



Trustees:

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

Executive:

Jan Unwin (Superintendent), Stewart Sonne (Deputy Superintendent), Wayne Jefferson (Secretary Treasurer), David Vandergugten (Director of Instruction)

Presentation: School Growth Plans

Director of Instruction Vandergugten shared growth plans for the district's 20 elementary schools. He also presented an electronic way of looking at alignment between schools in terms of their school growth plans, making it easier for schools with common goals to work together.

Deputy Superintendent Sonne presented growth plans for the district's six secondary schools. He said that more and more staff were participating now that schools had greater autonomy in developing their growth plans. He also emphasized that reports were not static and were discussed regularly.

Chair Report

Chair Clarkson reported that he and Vice-Chair Palis had attended a balanced calendar meeting organized by the Metro Trustees' Association. He outlined key points of three different presentations that explored benefits and challenges associated with balanced calendars.

Chair Clarkson also attended a Vancouver Symphony Orchestra concert at the Orpheum for the presentation of the Principals of Music Award to Principal Bob Schnider of Davie Jones Elementary School. The award was in recognition of being "instrumental in developing an environment for music to flourish in his school."

District to support Community Connections grant application

The Board approved a letter from the school district offering its support to the District of Maple Ridge in their application for a second round community connections grant. The grant would allow for continuation and expansion of the HIVE community centre project at Eric Langton Elementary School.

Quarterly Financial Report

Secretary Treasurer Jefferson presented the First Quarter Financial Report for the 2010-2011 budget year. He said that the District currently held a positive balance and that no issues had arisen that would change current plans.

Bell schedules research project

The Board received information about a research project proposal to examine bell schedules and local school calendars across the district. Superintendent Unwin said the purpose of the study will be to consider the positive and negative impact of the many variations and bring this information forward for public input.

Board Policy Development policy approved in principle

The Board approved in principle a Board Policy Development policy that will ensure that the Board's work in developing and reviewing policy is done in an "environment of consultation and clarity." The policy defines a series of steps involved in policy development: initiation; development; refinement; finalization; implementation; evaluation; and publication. The policy also requires that on an annual basis the Board appoints two trustees to work with the superintendent and the secretary treasurer to conduct a review of existing policies.

Good News

Trustees and staff noted the moving Remembrance Day ceremonies they had attended at schools across the district.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be on Wednesday, November 24 at 6 PM in the District Education Office.