



## Board Meeting Highlights October 10, 2012

### **Trustees:**

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

### **Executive:**

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

### **Presentation: Parent Education Programs**

Parent Education Coordinator Christina Shearme spoke to the Board about the wide array of resources offered through the Family Education & Support Centre. The centre's key programs include the Community Action Program for Children (CAPS), the School's Cool initiative that prepares children for kindergarten, Food programs, Parent Education programs, Adult Mental Health, Families Supporting Families, and Multicultural services. For more information about the Family Education & Support Centre, visit the centre's website at <http://www.familyed.bc.ca/>

### **Achievement Contract: Secondary Education**

Stewart Sonne (Director of Instruction – Secondary and Adult Education) presented to the Board on the Secondary Education portion of the 2012 Achievement Contract. Sonne observed that grad rates in the District are growing exponentially, and that the Ministry of Education recognizes the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District as a leader in the grad rate area. All the teachers, staff and CUPE staff in the district are to be congratulated for this achievement, Sonne said. Other achievements at the secondary level include the improvement and increase of intervention strategies in schools, attendance monitoring and intervention, and the provision of educational choice for students. Grad rates will continue to be an area of focus in the District, Sonne explained.

For a full overview of achievements and challenges at the secondary level, see the District's 2012 Achievement Contract online at <http://www.sd42.ca/2012-achievement-contract>

### **Achievement Contract: Aboriginal Education**

Alan Millar, Principal of Aboriginal Education, presented to the Board on the Aboriginal Education portion of the 2012 Achievement Contract. Millar explained that while grad rates in the District may have increased over the past five years, aboriginal student success and graduation have not. While the District Aboriginal grad rate of 62% is above the provincial average of 49%, results show that an emphasis on academic intervention has not had the hoped-for impact. Millar identified attendance as an underlying problem and explained that the District will need to focus on instituting more systemic change and on creating options and opportunities to engage students. The key to overcoming some of the challenges, Millar explained, is in reaching out to and connecting with students and their families.

For a full overview of achievements and challenges in the area of Aboriginal Education, see the District's 2012 Achievement Contract online at <http://www.sd42.ca/2012-achievement-contract>

### **Eligible School Sites Proposal**

The Board received a report indicating that the District will require seven school sites and one site expansion over the next ten years, all in the Albion and Silver Valley areas. The proposal is based on municipal projections of 9,352 new development units estimated to be home to 3,793 school age children during that period. The report will now be referred to local governments.

### **Five Year Capital Plan Summary**

Secretary Treasurer Flavia Coughlan presented the revised Five Year Capital Plan Summary, which outlines funding that has been requested for upgrades, new facilities, seismic upgrades, major renovations and site acquisitions. The funding requests total \$\_\_ over five years. Secretary Treasurer Coughlan said that the District's focus was on completing due diligence for its top priority project, which is another school in the Albion area.

### **Policy Approval**

The Board approved the following policies for implementation:

*2320 Board Committee and Trustee Representation*

*2400 School Board Meeting Proceedings*

*2915 Board Chairperson: Elections, Roles, Responsibilities*

*2915.1 Trustee Elections – Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson*

*2918 Vice-Chairperson: Elections, Roles, Responsibilities*

*9510 Flags – Canada and British Columbia*

*10510 Board Correspondence*

10540 *Financial or In-Kind Donations*

These policies are available for review online at <http://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/sd42-policy-manual>

**Good News**

The Board extended its congratulations to MRSS and Garibaldi Secondary School students for their successful execution of a duathlon at Alouette Lake. Two hundred students participated in the event, which consisted of a 4K run and a 14K cycling leg followed by another 4K run.

**The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on October 24, 2012 in the District Education Office.**