



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

December 2023

### STRATEGIC AND POLICY ISSUES

**Policy development** • Steve Wyer, Assistant Superintendent

**First reading – Policy 4400, Non-certified Teachers On-Call**

Mr. Wyer introduced amendments to policy 4400, non-certified teachers on-call. In order to provide a continuous, well-directed educational program for students, the Board of Education (Board) may elect to employ non-certified teachers teaching on call (TTOC) as per language in B22. 1 and 2 of the collective agreement between School District No. 6 (Rocky Mountain) and the Rocky Mountain Teachers' Association.

The proposed amendment would approve the hiring of the best available non-certified teachers-on-call in the absence of the regular classroom teacher or a certified teacher-on-call.

**Feedback is being collected until January 25, 2024.** Please visit the [Policies Under Review](#) webpage to provide your comments.

### OPERATIONAL ISSUES

**Draft school calendars report** • Steve Wyer

Mr. Wyer presented the draft 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 school calendars. Each calendar requires a 60-day public consultation in order to comply with *School Act* and District Bylaw requirements by May 31, 2024. The district calendar for 2024-2025 requires final approval following a 60-day consultation process. The District sought approval in principle for the district calendar 2026-2027.

Feedback is being collected until February 11, 2024. Fill in the survey at <https://forms.office.com/r/UkGRh42Dyk>

# OPERATIONAL ISSUES CONT'D

## **Research in schools** • Steve Wyer, Assistant Superintendent

In the fall of 2023, the Board of Education approved a policy 2350 that outlines the process for researchers to apply to the Board of Education to conduct research studies in schools. The Board of Education approved two research applications. One from the University of Calgary entitled, *Cross-Sectional Injury Survey in Rural and Indigenous Communities* and the second from Student's Commission of Canada, Queens University entitled: *Sharing the Stories (Phase 2)*.

## **Groundswell Network Society request to serve alcohol at DTSS** • Alan Rice, Secretary Treasurer

The Board of Education approved Groundswell Network Society (Groundswell)'s request to serve alcohol at an event at the Greenhouse which it operates at DTSS in accordance with district practice 6000, community use of school district property and facilities.

## 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 0.47% and greater than the prior year by \$1,629,000 for the same timeframe. The operating variance of actual to budget for year-to-date is considered reasonable.

### **Land acknowledgements** • Trent Dolgopol

The Board received an update on the status of land acknowledgements. Recent dialogue with local First Nations has indicated a desire for Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 to revise the current land acknowledgement. Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 should take the appropriate steps to revise the current land acknowledgement to reflect the input provided by local First Nations and supported in many reference documents.

### **Technology update** • Trent Dolgopol

The Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 Technology Team (Tech Systems Support) continues to implement strategies that support priorities outlined in the District Strategic Plan and District Technology Plan. Recently, the Tech Systems Support Team has seen staffing changes with a new IT Manager being hired to fill a vacancy resulting from a resignation. As a result of this change, the hiring of an additional Tech Systems Specialist has been delayed. A Tech Leaders Network in-person meeting was hosted on Monday, November 24th. During this meeting there was a focus on the use of AI (Artificial Intelligence), including sharing about tools currently available, exploring a few of the tools, and discussion about how they can be utilized. A 2023-2024 Technology Learning Plan has been developed which includes offering continued learning opportunities on non-instructional days, as well as throughout the school year at different times that are intended to be accessible to the respective audiences.

### **Operational plan update** • Steve Wyer

In the fall of 2023, Rocky Mountain School District No. 6 embarked on a new four-year strategic cycle. The four priorities of this cycle are advanced by the specific actions outlined in the operational plan each year. To keep the Board informed, the Senior Leadership Team will share updates to the operational plan when new evidence and data is available. Monitoring the progress of the operational plan allows the District to adjust and refine objectives in order to have a better chance of meeting the expected outcomes of the plan.