



Trustees:

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

Executive:

Sylvia Russell (Superintendent), Laurie Meston (Deputy Superintendent), Flavia Coughlan (Secretary Treasurer)

Presentation: MDI Pilot Project

Director of Instruction David Vandergugten introduced Colette Madsen from MRPM Community Services and Roberta O'Brien, who presented to the Board on the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) pilot project currently underway in three elementary schools in the district. The project places parks and recreation leaders in each school once a week for eight weeks at noon hour to encourage grade three students to participate in a physical literacy session in the school gymnasium. Final results will be shared once this project concludes, and these results will inform next steps.

Curriculum Implementation Days

To comply with a provincially mandated change to the school calendar, the Board approved the addition of two non-instructional days to the 2015-2016 school year. The two additional days (February 19, 2016 and May 2, 2016) will enable teachers, administrators, instructional support staff and district staff to participate and discussions and activities related to the implementation of the new BC curriculum. An additional non-instructional day will also be set aside for each of the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years for this same purpose. The revised school calendars have been posted to the school district website at <http://www.sd42.ca/node/2075/>

Capital Projects

The Board adopted three capital project bylaws to access Ministry of Education funding for the following three approved routine capital projects:

- central boiler plant and domestic hot water system upgrade for Albion Elementary;
- central boiler plant and domestic hot water system upgrade for Fairview Elementary;
- purchase of 46 roof top heat pumps with gas fired backup heating for Westview Secondary.

The total value of the projects is \$846,000, and all three projects will contribute to additional energy savings in the school district.

First Quarter Financial Statements

The Board approved financial statements for the quarter ending September 30, 2015. Secretary Treasurer Coughlan noted the school district would require additional funding as a result of an unexpected increase of 429 FTE in regular student population. Further, the school district has a projected contingency reserve of \$2.53 million for the end of the current year. This amount is less than 2% of the district's operating budget and is in keeping with the guidelines now being discussed by the Ministry of Education.

SOFI

The Board approved the School District Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) report for the year ended June 30, 2015 for submission to the Ministry of Education. A copy of the SOFI report is available in the Board of Education public agenda package for November 18, 2015 at <http://www1.sd42.ca/node/2438>

Operational Plans

The Board approved the operational plan updates for each of the following functional areas of the school district: the Board of Education, Education, Business, Information Technology, and Human Resources. The plans are available on the district website as a part of the *Roadmap to Excellence* document at: http://www1.sd42.ca/system/files/Strategic%20Review%202014%5B23112015%5D_signed.pdf

Graduated Adults Update

Superintendent Sylvia Russell spoke to the Board about the impact of the provincial government's decision to remove free access to upgrading courses for graduated adults, noting that student enrolment in this area has dropped by approximately 50%. The changes to funding Graduated Adults took effect May 1, 2015.

District Class Size Report

Superintendent Russell provided the Board with a 2015-2016 class size report. With the exception of Kindergarten, class sizes in the school district have increased across all grade levels. At the secondary level, core curriculum offerings such as English and Math include 35 classes of over 30 students. Superintendent Russell noted this is a lower number than we saw last year, but a higher number than it might have been had MyEd BC implementation gone more smoothly.

Superintendent's Update

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

- The Social Justice Forum, organized by Danielle Zagar and Jenny Godfrey, was very successful and ran on November 12th and 13th at Westview Secondary and Riverside Centre respectively.

- The school district will be hosting an all-day student forum at the Swan-e-Set Golf Club on January 27, 2016. Shelley Moore is the scheduled keynote at this forum, which will have as its theme the development of students' passions for learning.
- 4 Thomas Haney Secondary students attended the BC Student Leadership Conference in Abbotsford from October 18-22, where they had an opportunity to develop their leadership skills and meet fellow leaders from around the province.
- Samuel Robertson Technical held a BC Lions Manny Arceneaux assembly, during which Manny spoke to students about planning for the future and working hard in school.
- Maple Ridge Secondary had 6 students audition for the Provincial Honour Ensembles (in choir, band, jazz band), and all six students were accepted. Congratulations to Honour Choir members Alanah Ellsworth, Georgia Masaki, Rachel Renaud, Nathan Wade, Emma Wong and Honour Band member Dylan Morin.
- Laity View Elementary has a group of leadership students serving lunch at the Caring Place once a week and a grade 3/4 class doing monthly visits to Hollywood Manor to play games with the seniors.
- Glenwood Elementary welcomed visitors from Japan, who had come to the school to have a closer look at its inclusionary practices.
- Webster's Corners grade 6/7 students are joining the BC Hydro Community Champions workshop.
- Congratulations to John Roodenrys (first place) and Garret David (second place) on their wins in welding at the Metal Fab LNG Competition.
- Finally, Montessori parents at Hammond Elementary purchased buddy benches for buddy reading and activities in the hallway.

Parks and Leisure Services Agreement

Trustees discussed their concerns about the loss of the joint Parks and Leisure Services Agreement, pointing out that, as a direct result of this loss, the school district will need to begin negotiations on replacement agreements with both the City of Maple Ridge and the City of Pitt Meadows. Trustees Palis, Rempel and Murray all expressed concerns about the lack of an open process leading to the decision to end the agreement.

Good News

In the good news portion of the evening trustees Murray and Carr spoke about their visits to Glenwood Elementary and Webster's Corners, as well as their participation in the Westview Social Justice Conference. Both congratulated Danielle Zagar and Jenny Godfrey on their efforts in making this an impactful event involving students from several school districts.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm on December 9, 2015 in the District Education Office.