



Trustees:

Mike Murray (Chair), Susan Carr, Ken Clarkson, Kathy Marshall, Sarah Nelson, Eleanor Palis (Vice-Chair)

Executive:

Jan Unwin (Superintendent), Laurie Meston (Deputy Superintendent), Wayne Jefferson (Secretary Treasurer)

Presentation: French Immersion, Joanne Rowen

Pitt Meadows Elementary School Principal Joanne Rowen presented on the success of the District French Immersion program. The program, which started in 1980 at Laity View Elementary with 61 students, has grown into one of the District's most popular programs of choice, with approximately 1452 registered students. The curriculum and resources of the federally funded program are consistent with the curriculum and resources of the English program. The District's Literacy iPod Project, 1-to-1 Laptop Program, SmartBoards and iPads are all available to French Immersion students. Principal Rowen identified the program's rapid growth as a challenge, explaining that it creates space and staffing issues.

Learn more about the SD42 French Immersion Program online at <http://www.sd42.ca/french-immersion>.

Kanaka Creek Local School Calendar Approved

The Board approved the Proposed 2012 – 2013 Kanaka Creek Local School Calendar, in which the following days differ from the District calendar:

- Non Instructional Day: from Friday, April 26 (District Calendar) to Monday January 7, 2013 (1/2 day) and Monday April 29, 2013 (1/2 day)
- Altered Calendar Days: from Monday, March 25 – Thursday, March 28, 2013 (District Calendar) to Tuesday, July 30 – Friday, August 2, 2013.

In addition to the different non-instructional days and altered calendar days listed above, the Winter, Spring and Summer breaks are as follows:

- Winter Break: Monday, December 10, 2012 to Friday, January 4, 2013

- Spring Break: Tuesday, April 2, 2013 to Friday, April 26, 2013
- Summer Break: Tuesday, August 6, 2013 to Monday, September 2, 2013

Both the number of instructional minutes and the daily schedule align with the District Local School Calendar.

Annual Budget Bylaw Replaced with Board Policy

The Board rescinded the Annual Budget Bylaw (November 20, 2008) and adopted instead the Operating Budget Policy (4203), which allows for a greater level of detail and takes into consideration the needs of educational partners. Policy 4203 is available online at <http://www.sd42.ca/sd42-policy-manual>.

Financial Statements 2011 – 2012, Third Quarter

Secretary Treasurer Wayne Jefferson reported that the Third Quarter Financial Statements for 2011 – 2012 show the District in a strong position with no concerns to highlight. Statements are available online at <http://www.sd42.ca/financial-reports-0>.

Temporary Borrowing Resolution Approved

The Board approved a temporary borrowing resolution that authorizes the Secretary Treasurer to borrow, if necessary, an amount not exceeding \$6.5 million. Secretary Treasurer Jefferson explained that the resolution is a routine measure and rarely needed.

Superintendent of Schools: International Education and District Local Calendar

Superintendent Unwin advised the Board that the Canadian government was preparing to close visa offices and that this would create processing delays for international student visa applications. The District's International Education Department is likely to be affected, Superintendent Unwin noted. The Board resolved to prepare a letter in support of the International Education Department, highlighting the potential consequences of the government's decision. The letter is to be sent to the local Member of Parliament and to Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Superintendent Unwin further advised the Board that Premier Clark has rescinded the original date of February 18th for Family Day, and has instead allowed the voters to select a date for the holiday. An amendment may consequently need to be made to the approved 2012 - 2013 District Local School Calendar.

Good News

In the Good News portion of the evening, the following items were noted: the annual Music Monday event was a great success in the District; Glenwood Elementary will be celebrating its 50th anniversary on May 29th.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on May 30, 2012 in the District Education Office.