



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for June, 2023

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

High school graduation ceremonies are being celebrated. Chetwynd Secondary and Dawson Creek Secondary schools honoured their graduates on June 16th, while Tumbler Ridge Secondary had to postpone their ceremony until June 28th due to the wildfire evacuation.

Many high school graduates visit their elementary school upon graduation to revisit where it all started.

Elementary schools are also celebrating kindergarten and grade 7 graduations.



Dawson Creek Secondary School - Central Campus celebrated National Indigenous Day with many events and activities that celebrate Indigenous culture.





Little Prairie Elementary School held primary and intermediate sports days. Many classes are having fun on field trips and a highlight was



visiting Sauteau First Nations on National Indigenous Peoples Day.



Ecole Frank Ross students were proud to sing O Canada for the Zoom Around the District on National Indigenous Peoples Day. The students sang O Canada in English and Cree. Ecole Frank Ross continues to plant marigolds to honour the lost children and survivors of Residential Schools. The students also had fun participating in Tipi Talk, making bannock, rock painting and decorating bulletin boards to honour National Indigenous Peoples Day.



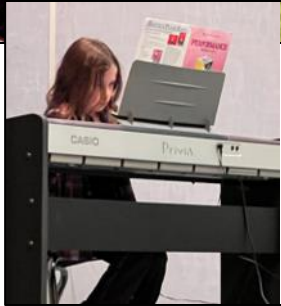
The Zoom Around the District was attended by over 1200 people and over 500 people attended the BBQ event to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21st.

McLeod Elementary hosted Aboriginal Family Services to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day. The whole school had fun dancing, drumming and singing.

Devereaux Elementary School held a talent show which showcased many talented students including scooter riders and a horse synchro team!



The students also grew their own lettuce this year and have been enjoying making their own salads.



Parkland Elementary School held an Agricultural Safety Day. Local farmers spent the day at the school educating the students about safe practices on the farm and how to use equipment safely.



Students at Don Titus Montessori Elementary School have enjoyed many trips including feeding baby goats and a grade 7 trip to celebrate their graduation.



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Tumbler Ridge Evacuation and School Closures

The Superintendent reviewed the steps the district took to evacuate the schools in Tumbler Ridge when the Evacuation Order was issued on June 8, 2023 due to the out of control wildfire in the area. The district also took steps to evacuate a school field trip that was booked to stay overnight at Gwillim Lake. The evacuation order was lifted on June 15, 2023 and residents could return to the community. Tumbler Ridge Elementary and Tumbler Ridge Secondary schools remained closed until June 19, 2023 to allow time for staff and families to return to the community and for the custodial staff to clean the school for re-opening.

K-12 Reporting Update

The Ministry of Education and Child Care has released additional K-12 Student Reporting Policy implementation support materials. Resources are available for educators as well as parents and caregivers. The resources provide important information about the upcoming shifts to the K-12 Student Reporting Policy that take effect July 1, 2023. More information is available on the Ministry website under the 'Reporting' tab at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>.

BC Demographic Survey

The Province of BC is encouraging everyone in BC to take the BC Demographic Survey to help address systemic racism and improve public services. The survey is open until September 29, 2023, <https://antiracism.gov.bc.ca/bcdemographicsurvey>.

BC Learning Pathways

BC Learning Pathways is a series of resources that support teachers in developing student literacy and numeracy skills. Educators are encouraged to use the resources and provide feedback during the Field Review consultation period. More information is available on the Ministry website at www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca/learning-pathways.

Updated Career Guides

The Ministry of Education and Child Care have updated the Work Experience and Youth Work in Trades career guides. The guides have been updated to reflect policy changes related to work experience placements. Educators are encouraged to review the new guides.

Reports from the Secretary Treasurer:

Finance Reports

The Secretary Treasurer presented the monthly finance reports as of May 31, 2023.

2024-25 Major Capital Plan Submission

The board approved the 2024-25 Major Capital Plan that will be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care for consideration. The major capital plan contains priority capital projects for the district, these include an expansion request for Crescent Park Elementary and a gym for Moberly Lake Elementary. The school replacement program includes future replacement of Chetwynd Senior Secondary/Windrem Elementary and Canalta Elementary schools. The district will receive confirmation in Spring 2024 if any projects are chosen by the Ministry of Education and Child Care to proceed and receive funding.

School Food Infrastructure Program

The board supported the 2023-24 minor capital submission specific to the School Food Infrastructure Program. The funds will be used toward purchasing capital items such as, fridges, freezers, stoves and shelving to support food programs in schools.

2023-24 Annual Budget & Bylaw

The Board of Education adopted the 2023-24 Annual Budget & Bylaw showing estimated expenditures for 2023/2024 fiscal year in the total amount of \$66,515,787.

2023-24 Board Meeting Dates

The 2023-24 board meeting schedule was presented. The first board meeting of the 2023-24 school year will be held on September 20th, 2023 at the School Board District Office. All regular board meetings are open to the public to attend. A zoom option is available for all meetings. Board meeting packages and videos are available for viewing on the school district website, www.sd59.bc.ca.

Committee Reports:

Indigenous Councils

The councils received an overview of activities that have been happening at the schools that promote a sense of belonging for Indigenous students. The students have really enjoyed the various cultural activities with Bev Lambert, Wayne Lariviere, Kym Gouchie and Stan Fraser. Both councils held a BBQ for their last meeting of the school year to thank everyone for their time and commitment over the year. A highlight of June was the Zoom Around the District and the National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations.



Policy Committee:

The board approved to repeal Policy 3230 Fire Fighting Duties, effective immediately. The process for employee leaves is established through the Human Resources department considering the employment standards act and collective agreement language.

Policy 5140 Moving Assistance is currently circulating for feedback. Feedback can be sent to Christy Fennell at cfennell@sd59.bc.ca up to August 31, 2023.

All policies are posted on the school district website. (www.sd59.bc.ca).

Upcoming Dates:

| Date: | Event: |
|--------------------|---|
| September 5, 2023 | Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school |
| September 6, 2023 | First Day of School – shortened school day (schools start 2 hours later and end 1 hour earlier) |
| September 20, 2023 | Public Board Meeting – Dawson Creek |
| October 2, 2023 | Schools Closed to honour National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30, 2023) |
| October 9, 2023 | Thanksgiving Stat – Schools Closed |
| October 20, 2023 | Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school |
| October 25, 2023 | Public Board Meeting – Chetwynd |

Enjoy the Summer Break!

