



Presentation: Aboriginal Education

Principal of Aboriginal Education Diane Graves presented an update on the school district's progress on the goals identified in its Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement. This progress includes consolidating new staff and new leadership, continuing to meet with elders and community partners, and sending 200 educators to the Kwantlen First Nation Longhouse. Ongoing initiatives started in the fall include facilitating collaboration between Katzie First Nation and District Literacy Teachers, creating learning kits for school teachers to use with all students, and building a library of resources for educators and students. Graves noted that an analysis of the supports the Aboriginal Education department is providing – as well as their effectiveness – started mid-January.

Presentation: Youth Wellness Clinic (YWC)

Vice principal of Safe and Caring Schools Sherri Skerratt and executive director of Community Services Vicky Kipps presented to the board on the 8-month-old Youth Wellness Clinic initiative. The Youth Wellness Clinic (YWC) is located in the Greg Moore Youth Centre, and is open to children from 8-24 years of age who are experiencing mild to moderate forms of mental health and substance use issues. The YWC helps connect children to the community, provides critical early intervention, and helps streamline community services. The YWC is community sponsored and has a free drop-in on Thursdays from 4-6 pm. Looking ahead, the YWC will be hosting parent education sessions, youth support groups, as well as substance use drop-ins.

Capital Projects

The board adopted two capital project bylaws, authorizing the secretary treasurer to execute and submit the Building Envelope Project Funding Agreements for Thomas Haney Secondary and Maple Ridge Elementary to the Ministry of Education.

Alouette River Campus

The board authorized the secretary treasurer to initiate the process for the potential disposal of Alouette River Campus. The potential disposal process consists of five key steps that include public consultation and ministry approval.

IT Plan Update

IT manager Richard Eskandar and director of instruction David Vandergugten presented the IT Plan Update to the board. The update included numerous new and ongoing initiatives, including parent portal development and support, the introduction of My Portfolio, district telephony upgrades, and the continuing work on security and encryption of SD42 assets and data. The complete document is included in the January 18 agenda package.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Sylvia Russell updated the board on various school events and activities.

Good News

In the good news portion of the evening, trustees provided their thoughts about the meeting with students at Pitt Meadows Secondary School, noting the importance of being able to connect with students and being able to hear their feedback.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on February 8, 2017 at the District Education Office.