



Board Meeting Highlights May 13, 2015

Trustees:

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

Executive:

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

Presentation: Thomas Haney Energy Management Program

The District's Energy Manager, Alexandra Tudose, introduced five Thomas Haney Secondary students, who had assumed the role of the school's energy ambassadors. The students told the Board about how they were able to use the recently approved lighting upgrade as an applied physics project, calculating the energy savings that were achieved. They shared both their vision of a sustainable school and their goals for 2015. These goals included finding ways to make Thomas Haney a more sustainable school through a focus on lighting, school campaigns and technology projects. The students also made several recommendations, which included an investment in energy efficient appliances and the development of school events based around being energy efficient.

Presentation: Educating the Whole Child at Glenwood Elementary

School principal Jovo Bikic and several Glenwood staff presented to the Board about the school's educational practice and extensive teamwork. They spoke about the school's culture of care, its numeracy and literacy exploration centers, its soft start Mondays, its multiage classrooms, and its emphasis on deepening and developing relationships between students and school staff. Trustees noted they'd had a chance to experience this school culture when they visited the school, and congratulated Glenwood staff on the wonderful work they were doing.

Elementary Summer Learning Program K-7

The Board welcomed Riverside Principal Kim Bondi, and approved the proposal to start an optional summer school program for elementary students. The mission of the program is to provide engaging learning opportunities that will support children's long-term development and inspire them to reach their full potential. The program will be offered at the following sites: Yennadon Elementary (East Zone), Alouette Elementary (Central Zone), Edith McDermott Elementary (West Zone), and Laity View Elementary (French Immersion). The program, which will run from 9 am to noon from July 7 to July 24, will begin at 75 students per zone, but will be scalable for future years.

Public Board Meetings Schedule Change

The following two future meeting start times were adjusted to accommodate other Board activities:

- The June 10, 2015 meeting will begin at 4 pm to accommodate the 7pm Open House for the Learning and Facilities for Today and Tomorrow;
- The June 24, 2015 meeting will begin at 4 pm to give trustees an opportunity to attend Westview Secondary School Graduation.

Rental Rates for Filming

The Board approved increases to rental rates for commercial film production in schools. The increases are based on a review of rates being charged elsewhere. All other rental rates will be reviewed in January 2016 after one full (uninterrupted) year of the current rates being in place.

Carbon Neutral Report

The Board approved the Carbon Neutral Report, which will be submitted to the Climate Action Secretariat. The Carbon Neutral Report identifies the recently adopted Energy Management Plan, and is available on the district website at <http://www.sd42.ca/sustainability>.

Superintendent's Update

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

- Several classes at Kanaka Creek Elementary are raising money to assist those in Nepal while teachers at the school have been exploring the core competencies by trying out hands-on learning activities in the classroom with the JECIC group.
- Samuel Robertson Technical's senior girls' soccer team made it to the provincials, and a recording company is coming to work with the school's School of Rock Kids.
- Pitt Meadows Elementary and Edith McDermott Elementary went to camp Sasamat last week, where students were engaged in countless outdoor learning opportunities;
- On May 25, Davie Jones Elementary students and staff will be opening up the Davie Jones Locker put together 25 years ago.
- Eric Langton will be running Cirque du Lezard on May 21 and 22
- The student leadership group at Pitt Meadows Elementary recently raised over \$2,700 for the Brick by Brick building of a school in India.
- Albion Elementary's Bouncy Bookworms earned a gold medal finish in the Reading Link Challenge on May 6.

Good News

In the good news portion of the evening, the following items were noted: trustee Carreras spoke about her experience judging the public speaking contest; trustee Carr noted that she would be attending the grade 6 and 7 public speaking finals the following day, that many elementary schools were now preparing for the district track meet, and that trustees had attended the 20 Years of Service event at Maple Ridge Secondary School.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on May 27, 2015 in the District Education Office.