

### **Presentation: Kindergarten to Grade 3 Literacy Initiatives**

Assistant Superintendent Jovo Bikic provided an overview of the district's coordinated K-3 literacy initiatives, launched following the ministry's March 2025 direction on mandatory early literacy screening. Mr. Bikic highlighted the development of the SD42 K-3 Literacy Guide in English and French, which consolidates effective assessment and instructional practices alongside the new SD42 Kindergarten Screener. He also outlined capacity-building work already underway, including literacy liaisons in every school and training for kindergarten and K/1 teachers. Next steps include exploring Grade 1-3 screeners, deepening the work, and expanding literacy interventions.

### **Student Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**

The board approved the Student Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and directed staff to start the work of establishing the committee. This advisory body will provide a structured venue for trustees to hear directly from secondary students about Student Voice initiatives in schools and across the district, and to engage students on governance topics aligned with the board's responsibilities. Trustees Campbell and Liosis were thanked for bringing the initiative forward. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually and can be found in the [December 3, 2025, agenda package](#).

### **School Growth Plans**

Superintendent Downs shared the school growth plans for the 2025/26 school year with the board. The goals identified in the growth plans are aligned with the board's strategic plan and priorities. 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>.

### **Budget Process**

The board approved the following 2026/27 Preliminary Budget Process and Consultation Timeline:

<b>Public Board Meeting</b> Wednesday, June 18, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and approval of 5-year capital plan for major capital projects for 2026/27</li> </ul>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> Wednesday, September 17, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and approval of 5-year capital plan for minor capital projects for 2026/27</li> </ul>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> Wednesday, December 3, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and approval of the proposed budget process and consultation timeline for the 2026/27 preliminary budget</li> </ul>
<b>Online Public Budget Survey Part 1</b> Thursday, January 29 to Wednesday, February 18, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with the public on budget priorities through an online budget survey</li> </ul>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> Wednesday, February 11, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation and approval of the 2025/26 amended annual budget (which supports establishment of the 2026/27 base budget)</li> </ul>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> Wednesday, February 11, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of 3-year projected enrolments for 2026/27</li> </ul>

<b>Indigenous Education Council (IEC) Budget Consultation</b> Monday, February 23, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the 2026/27 draft preliminary budget estimates</li> <li>• Co-construction of spending plans for targeted Indigenous Education funds</li> <li>• Consultation on budget priorities for non-targeted funds</li> </ul>
<b>Board Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting with Partner Groups and Student Voice</b> Wednesday, February 25, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the 2026/27 draft preliminary budget estimates</li> <li>• Consultation with partner groups on budget priorities</li> <li>• Consultation with students on budget priorities</li> </ul>
<b>Board Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting with Partner Groups</b> Wednesday, April 1, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the updated 2026/27 draft preliminary budget estimates</li> <li>• Presentation of the public budget survey part 1 results</li> </ul>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> Wednesday, April 15, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the proposed 2026/27 preliminary budget (1<sup>st</sup> reading), including public budget survey part 1 results</li> </ul>
<b>Online Public Budget Survey Part 2</b> Thursday, April 16 to Wednesday, April 22, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public input on the proposed 2026/27 preliminary budget through an online budget survey</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous Education Council Meeting</b> Wednesday, April 22, 2026 (morning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEC approval of the proposed 2026/27 spending plans for targeted funds</li> <li>• IEC input on the proposed 2026/27 preliminary budget non-targeted funds</li> </ul>
<b>Board Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting with Partner Groups</b> Wednesday, April 22, 2026 (afternoon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partner Group input on the proposed 2026/27 preliminary budget</li> </ul>
<b>Board Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting with Public</b> Wednesday, April 22, 2026 (evening)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public input on the proposed 2026/27 preliminary budget</li> </ul>
<b>Public Board Meeting</b> Wednesday, April 29, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Receipt of IEC-approved 2026/27 spending plans for targeted Indigenous Education funds</li> <li>• Presentation of the Public Engagement Summary</li> <li>• Adoption of the 2026/27 preliminary budget and annual budget bylaw (following 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings at this meeting)</li> </ul>

## 2025/26 First Quarter Financial Statements

The board approved financial statements for the quarter ended September 30, 2025. The financial statements are available in the December 3, 2025, public agenda package at <https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/2025-12-03-Public-Board-Agenda-Package.pdf>.

## Trustee Motion: Ad Hoc Advocacy Committee of the Whole Terms of Reference

The board approved the Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Advocacy Committee of the Whole on Equitable Funding. The committee will examine current funding structures for CommunityLINK, the Equity of Opportunity Supplement, and the National School Food Program. It will develop advocacy strategies and provide recommendations to the board for consideration.

## Chairperson's Update

Chairperson Yamamoto provided a verbal update on trustee participation at the BC School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Trustee Academy in November.

## Trustee Appointments to Committees

The board received for information the Chairperson's trustee appointments to committees for the period from December 2025 to October 2026. The updated list of board representatives for 2025/26 can be found on the school district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/trustees/>.

## **Superintendent's Update: Secondary Schedule Engagement – Response to Recommendations**

Superintendent Downs provided the board a verbal update on her response to the secondary schedule public engagement recommendations from the working group.

- **Pitt Meadows Secondary, Maple Ridge Secondary, and Samuel Robertson Technical** will remain on the linear schedule. This decision reflects the majority preference for the linear model based on five key criteria.
- **Thomas Haney Secondary** will not transition to a semester model. Its self-directed learning community relies on the flexibility of the linear model, and a shift could negatively impact programs and opportunities that are central to the school's culture.
- **Westview Secondary** will transition to a semester model beginning in the 2027/28 school year to allow for a thoughtful and well-prepared implementation.

Superintendent Downs noted that school-level data collected make clear that every secondary school and alternate program has important work ahead. Each is expected to review its data, examine existing institutional and structural practices, and identify how it will respond to the needs expressed by students, families, and staff.

The updated *What We Heard* report is available on the district website at

<https://www.sd42.ca/assets/media/What-We-Heard-Secondary-Schedule-Public-Engagement-Summary.pdf>.

**The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6:00 pm on January 14, 2026.**