



Trustees:

Ken Clarkson (Chair), Susan Carr, Eleanor Palis (Vice-Chair), Dr. Dave Rempel, Stepan Vdovine, Kathie Ward

Executive:

Stewart Sonne (Acting Superintendent), Wayne Jefferson (Secretary Treasurer), Laurie Meston (Director of Instruction)

Presentation: Achievement Contract

The Board received a presentation by Director of Instruction Laurie Meston outlining those parts of the 2010 Achievement Contract that deal with early learning, students with learning disabilities and students with behavior challenges. She said the District's achievement goals in the area of early education were to "Increase the percentage of boys who are meeting expectations for kindergarten-aged students," and to "Increase the percentage of Aboriginal students who are meeting expectations for kindergarten-aged students." The achievement goals for students with learning disabilities and students with behavioural challenges are to improve graduation rates in both cases. The complete 2010-2011 Achievement Contract can be found on the school district website at:
<http://www.sd42.ca/2010-11-achievement-contract>

Full Day Kindergarten implementation going smoothly

The Board received a preliminary report on the implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten. Director of Instruction Meston reported that there were 456 students enrolled in Full-Day Kindergarten classes in 13 schools. She noted that the enrollment numbers were close to what had been projected, and that feedback from teachers and principals was positive. The longer day is allowing teachers to "get to know students quicker," and is allowing students to "spend more time in deeper learning activities."

Board work plan lays out tasks for year ahead

The Board received an annual work plan that outlines key tasks that the Board has set for itself over the coming year.

Bill 33 deadline extended to October 27

Acting Superintendent Sonne updated the Board on the process of ensuring compliance with Ministry class size and composition limits (Bill 33). The Board approved a recommendation to extend the deadline for reporting to October 27. A district committee made up of senior administration, Human Resources staff and MRTA representatives is working closely with secondary schools to resolve remaining class size issues.

Enrolment numbers positive

Acting Superintendent Sonne presented the annual enrolment report and said that district enrollment stands at 14,060 FTE (full time equivalent). He said that direct comparison with last year's numbers is complicated by several factors, such as the introduction of Full-Day Kindergarten, but that enrollment overall had declined less than projected, and that consequently, the district is "in good shape."

BCSTA Provincial Council proposals

The Board reviewed a series of motions being brought to the BCSTA Provincial Council on October 23, and indicated to BCSTA representative Trustee Ward that they were in favour of four of the motions. The motions include the following proposals: revised constitution and bylaws for the Fraser Valley branch; a request for a meeting with the Minister of Education to discuss board concerns on the continued poor performance of BCeSIS; to urge the Minister of Education to provide school districts with additional funds to cover costs associated with closed facilities; and to advise the Minister of Industry of the importance of the data provided by the mandatory long form census, and request that it be reinstated.

Good News

Trustees and staff noted the following Good News items: a recent Tzu Chi celebration acknowledging the generosity of that organization; a memorable official opening ceremony to mark the recent major renovations to Garibaldi Secondary School; an upcoming ribbon cutting to officially open the new artificial turf field at Pitt Meadows Secondary School (October 16 at 10 am) and an upcoming official launch event for Riverside Centre (October 21 at 4 pm).

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be on Wednesday, October 27
at 6 PM in the District Education Office.**