

School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for June, 2021

Superintendent of Schools Reports

School/Student News:

The month of June in SD59 has been a focus on Indigenous Education and celebrations. All schools in the district planted marigolds to honour the 215 graves found at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School site. The district's Indigenous Education department hosted a Zoom Around The District to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21, 2021. The celebration of Indigenous culture included performances by Bev Lambert and Kym Gouchie, as well as student performers and Serena Brent, a member of the Dawson Creek Indigenous Advisory Council. The virtual celebration was a huge success with 2500-3000 viewers!





The Indigenous Enhancement Agreement was also signed on June 21st and will be a guide to support Indigenous Education over the next five years.

Canalta Elementary School celebrated their Indigenous achievement awards with a backdrop of decorations on the outside of the school. At McLeod Elementary, the school has created a paving stone medicine wheel and students planted marigolds around the outside of the wheel.

DCSS Central Campus paid tribute to First Nations from across Canada, by playing games and taking part in activities from those First Nations. Student leadership showed their support and appreciation by creating t-shirts.

At Pouce Coupe Elementary students created screaming sticks and dream catchers which were used to play Indigenous games and the students also got to roast bannock over a fire.

Little Prairie Elementary students planted a garden, roasted bannock, and took part in Indigenous recipe demonstrations.

Windrem Elementary students created dream catchers, built tipis and totem poles.





Along with all this, other amazing things were happening in schools across the District. Chetwynd Secondary School drama students present a play called the Mythic Adventures. The students did an amazing job and the costumes and backdrops were outstanding.

Pouce Coupe Elementary primary students made a trip to the fire hall.

McLeod Elementary had a Beach Day celebration. Which included having hot lunch arrive in a beach pail.



At TRSS the town planning project presentations were once again remarkable. Community support was evident in the learning process; community members acted as judges for the final presentations.

Tumbler Ridge Elementary grade 2/3 students took part in a guided walk in the interpretive forest. On the walk students learned about stewardship of the land from Mrs. Dufresne.

Crescent Park grade 3/4 class did an ADST activity with spheros and created battle bots controlled by an iPad. The students enjoyed the battle competitions to try to pop another bot's balloon. The Battle Bot Kit was created by the staff at the District Resource Centre and is available for classes to sign out.





DCSS- South Peace Skills Exploration class has built playhouse which is now for sale.

Two high schools have held their graduation ceremonies. Chetwynd will be holding theirs on Saturday, June 26, 2021. Tumbler Ridge celebrated in their graduating class cohort, while at DCSS the celebration happened in family groupings, with students arriving with 4 guests each. A total of 155 students and families participated in the mini graduation ceremonies which were held over two days.

K-12 Recovery Plan:

The Ministry of Education has released the K-12 Education Recovery Plan. The guide provides direction to boards of education and independent school authorities to deliver educational programs and supports in line with provincial pandemic recovery efforts. The guide clarifies provincial expectations, provides guidance across a number of key topics, and includes additional information and resources to assist boards in developing their own restart plan. Another guidance document will be released at the end of August and will continue to follow the guidelines from BCCDC.

The recovery plan does address impact of learning and the Ministry has announced additional provincial funding of \$43.7 million.

Online learning students for next year will be a fully registered program with Distributed Learning and not cross enrolled with local elementary and middle school.

Child Care Initiative Update:

The school district has partnered with the YMCA to add an additional before and after school care program at Crescent Park Elementary School, this is in addition to the one previously announced for Ecole Frank Ross. Both programs will have spaces for 24 school age children. The before and after school care programs offer seamless transition for students to attend school. Registration has already begun for these programs. Please contact YMCA directly for information about the before and after school child care spaces (https://nbc.ymca.ca).

The YMCA has been running a before and after school care program at Little Prairie Elementary in Chetwynd for the past year. The District will continue to work with the YMCA for future programs at other schools.

Secretary-Treasurer Reports

2021-22 Capital Plan Bylaw:

The Board of Education adopted the bylaw for the 2021-22 Minor Capital Plan. The projects include roofing and HVAC upgrades, four new buses, and a universally accessible playground at Devereaux Elementary School.

Capital Project Tender Award:

The contract for the Pouce Coupe Capital Expansion project was awarded to Northern Legendary Construction Ltd. The two-classroom expansion will not be completed for the beginning of the school year; however, is expected to be completed in the late fall of 2021.

2021-22 Annual Budget and Bylaw:

The Board of Education approved the annual budget for the 2021-22 school year. The preliminary budget is balanced for the 2021-22 school year with a total budget of \$56,205,043.

Trustee Items

2021-22 Board Meeting Schedule:

The board meeting dates for 2021-22 school year have been set. The board will hold one board meeting in each community of Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd in the school year. The board meeting dates will be posted on the school district website.

Policy Committee

The board adopted Regulation 4610 Students' Personal Records effective immediately.

The following policy was revised and was approved for circulation:

Policy 3170 Respectful Workplace: Personnel Bullying and Harassment

Policies will be circulated for a minimum 45 days. Feedback will be accepted in writing to Mike Readman at mreadman@sd59.bc.ca until August 31, 2021.

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

Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
June 29, 2021	Last day of classes for students
June 30, 2021	Non Instructional Day – Students do not attend school
Sept. 6, 2021	Labour Day Stat
Sept. 7, 2021	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
Sept. 8, 2021	First day of school – starts 2 hrs later, ends 1 hr earlier
Sept. 9, 2021	First full day of school

Schools out!



Enjoy the summer!