

School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for May 18, 2022

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

Students at TRSS presented about a student led initiative that has resulted in a newly formed group called 'We Are The Change' (W.A.T.CH), with a slogan of *Because it's time*. Two grade 12 students started the group by volunteering to give students the same experiences they had with career exploration opportunities. The students were so passionate about giving back to other students and carrying on the legacy of the newly formed W.A.T.CH group that they reached out to other students to join their group. The W.A.T.CH group has been responsible for planning many school activities and events. Their next steps are to brand their vision, create a logo, and develop a mission and vision statement for W.A.T.CH.



Classes at Canalta Elementary School have been busy hatching ducks and chicks. One lone duckling hatched out before his other siblings and was quite vocal he was alone. The students quickly found out that he was much quieter when they read to him. He was eventually joined by siblings on day 3 and day 5.

Canalta Elementary School grade 6-7 students recently presented a play featuring fairy tale spoofs. The gym was filled with parents who got to see a terrific show. Students have been doing 3-D modeling and creating Rube Goldberg machines in the library makerspace. Students are learning coding and solving engineering problems.

The BEE Yourself Challenge is on again. This challenge is supported by the SD59 SOGI group.

The Chetwynd Secondary School girls' soccer and track and field groups are going to zones in Prince George and flag football has started after school.

Don Titus Elementary school is also hatching ducks. Students are helping with the breakfast program where

they are learning to cook and to be independent which is part of the Montessori philosophy. Students are being creative in math where they are studying geometric designs with string art.



SD59 is excited to have an Artist in Residence for the remainder of the school year. Wayne Lariviere has been at the Indigenous Education Centre where he has painted doors, rocks and is working on a mural for the outside of the centre. Mr. Lariviere will be in schools across the district working with students on Indigenous focused projects.



Schools around the district participated in activities on May 12th to support he Moose Hide Campaign, a national initiative to stand up against violence towards women and children. Many schools participated in the national livestream event.

As schools are preparing for welcome to Kindergarten and Ready, Set, Learn events to introduce Kindergarten students to the school before they attend in the fall; the grade 7 students (grade 6 at Tumbler Ridge Elementary) are participating in transition tours to the middle and high schools in the district. Many students are excited and scared about the next step in their education journey and the tours help to introduce them to the schools where they will be attending in the fall.



The Parkland Elementary student band played at the opening of the student art exhibition at the Art Gallery in Dawson Creek. The jam session was joined with students and adults and everyone had a great time. The student art exhibit will be displayed at the Art Gallery until May 25th.



The Superintendent announced the following Principal Appointments, effective August 1, 2022:

- Sheila McGrath Principal at Crescent Park Elementary
- Patrick David Vice Principal at Chetwynd Secondary School
- o Stacie Deeley Principal at Tumbler Ridge Secondary School
- o Brendan Bogle Vice-Principal position at Tumbler Ridge Secondary School
- Bhupinder Mattoo

 Principal at Tumbler Ridge Elementary

2022-23 Revised School Calendar

The 2022-23 school calendar was previously adopted in the March board meeting; however, since then, the provincial government has announced the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (September 30th) will be recognized as a provincial statutory holiday. With this announcement, a revision to the 2022-2023 calendar was made. This change impacts daily the number of instructional days and the number of instructional minutes per day. The Board adopted the revised calendar which will be posted on the district website.

Reports from the Secretary Treasurer:

Finance Reports

The Secretary Treasurer presented the monthly finance reports as of April 30, 2022.

2022-23 Annual Budget and Bylaw

The Secretary Treasurer presented the annual budget for the 2022-23 school year. The preliminary budget is balanced for the 2022-23 school year with a total budget of \$58,719,912. Budget risks and assumptions were also identified. The Board read the first two readings of the annual budget bylaw.

A public consultation meeting is scheduled to present the 2022-23 Annual Budget to members of the public as well as key stakeholders. Attendance will be available in person or via zoom.

Date: June 2, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: School Board Office (11600-7th Street, Dawson Creek)

Zoom Link: https://sd59.zoom.us/j/63391816950

Documents: 2022-23 Annual Budget & Presentation (passed 1st and 2nd bylaw readings)

The Board of Education is inviting anyone to present questions or feedback in writing to Melissa Panoulias, Secretary Treasurer, at mpanoulias@sd59.bc.ca. Questions or feedback will be accepted until June 8, 2022 to be considered in developing the 2022-23 Annual Budget. The third and final bylaw reading of the Annual Budget will be presented to the Board of Education at the public board meeting on June 22, 2022.

General School Election Bylaws

The Board adopted both the Trustee Election Bylaw and the Mail Ballot Authorization and Voting Bylaws for the 2022 General School Trustee Election. The district works closely with local municipalities and the Peace River Regional District to conduct the election. General voting day for the school trustee election is October 15, 2022. The nomination period is from August 30th to September 9th. Anyone interested in running for a school trustee will be able to pick up their nomination papers starting in August.

For more information about becoming a school trustee or to download the School Trustee Candidate Guide visit the BCSTA website: https://bcsta.org/resources-and-services/trustee-elections/.

Reports from Trustees:

HR Strategy

The board passed a motion to strike a special committee with the focus on recruitment and retention in all employment areas of the district. The committee will be comprised of two trustees and district staff. The Board is committed to support and advocate for the district.

Policy Committee

The following policies were adopted as presented:

- o Policy 4225 Volunteers in Schools
- o Policy 5005 Financial Planning and Reporting
- Policy 5010 Accumulated Operating Surplus

Policy 4290 Extraordinary Coaches was repealed as it is now included in Policy 4225 Volunteers in Schools.

Upcoming Dates:

| Date: | Event: |
|-------------------|--|
| June 10, 2022 | Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school Professional development day for staff |
| June 22, 2022 | Open Board Meeting – 1:00 pm (Dawson Creek) |
| June 29, 2022 | Last day of school for students (regular hours) |
| June 30, 2022 | Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school |
| September 6, 2022 | Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school |
| September 7, 2022 | First day of school for students (schools begin 2 hours later and end 1 hour earlier) |

