



School District No. 59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for March 2025

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

The Elementary Basketball Tournament was held on March 7 & 8, 2025. The gyms were full, and students were excited to finish off the basketball season with a tournament. 12 teams from across the district participated in the round robin format. Congratulations to the top four teams: Notre Dame (1st), Crescent Park (2nd), Tremblay Elementary (3rd), and Parkland Elementary (4th).

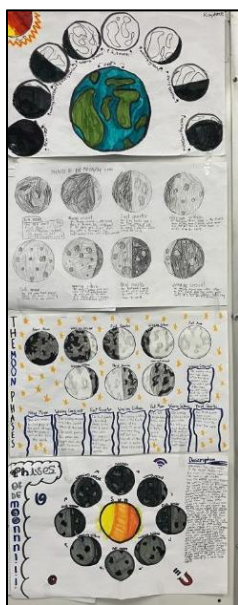


Devereaux Elementary students took part in a wind chime building activity.

Tremblay Elementary is part of the Classroom Champion program and will be meeting their athlete champion Annie Tansley, from the Canadian Olympic Ski Team, in April.

Student Voice students will have the opportunity to participate in Social Generative Fields training.





Canalta Elementary students have been busy studying the phases of the moon and land formations, working in literacy circles and focussing on increasing fluency, creating poetry with visual art representation of the poem, preparing for the spring music concert, and the PAC group hosted a family dance.



Ecole Frank Ross students continue to learn about local First Nations and have created a bulletin board about Saulteau First Nations.

Ecole Frank Ross' enhancement goal is to build Indigenous representation in the school. The students, and Artist in Residence Wayne Lariviere created this beautiful mural which incorporates school spirit with an Indigenous focus.



Frame:

Red and Black: The vibrant colours of EFR Bulldogs symbolize courage, determination, calmness, and kindness.

Medicine Wheel:

The Medicine Wheel's circular shape embodies the life cycle for Indigenous peoples. It is a powerful reminder that all beings—humans and nature—are interconnected, emphasizing harmony and balance in our lives.

Runner:

This represents not only athletics but also honours the rich traditions of Indigenous Peoples, reflecting their enduring spirit and resilience.

Brown (Nubuck-hide) on Runner:

This earthy tone connects to the land and the significance of animal hide to Indigenous Peoples.

Eagle Feather:

A symbol of honour and respect among First Nations Peoples.



Tumbler Ridge Secondary School students have been learning about wind energy and the art students are creating many forms of pottery.



Tumbler Ridge Senior Secondary was also excited to have Tyler McGregor, a paralympic athlete speak at a school assembly on achieving goals, accessibility, and overcoming challenges. Mr. McGregor is the captain of the Canadian men's national para ice

hockey team and was in the area to participate in the announcement that Dawson Creek will host the 2025 Para Cup November 30th to December 6th, 2025 at the Oviniv Events Centre.



Little Prairie Elementary students are having fun with class competitions to see who can create the best leprechaun catcher. The entire school participated in a school wide leadership activity that had students playing rock-paper-scissors to compete for leis.



Don Titus Montessori intermediate students are having fun reading to younger classes in the school. The students learn about leadership but also practice reading fluency.



How Are We Doing? Indigenous Education Report

The How Are We Doing? report is an annual report published by the Ministry of Education and Child Care that provides data in three main areas of focus: Intellectual Development, Human and Social Development, and Career Development. The report considers the data for all students, students with disabilities or diverse abilities and Indigenous students, and helps to identify areas for intervention.

The full report for the 2023-24 school year is available on the Ministry website at [B.C. Education System Performance - Peace River South School District](#).

BCPSEA Pre-Employment Hiring Incentives-2025

School District No. 59 (Peace River South) has been approved to offer the following Round 3 hiring incentives for enrolling teacher positions:

- 5x Teacher for \$10,000 (Tier 1) available for Tumbler Ridge
- 2x Teacher for \$10,000 (Tier 1) available for Chetwynd

2025-2026 School Calendar

The Board of Education adopted the 2025-2026 School Calendar. The calendar is available on the school district website: [2025-2026 School Calendar | School District 59](#).

Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer:

2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget Amendment

The Board of Education adopted a revised 2024-2025 Amended Budget with a total bylaw amount of \$68,817,590. The three changes included recording the Literacy Professional Learning Grant as a Special Purpose Grant; allocation of additional funding from the Ministry Funding Re-calculation; and the treatment of capital projects in the capital schedule.

2025-2026 Annual Budget

The Secretary Treasurer presented the first draft of the 2025-2026 Annual Budget. The Board adopted the first reading of the bylaw in the amount of \$67,864,605. Part of the budget development included a survey that had over 200 responses. The Board will be hosting a consultation meeting on April 2, 2025 to receive further feedback from stakeholders.

Capital Projects Update

Crescent Park Elementary School Expansion

Since the last board meeting, Fort Modular, Force Engineering and SD59 project team met to discuss project timelines, building permits and interior finishes. A further consultants meeting was held to discuss and finalize structural, mechanical and electrical details in preparation for manufacturing.

Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge Child Care Facilities

The architect continues to wait for the modular build estimates for both centres. The Secretary-Treasurer has escalated the timeline concern with the architect. The budget remains unchanged from February 19, 2025.

Capital project updates are posted on the district website at [Capital Projects | School District 59 \(sd59.bc.ca\)](#).

Trustee Items:

BCSTA Update

Trustees will be attending the BCSTA AGM in Vancouver from April 24-26, 2025.

Board Chair/Partner Liaison Meeting

Trustee Anderson attended a Board Chair's meeting that included an update from the provincial Rural and Remote Committee, Trustee panel on bargaining, and managing difficult conversations and board operations. The second day was a combined Partner Liaison Meeting

with Board Chairs, Superintendents and Secretary Treasures where the Ministry provided information on new initiatives and updates.

Committee Reports:

Indigenous Education Councils

Dawson Creek Council met at the end of February and reviewed the How are We Doing? Report. Council will not be meeting in March due to Spring Break.

Trustee Hillton reported the Chetwynd Indigenous Council meeting on March 11, 2025 was held at Saulteau First Nations and the meeting ended with a tour of the First Nations new cultural centre.

Policy Committee

The Policy committee reminded everyone that Policy & Regulation 4585 Media in Schools is being circulated for feedback. Feedback will be accepted until April 4, 2025. Please email feedback to cfennell@sd59.bc.ca.

All school district policies can be viewed on the school district website at [District Policies | School District 59](#).

Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
March 17-28, 2025	Spring Break – schools are closed
April 2, 2025	Special Open Board Meeting – Budget Bylaw 1 st Reading – Dawson Creek
April 2, 2025	2025-2026 Budget Consultation Dinner Meeting
April 7, 2025	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
April 18, 2025	Good Friday Stat – schools are closed
April 21, 2025	Easter Monday Stat – schools are closed
April 30, 2025	Public Board Meeting – School Board Office – Dawson Creek

