



**ROCKY  
MOUNTAIN**  
School District #6



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

May 2023

### PRESENTATIONS

**Early Learning Framework** • Glenn Goslin, District Principal for Early Learning and Child Care

The Board of Education received a [presentation on the Early Learning Framework](#) (ELF) implementation. The British Columbia ELF was updated in 2019 to align with the redesigned curriculum and to support consistency in teaching and learning from early years into school. District Principal for Early Learning and Child Care, discussed pedagogical narration and the use of Seesaw. He also discussed pedagogical strategies for play-based learning.

### STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

**Policy development** • Karen Shipka, Superintendent

Third and final reading – NIL

Second reading – NIL

**First reading – Policy 2900, Naming or renaming schools**

Ms. Shipka reported on the newly proposed [policy 2900, naming or renaming of schools](#). From time-to-time, the Board may be in a position to name a new school. There may also be times when the Board has reason to consider renaming existing schools, or when representatives of a school community will request that the Board dedicate part of a school building or property in memory of a person. The name of a school, or dedication of a portion thereof, will be decided by the Board following reasonable consultation with members of the school community. The District is considering renaming the alternate schools and currently does not currently have a policy in place.

We invite our education partners and public to provide feedback through our new [Policies Under Review](#) webpage.

# STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

## **First reading – Policy 2950, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

The Board of Education “Board” is committed to ensuring the privacy, confidentiality, and security of all personal information that it collects, uses, discloses and maintains in connection with its programs and activities. The Board complies with the *School Act* (“Act”) and the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) in relation to the protection of privacy. It is proposed that Policy 2200, Records and Information Management be repealed. This [draft policy](#) sets out the Board’s commitment, standards and expectations regarding the appropriate practices for the collection, use and protection personal information.

We invite our education partners and public to provide feedback through our new [Policies Under Review](#) webpage.

## **First reading – Policy 4106, Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest**

Mr. Wyer discussed new [policy 4106, confidentiality and conflict of interest](#). It is essential that employees recognize their responsibility to ensure confidential information, received as a result of employment with the district, remains confidential. Confidential information is not divulged to anyone other than individuals authorized to receive such information. Disclosure of confidential information may put employees in a position of conflict of School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) policies and practices or may be a breach of the public’s expectation of privacy as described in legislation.

District employees have a duty of loyalty to the District as their employer. This duty requires employees to provide services to the best of their ability regardless of their own personal opinion of Board direction or policy. Honesty and integrity of District employees is above reproach and coupled with impartiality in the conduct of their duties. The actions and conduct of employees must be such as to maintain a high public trust and confidence in the District.

We invite our education partners and public to provide feedback through our new [Policies Under Review](#) webpage.

## **First reading – Policy 8600, Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest**

The Board of Education affirms the educational value of well-planned and supervised outdoor classroom activities, curricular, and extra-curricular field trips. The primary purpose of these trips should be to enhance the educational experiences of the participants. These experiences enrich the curriculum and provide opportunities for young people to develop their academic, intellectual, social and physical capabilities. Such trips will supplement the curricular and extra-curricular programs in schools.

Under the *Workers Compensation Act*, any field trip location is considered the “workplace”. Workplace is defined as “any place where a worker is or is likely to be engaged in any work and includes any vessel, vehicle or mobile equipment used by a worker in work” (*Workers Compensation Act* Part 2 Division 1 s. 13).

Given that field trip locations are workplaces, the employer, supervisors, and workers must be made aware of all known or reasonably foreseeable health and safety hazards to which they are likely to be exposed. The field trip proposal form identifies potential health and safety hazards for staff and students, and provides assurance to staff and families that all reasonable foreseeable hazards have been assessed and risks have been mitigated. This policy, district practice, and accompanying forms demonstrates due diligence.

The District is proposing other changes including:

1. Alpine (downhill) skiing and snowboarding are proposed to be offered to students in grade 4 and higher;
2. Removing the risk assessment and supervision ratio calculation tool and providing hazard, risks, and risk management mitigation strategies for field trip organizers;
3. Changing the definition of backcountry to ensure that the District's small, rural, and remote communities are not inadvertently impacted by the definition;
4. Introducing new appendices in the district practices that outlines common activities and supervision ratios as well as define commonly visited locations as low risk or higher care

We want to encourage our education partners and public to review the proposed changes to [policy 8600, field trips](#) and provide feedback through our new [Policies Under Review](#) webpage.

## REPORTS

### **Budget Utilization • Alan Rice**

Mr. Rice presented the Board of Education a report on year-to-date operating expenditures compared to budget and prior year. Expenditures to date are below budget by 2.69% and greater than the prior year by \$2,060,000 for the same timeframe. The operating variance of actual to budget for year-to-date is considered reasonable.

### **Assessing the risk of violence in schools • Karen Shipka**

The Board of Education was provided [information on how the risk for violence is assessed and mitigated in SD6](#). SD6 must assess and respond to the risk of violence that comes from many forms; physical (including intimate partner violence), verbal (including hate speech), psychological and sexual violence. Assessing the risk of violence requires analysis of who may be at risk including students, staff, school community, and the public. The key to violence prevention is recognizing the risk and behaviors associated with violence. Violence prevention is everyone's responsibility, and it requires the commitment of all levels of the organization to be successful. SD6 will continue to evaluate the risk and the changing environment to respond effectively to the risk of violence in schools.