



Presentation: Implementation of the new BC Graduation Program

District Helping Teacher Vicci Halabi and assistant superintendent Shannon Derinzy presented to the board on the implementation of the new BC Graduation Program. The three key core competencies of critical and creative thinking, communication skills, and personal and social responsibility are the foundation of this redesigned curriculum.

A comprehensive overview of the program is available on the Ministry of Education website as a part of the BC Graduation Program Implementation Guide at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/support/graduation/graduation-implementation-guide.pdf>

School District Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)

The board approved the SOFI report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 and approved its submission to the Ministry of Education. The SOFI report is available on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/financial-information/>

Board of Education Public Board Meeting

The board approved a change in date of the January public board meeting from Wednesday, January 23, 2019 to Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Russell provided the board with an update on various school events and activities. Highlights included 6-year graduation results for 2017/18, which show three years of steady improvement across all areas for the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District. Graduation rates for all students have gone up from 87.8% in 2016/17 to 91.4% in 2017/18; grad rates for students of Aboriginal ancestry have gone up from 83.5% in 2016/17 to 85.1% in 2017/18; and grad rates for students with special needs have gone up from 74.2% in 2016/17 to 81.4% in 2017/18.

Natural Gas Update

Secretary Treasurer Coughlan spoke to the financial impact of the natural gas shortage and outlined steps the school district has taken to assist with conservation measures. In October, the district set the set thermostats in all our facilities to 20°C during the day. The school district will continue to set thermostats in all our schools to 20°C from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm and 15°C when schools are not in session. It is estimated that the actual cost for natural gas in 2018/19 will be higher than budgeted by \$95K to \$280K depending on how quickly the pipeline returns to 100% operating pressure and the weather conditions over the next two months.

2018/19 Ministry of Education Recalculated Allocations

Secretary Treasurer Coughlan presented to the board for information the 2018/19 Ministry of Education Recalculated Funding Allocations. Based on the interim operating grants announcement, it is estimated that the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District will receive \$133.24 million of operating grant funding for 2018/19.

Details about the Recalculated Funding Allocations are available online in the December 12, 2018 public agenda package: <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/December-12-2018-Public-Agenda-Package.pdf>

Good News

In the good news portion of the evening, trustees noted the following items: trustees attended and were impressed by Christmas concerts at Fairview, Garibaldi Secondary, Kanaka Creek; trustee Collette read a Christmas story at the Maple Ridge library Christmas event; trustee Dumore noted that the Kiwanis Club created an extracurricular fund for the school district and made a donation to the playground at c'usquanela Elementary, and that the MRSS cheerleaders were undefeated three years in a row; board chairperson Carreras noted that the school district was the first in the province to receive the Meritorious Budget Award from the international Association of School Business Officials for the 2018/19 budget and congratulated staff for this achievement.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on January 16, 2019 at the District Education Office.