



Board Meeting Highlights February 27, 2013

Trustees:

Mike Murray (Chair), Susan Carr, Ken Clarkson, Kathy Marshall, Sarah Nelson, Dave Rempel

Executive:

Jan Unwin (Superintendent), Laurie Meston (Deputy Superintendent), Flavia Coughlan (Secretary Treasurer)

Learning Centre Update

District Helping Teacher Librarian Halia Hirniak presented to the Board on the School District No. 42 Learning Centre, identifying the following as the current goals and projects: a Virtual Learning Commons accessible to all staff; the bilingual expansion of digital content; monthly updates of new resources; the weeding of existing resources; guiding and encouraging existing school libraries in incorporating more 21st Century initiatives.

Ms. Hirniak explained that Learning Commons will make the library a more collaborative space in which visitors can use their own devices and where students can receive guidance on how to use their devices to access good information.

2012/2013 Amended Budget Bylaw

The Board approved the transfer of \$249,999 from the Operating Fund to Local Capital to be used for Capital Lease payments due in 2012/2013, and also approved the transfer of any unrestricted surplus for 2012/2013 to Local Capital. The transferred surplus will provide a minimal contingency reserve for next year and may potentially be used to assist in offsetting the 2013/2014 projected funding shortfall.

Safe, Caring Schools Policy

The Board adopted *Policy 9410 – Safe, Caring and Healthy Schools*. Trustee Carr explained that the policy development committee received invaluable feedback from students on the Social Justice Committee and from the MRTA, while Superintendent Unwin noted that Safe Schools Coordinator Bruce Cunnings is now preparing to put together a task force of students and educators to oversee the policy's implementation.

Policy 9410 – Safe, Caring and Healthy Schools is available on the District website at <http://www.sd42.ca/section9000>

Kindergarten Registration Update

Deputy Superintendent Laurie Meston gave the Board a final update on Kindergarten registration, observing that the total number of students registered in kindergarten to date for 2013/14 is 958. Last year at this time registration was at 913. The number, Deputy Superintendent Meston explained, is expected to grow over the coming months, with some numbers at specific schools possibly fluctuating up or down depending on family moves and other similar factors.

Good News

In the good news portion of the evening, Trustees noted the following items: Grand Transitions at Maple Ridge Secondary School went very well thanks to the preparedness on the part of the students; Garibaldi Secondary's *9 to 5* musical was a smashing success; both Albion Elementary and Garibaldi Secondary hosted emotional pole-raising ceremonies; and the Pitt Meadows Secondary basketball team have enjoyed some great success and are now on their way to Fraser Valley and possibly to the provincials thereafter.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on March 13 2013 in the District Education Office.