



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following is a summary of decisions and highlights from the Board of Education Meeting held February 22, 2022.

Board Chair Ciel Patenaude acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional and unceded territory of the Northern Secwepemc People.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Superintendent van der Mark reported on the following:

- **COVID-19 Update** – Thank-you to the transportation department for their work in organizing distribution of rapid test kits to staff. We expect to see kits arriving at schools in the next couple of weeks to be sent home for families.
- **Learning Opportunities** – The District was honoured to host **Kevin Lamoureux** for “*Reconciliation Through Education: reflection and Next Steps*”. van der Mark thanked WLFN Chief Willie Sellars for providing a welcome for the session. Mr. Lamoureux will work with high school students/staff on Feb. 24. **Carole Fullerton** was in the District working on numeracy instruction with staff and provided sessions on the Non-Instructional Day. Thanks to Ryan Hanley and the CCTA for their support and leadership.
- **Leadership/NOIIE** – On Feb. 15, educational leaders from across the District gathered to delve into broader conversations about teaching and learning in SD27. The group ranged from very new teachers to 30 year “vets” who met for open, frank, and passionate conversations about the shared work and how to best support people in “their work”.
- **2022-23 Planning** – Planning is already underway for the coming year. By spring break the District will start to look at school staffing levels and prioritize focus areas.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy – Trustee Forbes provided the report from the February 8 meeting. The Board passed the following motions:

- Repealed:
 - Policy 5114.1 – Safe, Caring, and Orderly Schools repealed
 - Policy 6121 – Equivalency
 - Policy 5115 – Police Interviewing Students
 - Policy 325 – Schools Fees
- [Draft Policy Safe and Caring Communities](#) approved for public feedback
- [Draft Policy Animals in Schools](#) approved for public feedback
- [Policy 160 – Trustee Remuneration](#) approved

Finance and Facilities & Transportation – Trustee Delainey provided the report from the February 8 meeting which included the following:

- Covid-19 Update
- 2022-2023 Annual Budget Bylaw Process
- Housing/Teacherage Project Considerations
- Third reading of the 2021-2022 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw

Education – Trustee Walch provided the report from the meeting on February 9:

- Community Field Experience (CFE)
- Mental Health, Wellness, and Covid Recovery Initiatives
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)
- Learning events

Assistant Superintendent Lenardon provided further details, expanding on the committee report:

“Learning, Growing and Belonging Together”



- 19 CFE teacher candidates will be coming to SD27 as their final course requirement. The experience differs from a practicum in that teacher candidates spend time in schools/community making contributions of their time and talent while experiencing life in the Cariboo. The CFE program has not happened face-to-face for two years. The Community Field Experience provides a valuable opportunity to showcase our District and promote teacher recruitment.
- SD27 received a provincial grant to help address impacts of isolation and stress from COVID-19 on students and staff. Ms. Lenardon shared information on the following initiatives:
 - **Ripple Effect of Resiliency** – 102 staff members and First Nation Partners engaged in this 8-module course
 - **EASE Program – Everyday Anxiety Strategies for Educators** is a K-12 curriculum promoted by the Ministry of Education as research-based and effected. 108 teachers have been provided training so far this year, with more planned for the Spring.
 - **Mental Health Literacy** – this Ministry of Education supported curriculum uses evidence-based online resources proven to increase understanding of mental health and disorders, decrease the stigma of mental illness, and enhance help seeking efficacy of students and educators. All Gr. 7-12 teachers have been offered this training.
 - **Beyond the Blues for Educators** – The District partnered with Canadian Mental Health, BC Schizophrenia Society, and Interior Health to provide an afterschool session to support participants’ well being and their work with students and families.
 - **Spring Into Wellness Challenge** – District-wide challenge where all staff can engage in actions to support wellness leading up to spring break. Staff can find more information on the portal.
 - **Trauma Informed Yoga** – The District is working with clinicians from Denisqi to develop a video series of trauma-informed yoga sessions for students. Classes can be viewed online, targeted for release in April.
 - **Professional Learning to build capacity for outdoor teaching** – Free webinars have been provided throughout the school year on a variety of outdoor learning topics. Teachers have been provided with resources to take their instruction outdoors and the District hosted outdoor educator Dave Quinn on the February Non-Instructional Day.



READING FILE

The Board received correspondence from The City of WL and T̓silhqot̓'in National Government regarding surplus properties and a letter from Williams Lake Community Forest – Granting Program.

To read full Board and Committee Reports, view the agenda on the [District Website](#).