



**Board Meeting Highlights  
April 10, 2013**

**Trustees:**

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

**Executive:**

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

**Presentation: School Growth Plans**

Director of Instruction David Vandergugten presented to the Board a synopsis of the School Growth Plans. All schools must create a school growth plan each year. The plans are developed by school planning councils and are integral to the Ministry of Education's district review process.

Mr. Vandergugten explained that schools can select from a wide range of school goals, including literacy, numeracy, 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, and school culture. Because the District has access to this data, it is able to funnel to each school resources that correspond with that school's growth plan.

**Elementary Reporting Alternate Option**

Director of Instruction David Vandergugten introduced the Elementary Data Review and Reporting Committee, comprised of teachers, administrators and staff from the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District (SD 42). Mr. Vandergugten noted that the committee pursued and investigated ideas from across the globe to establish a new set of Reporting Principles and to offer K-7 teachers an alternative to current reporting methods. The key feature of this new reporting method is a 3-way conferencing model that includes the teacher, the parent/guardian, and the student. Mr. Vandergugten explained that the model focuses on the learner and is a more accurate documentation of the student's work and experience. Feedback from the schools in which this method of reporting was piloted has been overwhelmingly positive.

### **2013/14 Proposed Preliminary Operating Budget**

Secretary Treasurer Flavia Coughlan presented the Board with the 2013/14 Proposed Preliminary Operating Budget. The budget has been adjusted for the following: projected enrolment changes (a decline of 197FTE students for 2013/14); projected changes to revenue and staffing due to changes in enrolment; estimated changes to employee salaries and benefits; estimated changes to services, supplies and utilities due to inflation; adjustments for one-time revenue or expenditures in the prior year budget. The overall shortfall for the 2013-2014 school year is \$5.66 million, Secretary Treasurer Coughlan explained.

More information on the Preliminary Operating Budget 2013/14 is available at <http://www.sd42.ca/2013-2014-Budget-Process>

### **Good News**

In the good news portion of the evening, the following items were noted: this year's spring cross-country events will both be held at Albion Elementary; trustee Carr congratulated the 16 students from SD42 who attended the RCMP Youth Academy during Spring Break; trustees Carr, Clarkson and Nelson commended the Grade 7 Interview Fair held at Samuel Robertson Technical.

**The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on April 24, 2013 in the District Education Office.**