

Presentation: Integrated Child and Youth (ICY) Teams: Growth and Development Since 2023

District Principal of Safe and Caring Schools Trisha Umlah and Program Lead Leslie Beevers (Fraser Health) presented to the board on the growth and development of Integrated Child and Youth (ICY) Teams in the district. ICY Teams are part of the provincial Pathway to Hope initiative, which helps children, youth, and their families access timely mental health and substance use supports through one coordinated team. Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District (SD42) was one of the first school districts to launch this integrated service delivery model in 2021/22. In SD42, ICY brings together a multidisciplinary team from across the community, including Indigenous Child and Youth Mental Health, Child and Youth Mental Health, FamilySmart, Fraser River Indigenous Society, Fraser Health, and Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Community Services. The team includes clinical counsellors; child care coordinators; family peer support workers; youth peer support workers; Indigenous child, youth and family support workers; and an Indigenous Cultural Liaison Worker. The work aligns with the district's strategic plan by helping create the conditions for every learner to feel valued, supported, and able to reach their potential.

Delegation: BC Children and Youth Connection Society – Autism Awareness and Inclusion Survey

The board received a presentation on Autism Awareness and Inclusion Survey from BC Children and Youth Connection Society students Grace Lee and Yunxi (Chelsea) Jang. The survey, which collected responses from youth ages 12-17 across various high schools in the province, sought to assess how Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is currently perceived and what challenges autistic youth experience in learning and socializing in school environments. The survey received a total of 526 responses, with 56.2% of respondents reporting familiarity with ASD and contact with autistic people. Other findings showed that 46.6% of respondents said their autism awareness was shaped through school, and that 73.4% of respondents felt school was the appropriate venue for deeper learning about ASD. Recommendations arising from the survey data indicate that schools should be encouraged to display autism awareness posters, and that short educational videos on the subject should be created and played for students and staff.

For more information about the BC Children and Youth Connection Society, visit <https://bc-youth.com>.

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 key sections: Intellectual Development, with a focus on literacy and numeracy; Human and Social Development, including feeling welcome, safety, belonging and adult connections at school; and Career Development, including graduation, pathways, and post-secondary transitions. It 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 online at <https://www.sd42.ca/district-reports>.

2027/28 Minor Capital

The board approved the Minor Capital Program projects for the Five-Year Capital Plan for 2027/28 for submission to the Ministry of Infrastructure. The projects included in the plan align with the selection methodology and prioritization principles outlined in the school district's Strategic Facilities Plan and fall into the following program categories: School Enhancement Program (SEP), Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCN), Food Infrastructure Program (FIP), and Building Envelope Program (BEP). The minor capital projects included in the plan can be viewed in the [September 23, 2026 public agenda](#) package.

Board of Education Annual Work Plan

The board approved a revised Board of Education Annual Work Plan, which outlines at a high level the various activities of the board and the anticipated timing of those activities. The revised plan incorporates a number of changes intended to improve alignment with board governance responsibilities and the board meeting schedule and is available on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/board-of-education/>.

Board Committee Structure Revisions

The board approved revisions to its committee structure and related terms of reference arising from its June 24, 2026 workshop discussion on board governance and committee effectiveness. The changes simplify the board's committee structure, increase trustee participation in board policy development, provide a flexible governance forum for matters requiring additional discussion before board decision-making, improve administrative efficiency through a streamlined committee structure, and strengthen governance oversight while maintaining flexibility to address emerging board priorities. Additional information, including detailed documentation of these changes, is available in the [September 23, 2026 public board meeting agenda](#).

Audited Financial Statements for 2025/26

The board approved the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2026. The statements and the supplemental Financial Statement Discussion and Analysis report are available on the district website at <https://www.sd42.ca/financial-information>.

Policy Development

The board approved two updated policies – *Policy 2320 Board Committees and Trustee Representation* and *Policy 2500 Board Policy Development* – and, following a review, approved the retirement of the following policies, effective upon their replacement with new or updated administrative procedures:

- Policy 4410 Travel Expenses
- Policy 4435 Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards
- Policy 4910 Financial Reporting and Administration of School Generated Funds
- Policy 5401 Use of Board-Owned Buses
- Policy 5905 Alcohol – Consumption, Possession and Storage
- Policy 7710 Professional Development
- Policy 8801 Course Challenge
- Policy 8901 Field Trips including Extra Curricular Activities
- Policy 9405 Unexpected Health Emergencies in Schools
- Policy 9601 Anaphylaxis
- Policy 9605 Provision of Menstrual Products to Students
- Policy 9610 Health Care Needs
- Policy 9611 Child Protection
- Policy 9705 Student Records
- Policy 10310 Volunteers
- Policy 10540 Financial or In-Kind Contributions

These changes are intended to streamline the policy manual, clarify the distinction between governance and operations, and align with provincial guidance.

Whistleblower Protection Policy Annual Report for 2025/26

The board received the Whistleblower Protection Policy Annual Report for 2025/26 for information. For the period July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, no disclosures were received, no investigations were undertaken, and no findings of wrongdoing were made under this policy.

Summer Learning Update

Superintendent Downs presented an overview of the district's Summer Learning 2026/27 program, which was held at the Katzie Health Centre and Thomas Haney Secondary School. A total of 1,026 students were enrolled in summer learning across the following six areas: programs for elementary and secondary-aged students at Katzie Health Centre; Grade 6/7 elementary band; the Grade 8 secondary transitions program; the Grade 8 and 9 literacy and numeracy program; Grade 10-12 summer learning courses; and English Studies 12 for Train in Trades students.

District Operational Plan

The board received the 2026-2027 District Operational Plan for information. The plan outlines the key initiatives, strategies, and actions that will be undertaken during the school year in support of the district's six strategic priorities, which collectively support improved outcomes and success for all learners: literacy and numeracy, equity, social-emotional learning, assessment, innovation, and sustainability.

Superintendent's Update

In her update to the board, Superintendent Downs referenced the progress made over the summer on capital projects; noted that access zones have been re-established around K-12 public and independent schools to protect students and staff from disruptive or harassing behaviour; and confirmed that Automated External Defibrillators and naloxone are available in all Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows schools in compliance with Ministry of Education and Child Care requirements.

Superintendent Downs also provided an update on elementary band, noting that the new Grade 6-7 Elementary Band summer learning program was well received. With the exception of Samuel Robertson Technical Secondary, which did not previously offer an elementary band program, secondary schools have also either established or are planning to introduce elementary band opportunities. Additional opportunities are being provided in the community by Arts On and Community Bands.

The next Board of Education public meeting will be at 6:00 pm on October 7, 2026.