



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

June 2022

PRESENTATIONS

The Board of Education received two presentations at their June 14, 2022 meeting. The first presentation was from Glen Ewan, a fundraiser with Golden and District Community Foundation “GDCF”. He proposed to the Board of Education that the GDCF could manage the scholarships and community foundation endowment. The Board of Education asked questions and Mr. Ewan responded to the inquiries.

The second presentation was from Katie Niddrie, Windermere Elementary School teacher and mom, requesting the Board of Education consider reviewing policy 2100, school catchment areas and cross boundary transfer request. She has requested that once a child has been granted a cross boundary transfer request that the siblings should also be granted a cross boundary transfer request. The Policy Committee will review the information and consider the request at the next policy meeting in September 2022.

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

Policy Development • Karen Shipka
Third reading

A small amendment to language was proposed to Policy 8000, selection of library resources, in March 2022. The policy received third and final reading. Policy 8600, field trips, was held at third reading for further review by Trustees. Trustees will revisit the policy in the fall.

STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

Policy Development • Karen Shipka

Second reading

Ms. Shipka presented the Board with proposed amendments to policy 1200 and policy 1300. In April 2022, an unnumbered policy, communications and media relations policy was presented to the Board for first reading. Upon review, the unnumbered policy was consolidated into policy 1200. The policy now includes a district practice around social media, a foundational piece as the District embarks on more social media communication. The Board of Education gave policy 1200 second and third reading.

Policy 1300, also received second and third reading. This policy had a small amendment that clarified that all presentation materials must be provided to the Executive Assistant at least one week prior to the Board meeting.

No policies were presented for first reading

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

Appointment of Chief Election and Deputy Chief Election Officers • Alan Rice

Under the *School Act*, the Board of School Education is required to appoint chief election and deputy chief election officers. The regional districts, districts, and municipalities have agreed to administer the elections on behalf of SD6. The Board of Education appointed the Election Officials for the 2022 School Trustee Elections.

Childcare implementation plan • Alan Rice

JUSTB4 – On May 19, 2022, the District received confirmation from the Ministry of Education and Child Care (MOECC) to offer all the of the programs requested in the Expression of Interest including a JUSTB4 site in Golden. The JUSTB4 site will require the District to hire an Early Childhood Educator (ECE) as a school district employee and the District will need to license the StrongStart room at Alexander Park before being able to operate this program.

After school care – The District has been collaborating with third party partners to start a dialogue around interest in providing after school programming and to start licensing spaces in schools for after school care. The plan is to have spaces licensed in McKim, Lindsay Park, Windermere Elementary, Edgewater Elementary, Eileen Madson Primary, Alexander Park, and Nicholson Elementary for September 2022.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

Childcare implementation plan continued • Alan Rice

New Childcare Facilities – The MOECC announced on May 31 the application process for the 2022-23 New Spaces Funds are now available for districts. As a result of this opportunity provided by the New Spaces Fund with the goal to improve access to early learning and childcare for children throughout our District, we have developed a multi year plan where we would seek funding for the construction and/or renovations to existing buildings to provide new childcare centers throughout the District.

As part of a multiyear plan, the District will be submitting application to open new 0-5 childcare spaces in the coming years. Pending approval, the new space construction would begin in the fall of 2022.

2023-24 Five year capital plan submission – Major capital Program • Alan Rice

The *School Act* provides that the Minister of Education requires a Board of Education to prepare and submit a capital plan. The Capital Committee reviewed the capital which was to construct a new school on the District owned five acre property adjacent to Eileen Madson Primary School. A new school will improve traffic safety and will provide a school that is better positioned to meet the future educational needs in Invermere. There are also opportunities of creating new space for future childcare. The Board of Education approved the 2023-24 Five Year Capital Plan submission for the major capital program.

2023-24 Five year capital plan submission – Minor capital Program • Alan Rice

Similar to the major capital program, the Capital Committee reviewed the minor capital program proposals. Roofing, interior upgrades, HVAC, an accessible entrance and a foundation wall repair have been applied for under the School Enhancement Program. LED lighting upgrades at McKim, Nicholson, Lindsay Park, Martin Morigeau, and Edgewater Elementary School have been applied for under the Carbon Neutral Capital Funding and a new E-bus for Kimberley has been applied for under the Bus Replacement Program. There is also a request to replace three other diesel busses.

2023-24 Annual Budget • Alan Rice

In accordance with section 113 of the *School Act* the Minister is requiring Annual Budgets to be prepared, adopted by bylaw and submitted by June 30, 2022. The Board of Education approved the 2022-2023 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$58,211,186 for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Donation Requests • Alan Rice

The Board of Education considered two donation requests. The Lake Windermere District Lions Club has requested that SD6 donate an old 1997 Hustler sports field grass mower to the Lions club for use at the Lions campground and the Windermere Valley Snowmobile Society has requested that Sd6 donate a non-operational bus for their use as storage for their club. The Board of Education approved both donations.

