CNCP) at SSS for \$325,000. Additionally, \$318,504 has been approved for two replacement buses. The Board of Education gave three readings to the Capital Plan Bylaw No. 2022/23-CPSD6-01.

## **2022-23 amended school calendar • Steve Wyer**

At the March 8, 2022 regular meeting, the Board of Education approved the 2022-23 school calendar that included September 30, 2022, National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, as a day of instruction. On March 23, 2022 the Government of British Columbia directed public sector employers, including the K-12 sector, to plan that schools will not be in operation that day.

## **2022-23 Board of Education meeting and site visit calendar • Steve Wyer**

Each year the Board of Education sets meeting dates and locations for the upcoming school year. The Board meets on the second Tuesday of every month, except in July and August, in various locations throughout School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain). The Board holds their meetings at various schools throughout the school district in an effort to visit each school site several times during the 4-year tenure of each Board. The Board of Education is required to adopt their schedule of Board of Education meetings and publicize their meeting dates. The Board meeting dates for the 2022-23 school year are:

- Tuesday, September 13, 2022 7:00 p.m. **Kimberley Zone**, Lindsay Park Elementary School
- Tuesday, October 11, 2022 7:00 p.m. **Golden Zone**, Nicholson Elementary School
- Tuesday, November 8, 2022 7:00 p.m. **Windermere Zone**, District Administration Building
- Tuesday, December 13, 2022 7:00 p.m. Virtual, Zone Offices
- Tuesday, January 10, 2023 7:00 p.m. Virtual, Zone Offices
- Tuesday, February 14, 2023 7:00 p.m. Virtual, Zone Offices
- Tuesday, March 14, 2023 7:00 p.m. Virtual, Zone Offices
- Tuesday, April 11, 2023 7:00 p.m. **Windermere Zone**, J. Alfred Laird Elementary School
- Tuesday, May 9, 2023 7:00 p.m. **Kimberley Zone**, Marysville Elementary School
- Tuesday, June 13, 2023 7:00 p.m. **Golden Zone**, Alexander Park Elementary School

## **JUSTB4 expression of interest • Viveka Johnson and Crystal MacLeod**

As part of the new Ministry of Education and Child Care, an opportunity exists to explore opportunities for early learning programs. The Deputy Minister's Bulletin on March 18 included an opportunity for Districts to submit an Expression of Interest (EIO) for provincial early learning programs including Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transitions (SEY2KT), Changing Results for Young Children (CR4YC), Seamless Day and JUSTB4. The District is not currently participating in the Seamless Day or JUSTB4 pilot projects. The District acknowledges the value and impact of early learning programs and as such would like to submit an expression of interest (EOI) to have one JUSTB4 site in Golden where a dedicated classroom that is being used for StrongStart in the morning and would be available for JUSTB4 in the afternoon. The Board of Education supported the administration in putting forward an expression of interest in the JUSTB4 program.

# REPORTS

## **Budget utilization and 2022-23 budget planning • Al Rice**

Mr. Rice provided an update to the Board of Education on year-to-date operating expenditures compared to budget and prior year data as information. Expenditures to date are in line with budgeted and greater than the prior year for the same timeframe. He also outlined the 2022-23 budget planning timeline.

## **Policy 6300, staff use of school facilities and equipment • Steve Wyer**

Mr. Wyer provided the Board of Education additional information about the repeal of policy 6300. He contacted BC Schools' Protection Program (SPP) – the District's insurance provider – to inquire about policy 6300. SPP advised that including staff use of facilities and equipment in a policy other than a policy for general community use, opened the District up to significant liability. During the Board of Education meeting, a motion was put forward to reinstate policy 6300. A fulsome discussion ensued revisiting the policy and the rationale for repealing. Ultimately, the Board defeated the motion to reinstate the policy and upheld the decision to repeal the staff use of school facilities and equipment.

## **Technology update • Trent Dolgopol**

Mr. Dolgopol provided the Board of Education a technology update. The District is now implementing the technology plan and is making significant progress towards the goals.

## **District vice principals (DVPs) update • Steve Wyer**

For the month of March, the DVP team took stock of their initiatives so far this year. They met as a team to review progress and develop a forward reaching plan for the remainder of the strategic cycle. March included two weeks of Spring Break Holiday. The DVPs provide a monthly report to the Board of Education and their activities can be found [here](#).

## **Before and after school survey results • Viveka Johnson and Crystal MacLeod**

The District conducted an investigation in each community to determine the number of providers offering before and after school care. At the February Board meeting, the District shared an intention to conduct a survey. The District sent out a survey to all current K-6 families as well as 2022/23 registered K-families to gauge the need for before and after school programs in all communities. We received 300 responses and these results show that across the District families have indicated they would access programs in their child's school, if available. This includes families who already have before and/or after school care arrangements in place. Given that there is a need for before and after school care in each community further investigation is required. In the three main communities where services already exist, it would be wise to have a conversation with those providers who already have lease agreements with us to determine if there would be interest in expanding their offerings within our school building (third-party model). If there is no interest from these providers then the district would run a district-operated program. Where services are not available, the district could offer a district operated program.

## **Electric bus update • Steve Jackson and Al Ure**

Electric school buses cost approximately \$400K with Ministry funding of approximately \$160k creating a shortfall of \$240K. Today there are grants available to make up the majority of the difference, with the balance of the funding (approx. \$60-90K) needed to be supplemented from the operating funding. The recommendation is to support the continued move to electric bus and white fleet in a coordinated manner and as we can afford the additional costs