



Trustees:

Mike Murray (Chair), Susan Carr (Vice Chair), Lisa Beare, Korleen Carreras, Ken Clarkson, Eleanor Palis, Dr. Dave Rempel

Executive:

Sylvia Russell (Superintendent), Laurie Meston (Deputy Superintendent), Flavia Coughlan (Secretary Treasurer), Shannon Derinzy (Director of Instruction)

Draft School District Calendars for 2016/17 and 2017/18

The Board received proposed calendars for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 school years, and approved their release for public input at <http://www.sd42.ca/school-calendars>. The draft calendars will be out for consultation until end of day, February 23, 2016, and will be submitted to the Minister of Education (with potential revisions arising from the consultation process) on March 31, 2016.

Middle Years International Baccalaureate Program

The Board received a report from Principal Darren Rowell and Vice-Principal Tom Levesque on the potential implementation of the Middle Years International Baccalaureate Program (MYP) at Garibaldi Secondary School. While the school already runs a successful IB Diploma program for grade 11 and 12 students, during last year's *Facilities and Learning for Today and Tomorrow* consultation, parents expressed considerable interest in the possibility of expanding this program to include the Middle Years option. Mr. Rowell and Mr. Levesque reviewed for the Board the successful implementation of the MYP program at two secondary schools outside of the district, and observed that the addition of this program had a positive effect on student enrolment at these two schools. The Board will consider both the report and any program implementation costs during the upcoming budget deliberations.

Information Technology (IT) Quarterly Progress Report

Richard Eskandar (IT Manager) and David Vandergugten (Director of Instruction) presented the quarterly IT review, highlighting the current areas of focus for the IT department including portal development and support, district data solution implementation, and MyEducation BC deployment and support. The department accomplished a great deal of work, undertaking both planned and unanticipated projects. Challenges facing the IT department include budget-related delays in the replacement of outdated equipment.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Sylvia Russell presented the superintendent's update, which included the following highlights:

- Harry Hooge Elementary teacher Keith Rogalsky shared the success of his media broadcasting class through a video at <http://hml.sd42.ca/play/2918>
- The Environmental School received the following key grants: \$9,537 for Traditional Weaving (from *Arts in the Classroom*), \$2,000 for Sports and Healthy Living (from *Healthy Schools*), and \$1,100 for the purpose of inviting elders for story telling and song (from *Simon Fraser University*).
- Albion Elementary held its 4th Annual Young Entrepreneur Fair, which saw the participation of 55 students from grades 5, 6 and 7. Students donated a minimum of 20% of their profits to charity, and raised well over \$500. The money was donated equally to Free the Children and the Maple Ridge Friends in Need Food Bank.
- Maggie Coles-Lyster of Maple Ridge Secondary will be competing at the World Cyclocross Championships in Heusden-Zolderk, Belgium on January 30. Also at MRSS, students Maya Spindel-Wood, Cassandra Joyce, Zaria Solk, Clara Killerich-Hubner, and Ava Morant won the \$5,000 prize for their presentation to the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI). The group will be donating the prize money to Pacific Riding for Developing Abilities in Langley.
- Samuel Robertson Technical kicked off its school-wide GRIT campaign, designed to encourage students to manage stress and anxiety.

Good News

The following items were noted in the good news portion of the evening: trustees reported on two school visits to Albion Elementary and Samuel Robertson Secondary, acknowledging the good work being done in the school district on a variety of fronts; Trustee Carreras noted she was looking forward to the student forum on January 27; and Chair Murray referred to the upcoming joint facility planning process with the City of Maple Ridge for the new Albion school, neighbourhood learning centre and potential community centre. The process will begin with a community workshop at 6pm on February 10th, 2016 at Albion Elementary School.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm February 3, 2016 in the District Education Office.