



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for January 23, 2020

Student Voice Presentation

Students from the Student Voice Group presented to the board on their goals for the 2019-20 school year. Students representatives are from grades 8 to 12 within the district. The group created themes, and then narrowed down the focus to: mental health literacy, transitions/careers, and financial literacy.

The group also participated in an environmental scan around the learning in School District 59. The students are taking action and using their voice to have an impact in the district.

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

Devereaux students are enjoying outdoor activities like skating, snowshoeing and skiing – thank you to parent volunteers who have been flooding and clearing the outdoor skating rink.

Crescent Park teachers and students are doing a pre-reading skills blitz in their Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes. The grade 6/7 classes are doing a murder mystery unit which incorporates literacy and science curriculum.

TRSS grade 10 students working with representatives from Conuma Coal as part of their Career Life Connections program. The students are learning aspects of job hunting including developing resumes, job search skills and writing cover letters. Students are also being educated in interviewing skills, protocol, dress etc. The finale for the week will be mock interviews with HR recruiters.

DCSS-Central Campus is kicking off their Heroes program with an assembly. Central is also implementing strategies to achieve their goals developed during an Advisory Council meeting, the goals are related to meeting the needs of indigenous students.

DCSS-SP Campus is excited to announce they will be hosting the AAA senior girls' volleyball provincials in the fall of 2020.

TRSS girls' curling team will be travelling to provincials.

McLeod Elementary students and PAC group wanted to give back this past holiday season, so they made up twelve baskets and presented them to seniors in their community. Along with donated items for the baskets, the students also provided a personal touch with homemade cookies, personalized Christmas cards, and handmade wooden ornaments. This project was a great way for the students to learn about giving back and letting their seniors know they are appreciated and are special members of the community.

Mental Health Literacy

In October 2019 the district received a grant of \$30,500 to continue to support the development of mental health and well being in our schools and students. The aim of this grant is to support schools and districts in building safe, caring and inclusive learning environments through social emotional learning, trauma-informed practices and mental health literacy.

SWOC Update

SWOC meetings have been scheduled with all schools and groups, they are examining the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges facing the district and its stakeholders. The SWOC's will be completed by March 10th, 2020. This information will be used by the trustees to assist in the development of a new strategic plan.

Access to Courses

Tumbler Ridge Secondary and Chetwynd Secondary were approached to see if students wanted to participate in a pilot project to access classes offered at DCSS-SP Campus through the use of online technology. This would allow students access to classes that aren't offered regularly or at all through their high school. The high schools are working together to support this idea.

Field Trip Request

Tumbler Ridge Secondary was approved to proceed with planning a trip to Europe in March of 2021. The purpose of the trip is related to the Career Life Education, Social Studies and English curriculum.

Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer:

Finance Reports

The board reviewed the monthly finance reports as presented by the Secretary Treasurer.

Additional Capital Expenditure

The board approved a capital purchase not to exceed \$20,000 for a server upgrade.

Amended Operating Grant

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the amended operating grant funding. The funding announcement came in late December. The student base allocation increased by \$712,000, this is due to the additional 96 FTE enrolled in September as compared to the estimate made last year. Special Education funding increased by \$610,000 to support the additional 42 students claimed in Levels 1/2/3. Salary differential funding decreased by \$48,552, this was due to a decrease in the provincial average teachers' salary.

CSS Renovation (Addition to Agenda)

The current status of the CSS renovation was discussed. Costs incurred to date are \$657,000 and current estimated costs to complete the plan total \$1.3 million. This is an increase from the original budget which was approved not to exceed \$1.75 million.

An alternate plan was presented which would upgrade the other two hallway corridors and the library entrance area and tiling the office to match the rest of the school. This plan includes the library entrance area but does not include moving/upgrading the school office or developing a new student lounge. This alternate plan is estimated to cost \$943,000.

In an effort to provide transparency, the board approved to postpone a motion on the options presented to the next regular meeting to allow time for the public to be informed since it was an addition to the regular meeting agenda.

Trustee Items:

Vaping Regulation Feedback

The board supported the proposed vaping regulations as presented by the Ministry of Health. The Ministry is accepting feedback in writing by January 24, 2020.

Committee Reports:

Policy Committee

The board adopted the following policies as presented:

- Policy 2150 Roles and Responsibilities of the Board
- Policy 4210 Outdoor Education

The board approved the following policies for review:

- Policy 2205 Trustee Remuneration, Benefits and Recognition
- Policy 2260 Communication with the Board

The board approved to repeal Policy 2330 Communication with the Board, effective immediately.

Policies for review will be circulated for a minimum of 45 days. Feedback will be accepted in writing to Candace Clouthier at cclouthi@sd59.bc.ca until February 4, 2020.

Policies for review are posted on the school district website main page at www.sd59.bc.ca.

Current policies are posted on the school district website at <https://www.sd59.bc.ca/district/policies>.

Upcoming Events:

Date:	Event:
February 12 & 13, 2020	Early Dismissal Days – students are dismissed 1 hr early
February 17, 2020	Family Day Holiday – Schools are closed
February 20, 2020	Open Board Meeting – 1 pm @ School Board Office
March 12, 2020	Open Board Meeting – 1 pm @ School Board Office
March 17-27, 2020	Spring Break – Schools are closed