

Presentation: Inquiry Program Presentation

District helping teacher Yas Mann and assistant superintendent David Vandergugten presented to the board on the district's Inquiry Program. Inquiry driven teaching approach encourages grade 6/7 students to explore their curiosities through guided and increasingly independent investigation of complex questions for which there is no single answer. Currently, 97% of all grade 6/7 classes (90 teachers) are voluntarily participating in this successful program. For more information: <https://www.sd42.ca/program/inquiry-program/>.

Supporting All Learners: Enhancing Student Learning Report

Superintendent Downs presented the *Supporting All Learners: Enhancing Student Learning* report to the board. The report consists of three sections – Intellectual Development, Human and Social Development, and Career Development – and provides both currently available data and analysis of this data. The full report, which the board approved for submission to the Ministry of Education and Child Care (MECC), is available at <https://www.sd42.ca/district-reports/>.

2023/24 Audited Financial Statements

The board approved the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2024. The statements and the supplemental Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis report are available online at <https://www.sd42.ca/financial-information>.

Capital Plan 2025/26 for Minor Capital Programs

The board approved the 2025/26 Minor Capital Program projects for submission to the MECC. The projects included in the plan are aligned with the prioritization principles outlined in the school district Strategic Facilities Plan and are categorized under five programs: School Enhancement Program, Carbon Neutral Capital Program, Playground Equipment Program, Food Infrastructure Program, and Child Care. Details can be viewed in the [September 18, 2024, public agenda package](#).

Finance Committee of the Whole

The board discontinued the Budget Committee of the Whole and transferred its responsibilities to the Finance Committee of the Whole for improved operational and governance efficiencies and a streamlining of the review of financial statements. The board also approved the revised Finance Committee of the Whole Terms of Reference incorporating these changes.

Policy Updates and Report

The board approved updates to the following policies following a public consultation process. The approved policies have been posted to the online [policy manual](#).

- *Policy 4110: Revenue Generation*
- *Policy 4910: Financial Reporting and Administration of School Generated Funds*
- *Policy 5310: Disposal of Surplus Assets*

The board also received the Whistleblower Protection Policy Annual Report for 2023/24 for information.

Chairperson's Update

Chairperson Yamamoto opened with a warm welcome to the new school year, acknowledged the upcoming September 30, 2024 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, congratulated staff for their successful

business case leading to the MECC's recent funding approval for the Pitt Meadows Secondary seismic replacement project, and expressed gratitude for the work of staff, community volunteers, and local businesses on the successful BC Summer Games hosted in the community from July 17-21, 2024.

Trustee Appointments

The board received an updated list of trustee appointments to committees and community liaison groups for the period ending November 2024. The updated list of board representatives is available at <https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/>.

Superintendent's Update

In her update, Superintendent Teresa Downs provided the board with follow up on a question raised at the June 19, 2024, public meeting before briefing trustees on the implementation of classroom cell phone restrictions and the relief teacher hiring and orientation process. Superintendent Downs concluded her update with reflections on and photos of school startup.

Summer Learning Update

Assistant Superintendent Ken Cober provided the board with an update on Summer Learning 2024, which was offered during the month of July at three locations. At the Katzie Health Centre, the program for elementary-aged students involved activities emphasizing hands-on literacy and numeracy skills, integrating traditional teachings such as bead work, weaving, song and outdoor physical activities. For secondary students, the program was leadership-based and focused on community connections, outdoor physical activities, and cultural enrichment. Laity View Elementary hosted 533 students from grades 1-7, while Thomas Haney Secondary hosted the secondary transitions program for 129 students in Grade 7, a two-course skill building program emphasizing literacy and numeracy for 88 students completing grades 8-9, and grade 10-12 course work for 765 students completing grades 9-12.

Secretary Treasurer's Update

Secretary Treasurer Richard Rennie opened with a progress update on the Eric Langton Elementary seismic replacement and expansion project, noting that work on the site had been delayed for safety reasons to address necessary utility permit approval requirements, and that site excavation work has now resumed. Community members can subscribe to project updates at <https://www.sd42.ca/eric-langton-replacement-project/>.

Mr. Rennie also provided some details regarding Pitt Meadows Secondary seismic replacement project recently approved to proceed towards construction. The new school will be a 3-storey facility with a Neighbourhood Learning Centre and an operating capacity of 1,100 students. The district estimates that construction will begin in spring 2026, with the new school opening September 2028. Additional information is available at <https://www.sd42.ca/replacement-secondary-meadows/>.

Finally, Mr. Rennie noted that the provincial government announced funding for 89 prefabricated classrooms across 10 school districts. The Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District will be receiving a total of 13 classrooms. Eight classrooms (195 seats) will be added to Golden Ears Elementary and five classrooms (120 seats) to Blue Mountain Elementary. The district will be assembling a project team to plan, design, and construct the new facilities as quickly as possible.

Board Policy Development Committee Work Plan for 2024/25

The goal of the Board Policy Development Committee is to review all existing board policies within the four years ending 2025/26. The board received the Board Policy Development Committee Work Plan for 2024/25, which is available for review in the [September 18, 2024, public agenda package](#).

Trustee Motions

The board considered a trustee motion regarding the development of a naloxone training policy for the district and approved the following motion:

That the Board of Education direct staff to seek legal advice on Item 15 in the September 18, 2024, public agenda package and bring it forward to the October 16, 2024, public board meeting.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6:00 pm on October 16, 2024.