REPORTS

Budget utilization summary – May 2022 • Alan Rice

Mr. Rice presented the Board of Education with a report on year-to-date operating expenditures compared to budget and prior year. Expenditures to date are in line with budgeted and greater than the prior year for the same timeframe.

Mental health • Viveka Johnson

The social and emotional wellbeing of students and staff are the backbone to educational success. The MOECC acknowledges this through the distribution of grant funding to support districts. The impacts of the global pandemic have yet to be realized and it is critically important to build staff capacity so that they are knowledgeable and skilled in dealing with unknown circumstances. The targeted funding has been allocated in a variety of ways to meet the current and emerging needs of staff and students. Learning doesn't take place if we are not able to emotionally regulate or cope with high levels of on-going stress. We are hopeful that the MOECC will continue to support the district through allocation of targeted funding.

Restricted capital • Alan Rice

On January 25, 2022 the Secretary Treasurer requested the use of Restricted Capital to cover the shortfall of the repairs for the flood damage at LGES. The Ministry did not agree with the assessment of the Secretary Treasurer and rejected the request. The Secretary Treasurer requested clarification with respect to the interpretation of the decision of Ministry staff. Through these discussions it was determined there were other projects which would be more suitable for a Restricted Capital request. The result of the discussions allowed for a roof repair at Selkirk Secondary School (SSS) to be approved out of Restricted Capital.

Environmental sustainability report • Trent Dolgopol

Schools across the District are engaged in a variety of initiatives that support learning and promote environmentally friendly practices. These initiatives and learning opportunities are both curricular and extracurricular in nature. The Operations Department strives to reduce our carbon footprint by identifying and acting on opportunities to reduce our dependency on fossil fuels. Each year the District submits a Climate Change Accountability Report (formerly Carbon Neutral Action Report) to the Ministry of Education. When climate change initiatives were first announced in 2007, Sd6 was emitting 2405 tons of carbon dioxide. In 2020, we emitted 1305 tons of carbon dioxide for a 44% reduction since 2007.

Legacy of Learning Project • Viveka Johnson

The Columbia Basin Institute of Regional History (CBIRH) is a non-profit society dedicated to furthering the preservation, documentation and presentation of the Columbia River Basin's human and natural history. Last year, the district provided \$5000 towards the project. CBIRH is interested in continuing the partnership with the District to continue the development of the Legacy of Learning project. Given that this project would require additional human resources in the District to locate and provide artifacts and photographs to the institute, it was determined that this was not a priority for the District this year.

REPORTS

District vice principals update • Steve Wyer

The Board of Education received a summary report on the work of the district vice principals for the 2021-2022 school year. The DVPs have demonstrated expertise and ability to work alongside principals and staff to further advance both the district strategic plan and school success plans. They have provided guidance, strategy and support which has resulted in some very important gains in the learning journey for students.

Students have made growth in numeracy and number sense

- From 45% (Fall) to 62% (Spring) fully proficient and 93% of all students are on track for learning K-7.
- 33% growth in proficiency on the SNAP assessment of number sense.
- 58% growth in proficiency for Indigenous students of whom 88% were proficient in number sense at grade level.

Student growth in writing continues

- 88% (Fall) to 96% (Spring) of students on track in writing K-9
- Students show growth on all scale points
- Indigenous students show 10% growth out of emerging scale point – 20% to 10%.
- Indigenous achievement gap closes to 4%

Intermediate Student growth in reading but remains key literacy focus

- From 70% (Fall) to 76% (Spring) on track for learning.
- Overall growth of 6% of students out of emerging category grades 4-7.
- 76% of students developing or better grades 4-7
- Huge growth of Indigenous students between fall and spring 69% on track from 39% on track.
- 14% achievement gap between non-Indigenous and Indigenous readers grade 4-7

Primary Student growth in reading but remains a key literacy focus

- 65% (Fall) to 71% (Spring) on track for learning.
- 14% growth in proficiency for all students.
- 30% of primary readers still below where they should be at Spring
- Indigenous achievement gap of 12%

THANK YOU'S AND GOOD-BYE'S

Since this was the last Board of Education meeting for the 2021-2022 school year, Chairperson Byklum took the opportunity to thank all teachers, support staff, administrative staff, and the senior team for their hard work and dedication during, yet another, pandemic school year.

Chairperson Byklum also thanked Viveka Johnson and wished her all the best as she embarks on her new position as the Superintendent of School District No. 5. Finally, she took the opportunity to deliver a message of deep gratitude to Steve Jackson, Director of Operations, who is retiring after 30 years with the District. She noted his many contributions and that literally every district building has Steve in it.

