



**Trustees:**

Mike Murray (Chair), Eleanor Palis (Vice-Chair), Lisa Beare, Susan Carr, Korleen Carreras, Ken Clarkson

**Executive:**

Sylvia Russell (Superintendent), Laurie Meston (Deputy Superintendent), Flavia Coughlan (Secretary Treasurer)

**Strategic Facilities Plan**

Secretary Treasurer Flavia Coughlan and Superintendent Sylvia Russell presented to the Board on the *Strategic Facilities Plan*, reviewing the process through which the plan was developed and speaking to the facilities planning recommendations the plan entails. The final recommendations reflect the feedback the school district received throughout the public engagement process, and therefore include some revisions. The Board approved the *Strategic Facilities Plan* with one amendment to the Fine Arts recommendation, and authorized staff to implement the recommendations.

The finalized Strategic Facilities Plan is available online at <http://facilitiesreview.sd42.ca/wp-content/uploads/Strategic-Facilities-Plan-October-2015.pdf>

**Learning Improvement Fund (LIF)**

The Board approved the superintendent's submission on the allocation of LIF resources for the current year. Deputy Superintendent Laurie Meston thanked the MRTA, CUPE and principals for their work with her on this. She noted there are never enough resources to address all of the identified needs, but that the committee does the best it can under the circumstances. In total, \$496,312 was allocated to additional support staff, while \$1,841,497 was allocated to additional teaching staff. \$143,751 was held in reserve for emergent situations, which become clear as the year progresses.

**Eligible School Sites Proposal**

Following consultation with the City of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows, the Board approved an adjusted Eligible School Site Proposal that is to be incorporated in the *2015/16 Capital Plan*, and submitted to the Ministry of Education. The proposal includes an estimate of approximately 6,557 new development units to be constructed in the school district over the next ten years, and a corresponding addition of an estimated 2,695 school age children. Two new school sites and one site expansion are anticipated to be required as a result of this growth, calling for approximately 7.66 hectares (18.93 acres) of land. At current served land costs, the land, which should be purchased within ten years, will cost approximately \$17.94 million.

## 2015/16 Five Year Capital Plan

The Board approved submission of the *Five-Year Capital Plan*, which reflects the outcomes of the *Strategic Facilities Plan*, to the Ministry of Education. Priorities for the first year include funding for acquiring land for the 104th Ave Albion Elementary School, funding for development of a 550 student school on that site, funding for a substantial renovation of Pitt Meadows Secondary School (the school is 54 years old), and funding for two building envelope upgrades. The next three priorities include renovations for the South Lillooet Centre and two additional site acquisitions.

## Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Sylvia Russell presented the superintendent's update, which included the following highlights:

- Scott Ormiston received another acknowledgement of his excellence in teaching by being honoured as part of the UBC alumni Top 100 celebration at the new Alumni Centre.
- Maple Ridge News published its list of our community's "finest." This list included Keith Rogalsky (Harry Hooge) and Ed Dumas (Maple Ridge Secondary) as favourite music teachers; Maple Ridge Secondary, Thomas Haney Secondary, Garibaldi Secondary as having the favourite high school band; and Madame Davenport (Laity View), Michael Ross (Harry Hooge), and Stuart Richardson (Maple Ridge Elementary) as favourites in the "Favourite Teacher/Principal" category.
- Samuel Robertson Technical held an assembly for the Cops for Cancer team.
- Westview Secondary is running the Surface 3 Project, which is an exciting opportunity for Westview students to participate in a digital classroom environment.
- Maple Ridge Secondary, along with over 6,500 other schools across Canada, is participating in the student vote. From November 23-26, the school's senior acting class will be presenting *Playworks*, a series of one-act plays. As well, MRSS Drama will be competing at the Upper Fraser Valley Drama Festival the first week of December.
- A number of elementary schools across the district, including Whonnock Elementary, Pitt Meadows Elementary, Davie Jones Elementary, and Yennadon Elementary, raised money for the Terry Fox Foundation.
- Webster's Corners just held a successful Business Expo with their grade 6/7 classes.
- Grade 6/7 teachers at Yennadon Elementary are working with the City and HUB bike program to provide an educational bike program for grade 6 and 7 students. The program would encourage more ridership in schools and decrease the intense traffic around pick up/drop off times at the school.

## Good News

In the good news portion of the evening trustees noted the following items: trustee Beare observed that the HIVE is doing its annual clothing drive and now accepting clothing donations, trustee Carreras attended mock elections at Albion Elementary, trustee Clarkson spoke to graduates of the Masters in Education program about the life of a school trustee.

**The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on November 18, 2015 in the District Education Office.**