

Board Meeting Highlights February 21, 2024

Presentation: Feeding Futures School Food Programs

Program manager for community connections and healthy living/food security Jeannie Harnett presented to the board on the Feeding Futures School Food Programs in the district. As of February 1, 2024, the school district has spent nearly \$0.9 million of the program's \$1.9 million budget. Additional sources of support and funding for food programs include a grant to support district-wide snack and hot lunch programs, in-kind donations from non-profit organizations and local companies, grants received by individual schools, and support from the Breakfast Club of Canada. Food service providers support 687 premium weekly lunches to elementary schools, 700 bagged lunches weekly, and 5,000 universal monthly lunches of which 50% are fully subsidized.

School Growth Plans

Superintendent Dhillon shared school growth plans with the board, noting that the goals identified in the plans continue align with the district's strategic priorities and goals – equity, literacy, social emotional learning, assessment and reporting, secondary innovation, and alignment. The approved growth plans will be posted to individual school websites under the parent tab and are also available on the district website at https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/strategic-plan/.

Amended Annual Budget and Second Quarter Financial Statements

Secretary Treasurer Rennie presented the 2023/24 Amended Annual Budget and Second Quarter Financial Statements to the board. The updated revenue and expenditure estimates include board-approved budget changes to January 2024, revenue and expenditure changes resulting from changes to enrolment, revenue changes announced by the Ministry of Education and Child Care in December 2023, projected revenue and expenditure changes to achieve a balanced budget. The full report and analysis is available for review in the February 21, 2024, agenda package.

Superintendent's Update

In the superintendent's update, Superintendent Dhillon presented on the six-year completion rates for 2022/23, noting that the rates continue to increase, year-over-year. For resident students, the completion rates have increased from 96% in 2021/22 to 98.1% in 2022/23. For Indigenous students, the rates hold steady at 90% in 2021/22 and 90.3% in 2022/23. For students with diverse abilities, completion rates have increased from 87% in 2021/22 to 91.4% in 2022/23.

Enrolment Projections

The board received for information enrolment projections for 2024/25, 2025/26, 2026/27, and 2027/28. K-12 enrolment is projected to increase by 246 FTE in 2024/25, 198 FTE in 2025/26, 252 FTE in 2026/27, and 196 FTE in 2027/28. The full report, including projections for summer learning, students with special needs, English Language Learners, Indigenous education, and international education, is available online in the February 21, 2024, agenda package.

Policy Review Updates

The board approved the following updated policies, which reflected non-substative changes only:

- Policy 4105: Investments
- Policy 6810: Disposal of Land or Improvements

The board also received the following draft policies for information and continuation of the consultation process:

- Policy 2919: Trustee Code of Conduct
- Policy 6600: Naming School District Facilities

Both approved and draft policies are available for review in the February 21, 2024, agenda package.

Farewell to Superintendent Dhillon

At the close of the meeting, trustees and staff expressed their profound thanks to outgoing Superintendent of Schools, Harry Dhillon, whose last day in the role is February 25, 2024. Teresa Downs will assume the position of superintendent on February 26, 2024.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6:00 pm on March 6, 2024.