



Board Meeting Highlights April 17, 2024

Delegation: 2024 National Day of Mourning

Christy Slauenwhite, delegate with the New Westminster and District Labour Council, presented to the board on the 2024 National Day of Mourning. The National Day of Mourning is a day to remember and honour loves lost or injured due to a workplace tragedy. It is also a day to collectively renew the commitment to improving health and safety in the workplace and to preventing further injuries, illnesses and deaths. The day is marked annually in Canada on April 28.

2024/25 Proposed Preliminary Budget

Superintendent Downs and Secretary Treasurer Rennie presented the *Proposed Preliminary Budget 2024/25* to the board. In accordance with the School Act, school districts in the province must approve a balanced operating budget and submit it to the Ministry of Education and Child Care by June 30, 2024. The *Proposed Preliminary Budget 2024/25* is available for review on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/budget-process/2024-budget-process/>. Following the public engagement process, the Board of Education will make its final deliberations and consider the Preliminary Budget 2024/25 for approval at the public board meeting on May 1, 2024.

2024/25 Capital Plan Bylaw

The board gave three readings to and adopted the Capital Plan Bylaw for 2024/25. The adoption of the Capital Plan Bylaw allows the school district to access funding for capital projects supported by the Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC) to proceed to the next stage, and for minor capital projects that the MECC has approved for funding and that can proceed to procurement.

2024/25 Annual Facilities Grant Spending Plan

The board approved the 2024/25 Annual Facility Grant Spending Plan totaling \$3,308,215. The funds will go towards facility upgrades at various schools for projects that include learning support spaces enhancements, accessibility enhancements, HVAC, roofing, and plumbing. A summary of the 2024/25 Annual Facilities Grant Spending Plan is included in the April 17, 2024, agenda package: <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/2024-04-17-Public-Agenda-Package.pdf>

Policy Review Update

The board approved proposed non-substantive changes to the following policies:

- Policy 5401: Use of Board-Owned Buses
- Policy 10400: Community and Commercial Use of School Facilities and Grounds

The updated policies are available on the district website in the Policy Manual: <https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/policy-manual/>

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Teresa Downs presented to the board on the McCreary Center Society 2023 BC Adolescent Health Survey, which highlighted themes across the province as well as trends and results specific to the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District. The survey covered topics such as mental health and well-being, substance use, sexual health, and general student demographics. The school district will be sharing and discussing the survey results with staff and partners, exploring further engagement with McCreary Center Society, and using the results to support curriculum development.

Secretary Treasurer's Update

Secretary Treasurer Richard Rennie presented to the board on the Ministry of Education and Child Care's recent announcement of Student and Family Affordability Fund allocations for 2023/24. The Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District will receive an allocation of \$673,000. The district is engaging in a consultation process with Indigenous rightsholders, the District Parent Advisory Council and others to inform its spending plan, which will be executed during the remaining months of the school year.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6:00 pm on May 1, 2024.