



## School District No. 59 (Peace River South)

### **Board Highlights for May 2025**

#### ***Superintendent of Schools Report:***

##### **School/Student News**

Members of Student Voice participated in Compassionate Systems Leadership workshop. The training is centred around Self Leadership, Relationship Leadership and Systems Leadership. It is aimed to help people reorient toward a different way of showing up and being in a relationship with themselves, each other, and the world, thereby enabling greater collective action, kindness, and resilience. We are building strong leaders for the future!



The greens are thriving at TRSS. Many schools throughout the district are growing microgreens that are cared for by students. The greens are used in the school food programs.

Students at CSS are enjoying the Outdoor Education class. Students made bannock and cooked it over an outdoor fire. The RCMP joined CSS students for community cleanup activities.



Peace View Elementary School recently adopted the motto: "One for All, and All for One." The students are really working together as a team with acts of cooperation and kindness.



Little Prairie Elementary recently unveiled a stunning winter mural—an inspiring celebration of community, culture, and creativity. The winter nightscape captures the powerful beauty of our northern landscape. The mural is more than just a painting - it honours the culture, stories, and wisdom of Indigenous communities who have long cared for this land. It connects students to their environment and to the traditions that shaped the place they proudly live in. It reminds all who walk past it, that art is a living, breathing part of our shared history.



The grade 3,4,5 class at Canalta Elementary is learning about birds that are local to the area. The students will be going on a bird expedition to McQueen Slough to see how many birds they can identify. The school is also full of student artwork and the students are enjoying the climbing wall in the gym.



Tumbler Ridge Elementary co-created a piece of artwork with the Tumbler Ridge Visitor Centre that was displayed on World Art Day (April 15<sup>th</sup>). A grade 5/6 class at TRE built earthquake proof building models that were tested by Mrs. Edwards, the school Principal. The school held a Build a Bus campaign - over \$14,000 was raised for student field trips!

The District would like to welcome, Andrew Shedden as Vice-Principal at TRE, effective August 1, 2025.



## Truth and Reconciliation District Day

The District's Truth and Reconciliation focused learning day was a powerful day that brought together staff from across the district to learn and understand their own journey through Truth and Reconciliation. Kevin Lamoureux and Madelaine McCallum were guest speakers that shared their own personal stories of



tragedy, learning, understanding, growing, and finding their own personal strength.

The student presentation, "Say Her Name" was a powerful movement honouring loved ones lost to the ongoing crisis of MMIWG2S.

The profound day ended with a round dance drummed by members of Saulteau First Nations and closing remarks by West Moberly First Nations.

Thank-you to students at TRSS for making the MMIWG2S buttons to recognize May 5<sup>th</sup> as 'Red Dress Day' allowing staff to recognize and honour the lives and legacies of those lost.



## PreVenture Program

PreVenture is an evidence-based program that teaches students how to cope with stress, handle peer pressure, and make positive choices. It is designed for implementation for students in between grades 7-9. The program provides students with the tools they need to avoid substance misuse and improve their overall well-being.

In addition to the PreVenture program, the district is participating in the Open Parachute program - a mental health program used to support the emotional well-being and resilience of students from Kindergarten to grade 12. The program is for all students and is used as part of a regular classroom learning and contributes to creating a safe, caring school environment where every student feels supported.

## *Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer:*

### 2026-2027 Five Year Annual Capital Plan - Draft

The Secretary Treasurer presented a draft of the Five-Year Annual Capital Plan to the board. The plan includes major and minor capital project requests that are submitted to the Ministry for consideration. The draft plan can be viewed in the [May board meeting package](#).

A final copy of the major capital will be presented to the Board in June for approval. The minor capital submission will be presented in the September board meeting.

## **Capital Projects Update**

The following updates on the Capital Projects was reported:

### **Crescent Park Elementary School Expansion**

Since April 28, 2025 the following have occurred:

- City issued building permit for modular portion of project.
- Fort Modular confirmed manufacturing of modular sections will begin June 2, 2025.
- Force Engineering to provide documentation to post second tender for civil works on BC Bid May 21, 2025.
- Director of Operations and Secretary-Treasurer met with Crescent Park PAC to provide an update on the project.
- Director of Operations contacted the City to provide notice that civil drawings will be forwarded May 22 and to request dedicated time to review them.

### **Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge Child Care Facilities**

Since April 28, 2025 the following have occurred:

- Decision made to proceed with the stick build option for the following reasons:
  - Streamlined process with 1 contractor, 1 tender, 1 building permit.
  - Schedule.
  - Class D Refined Modular will only become more expensive as the costing (Class C, B, A) is more refined thus shrinking the variances of cost of stick build to modular (4.5%-2.1%).
  - Recent challenging experience with Crescent Park Elementary Expansion: 2 tenders, 2 contractors, 3 building permits (third is sprinklers).
  - Increased cost will be requested and assumed funded from Ministry of Education and Child Care.
  - Ministry does not have a preference between stick build or modular.
- SD 59 project team met to discuss next steps.
- Architect sent Class A cost estimates for the stick build childcares. School District 59 will reach out to the Ministry to see about applying for more funding.
- The district will present 2 options for the Dawson Creek Childcare Facility to the ministry:
  - Option 1 without before and after childcare (original application)
  - Option 2 with before and after childcare (increased cost)

Capital Project updates are posted on the district website at [Capital Projects | School District 59 \(sd59.bc.ca\)](https://www.sd59.bc.ca).

## Committee Reports:

### Indigenous Education Councils

Both Chetwynd and Dawson Creek Indigenous Education Councils met on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The councils reflected on the May 5<sup>th</sup> Truth and Reconciliation focused day, reviewed the submissions from schools for National Indigenous Peoples Day, and selected the Indigenous student awards. The Courage to Endure Awards will be presented at the evening celebration event on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Policy Committee

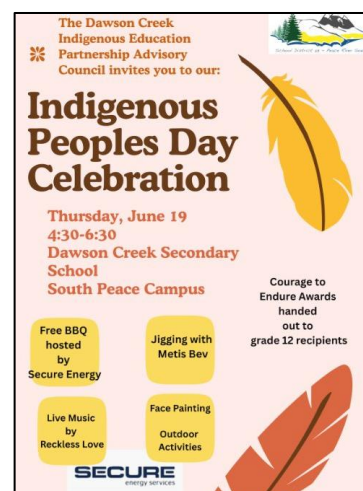
The Board of Education approved to circulate Policy & Regulation 4660 Retention and Destruction of Records for review.

Feedback can be provided in writing to [cfennell@sd59.bc.ca](mailto:cfennell@sd59.bc.ca) before June 25, 2025.

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

### Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
June 6, 2025	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
June 18, 2025	Public Board Meeting – School Board Office – Dawson Creek
June 26, 2025	Last day of classes for students
June 27, 2025	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
September 2, 2025	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school Curriculum Implementation Day for Staff
September 3, 2025	First day of classes for 2025-2026 school year - school starts 2 hours late and ends 1 hour early



**Thank you TRSS and TRE for the school tours.**

