



Board Meeting Highlights January 27, 2021

Presentation: Outreach Program

Maple Ridge Secondary School (MRSS) principal Trevor Connor and Outreach teacher Carson Power presented to the board on the district Outreach program, which runs as a separate school out of three classrooms at MRSS. The program is for in-district and out-of-district students in grades 10, 11, and 12 who may have faced adversity and/or fallen behind in school, and who require additional support to graduate. Graduation rates in the program are high, moving between 85-90%. Some students remain in the Outreach program until graduation, while others choose to transition back into their home secondary schools.

Presentation: Connex Program

District Alternate Secondary principal Steve Wiebe presented to the board on the district alternate programs, Connex and Reconnex. The Connex program is located on the Arthur Peake Centre campus, which also houses the administrative office of SD42 Trades and Apprenticeships program. From this office, staff are able to provide career counselling and support for both Connex and Reconnex students who want to enrol in one of the nine district trades programs.

Reconnex is located at Riverside Centre and accommodates a small group of students who require more targeted support and individual instruction. The Reconnex program is designed to support students struggling with severe mental health and behaviour issues who find attending a larger program challenging. As students become acclimatized to school, they can transition to the Connex program or back to their home school. Students in both programs complete Dogwood Diplomas.

School Growth Plans

Superintendent Sylvia Russell shared school growth plans with the board, noting that the overarching school growth goals relate to the four themes of social emotional learning, literacy, secondary innovation, and improved learning and assessment. The approved growth plans will be posted to the individual school websites under the parent tab and will also be included in school newsletters.

Budget Process

The board approved the proposed 2021/22 Preliminary Budget Process Timeline and also approved a change of date for the Board Public Meeting from April 28, 2021 to May 5, 2021. The 2021/22 Preliminary Budget Process Timeline is at the top of the following page.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 6:00 pm	Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of the Proposed Budget Process/Timeline
Wednesday, January 27, 2021	Budget Committee of the Whole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner Groups presentation of impact of budget driven changes implemented as part of the 2020/21 Preliminary Budget
Wednesday, February 17, 2021 DEO 6:00 pm	Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Projected Enrolments for 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25
Wednesday, February 17, 2021 6:00 pm	Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and Board Approval of the 2020/21 Amended Annual Budget
Wednesday, March 31, 2021 DEO	Budget Committee of the Whole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the 2021/22 preliminary budget estimates to partner groups
Wednesday, April 7, 2021 DEO	Budget Committee of the Whole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner groups individual presentations to the Board of the 2021/22 budget considerations
Wednesday, April 14, 2021	Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the Proposed 2021/22 Preliminary Budget
Tuesday, April 20, 2021	Provincial Budget 2021 is Announced
Wednesday, April 28, 2021 6:00 pm	Budget Committee of the Whole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public and partner group input on the Proposed 2021/22 Preliminary Budget
Wednesday, May 5, 2021 6:00 pm	Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of 2021/22 Budget Balancing Proposals
Wednesday, June 16, 2021 6:00 pm	Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of 2021/22 Preliminary Budget Bylaw

First Quarter Financial Statements

The board approved financial statements for the quarter ended September 30, 2021. The financial statements are available in the January 27, 2021 public agenda package at <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/January-27-2021-Public-Agenda-Package.pdf>

Policy Review Update

The board approved housekeeping changes to the following policies:

- *Policy 2301: Role of the Board*
- *Policy 2302: Board Delegation of Authority*
- *Policy 2915: Board Chairperson - Election, Role and Responsibilities*
- *Policy 3201: Role of the Superintendent of Schools*
- *Policy 3203: Role of the Secretary Treasurer*
- *Policy 4203: Budget Planning and Reporting*
- *Policy 6801: School Closure*
- *Policy 9200: School Catchment Areas and Student Placement*

The board also rescinded *Policy 6425: School Size* and received for information *Procedure 2915.1: Trustee Elections – Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson* and *Procedure 4203.1: Budget Process*. The SD42 Policy Manual can be found on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/policy-manual/>.

Finally, the board received for information and continuation with the consultation process the following policies:

- *Policy 4202: Contingency Reserve*
- *Policy 5310: Disposal of Surplus Assets*
- *Policy 6530: Environmental Sustainability*

Draft policies are available for review at <https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/policies-procedures-public/>.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Russell opened her last superintendent's update by offering her heartfelt thanks to the Board of Education, secretary treasurer Flavia Coughlan and her team, senior team, partner groups, and District Parent Advisory Council for their support, hard work, and dedication. Superintendent Russell retires January 31, 2021.

Other highlights from the update included the following: A presentation of 2019/20 grad rates for the school district, which continue to climb and have reached their highest levels in close to a decade (a summary of the 2019/20 grad rates is available on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/district-highlight/graduation-continues-district/>); reflections on the success of the district professional development keynote session with award-winning author Monique Gray Smith on *Fostering Resiliency*; and the commencement of the school district's work with UBC's Dr. Amy Parent, who will guide the district's Equity Scan (an in-depth process to understand and improve the school district's engagement with Indigenous students and the Indigenous community).

Draft motions to BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) approved

The board approved the following three draft motions for submission to the BCSTA for consideration:

- Enhancing Student Learning Reporting Order and Framework for Enhanced Learning Policy Review Process
- Food Security
- Funding for Student Transportation

Good News

In the good news portion of the evening, trustees noted the following items: trustee Dumore was happy to participate in Black Shirt Day; trustee Shaw noted that the next quarter is coming up for high school students; trustee Sullivan spoke about the Connex program, the Outreach program, district grad rates, and the anti-racism work and the Equity Scan in the district; trustee Trudeau participated in the district professional development day keynote with Monique Gray; trustee Yamamoto expressed her gratitude to all district staff who make an effort to reach out to and connect with students who need help but may not directly ask for it; and trustee Carreras spoke about her participation in two training sessions and her attendance at the annual partner group meeting.

At the close of the meeting, trustees thanked superintendent Russell for her hard work, dedication, integrity and grace, and wished her a happy retirement.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on February 17, 2021. The live stream will be available on the school district YouTube channel and the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/online-board-meetings>.