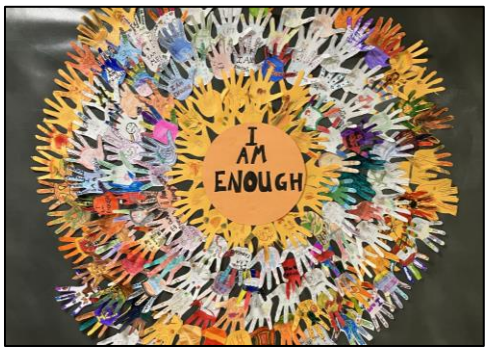
Board Highlights for October 2026

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News



Orange Shirt Day was celebrated on September 29, 2026 in schools, including the StrongStart programs.



All schools in the district participated in the annual Terry Fox run campaign.

Devereaux Elementary staff took it one step further and challenged their students that if they met their fundraising goal, the staff would dress up in costumes for the run.



Fire Prevention Week was from October 4 to 10. Many schools in the district had a visit from the local fire stations to learn about fire safety and prevention and participate in other fun activities like climbing into the firetruck!



Many schools in the district have had the Earth Rangers School Assembly visit. The assembly has live games, visuals, and unforgettable storytelling to teach kids about wildlife, ecosystems, and environmental solutions. The assemblies always spark curiosity, build environmental literacy, and inspires students to believe they can make a difference. Schools receive curriculum connections and follow-up resources for further classroom learning.





TRSS senior girls' volleyball team attended a tournament at DCSS. The school is also excited because they have junior boys team this year.



Highschool students are applying ADST skills by building marble mazes which encompasses engineering and design skills.



Pouce Coupe students are learning about survival skills and classes are focusing on leadership and connecting with their buddies.



DCSS held their own elections to coincide with the municipal and school trustee elections held this fall.



Canalta students are designing their own towns as part of the ADST curriculum. Students are focusing on literacy through poems and having fun doing visual arts by working with pastels and learning how to shade pictures.



Canalta PAC held a BBQ to welcome parents and meet the staff. Canalta is excited to have the opening of the YMCA before and after school care program.



Crescent Park Elementary students have been working together to clean up the school property and learn about recycling. Crescent Park students created a medicine wheel that has miniature student artwork showcased in it.



Little Prairie Elementary students are learning with pumpkins. The students are enjoying games, math and science lessons that are related to pumpkins. Students are also having fun participating in the outdoor scavenger hunts.



Tremblay Elementary classes made ribbons to connect each class together to honour and show support for Truth and Reconciliation. Tremblay Elementary is starting their focus groups. Focus groups are an afternoon program (3X per week) that focus on dance, cooking, and sewing.



Don Titus Montessori students are learning dot math which literally had students wearing their math problems! The students always enjoy doing sidewalk art.

Enhancing Student Learning Report
The Superintendent presented the draft version of the Enhancing Student Learning Report.

The report shows gains in achievement in literacy and numeracy especially for First Nations students on reserve and off reserve which was an intentional goal of the Indigenous Education department.

BCSTA Rural & Remote Network Report
The Rural and Remote Network is a group within the BCSTA that is made up of school trustees and education leaders (BCSSA, BCPSEA, BCSTA staff) representing rural, isolated, and remote school districts across British Columbia. The group has completed a three-year term and provides information for advocacy and feedback on BCSTA initiatives from a rural perspective.

Reports from the Secretary Treasurer:

Auditing Services
The board approved a one year extension of the current contract for audit services with Eclipse LLP.

2025-2026 Executive Compensation Report
The 2025-2026 Executive Compensation Disclosure report was presented. The report is an annual reporting requirement and includes the compensation philosophy of the district, including labour market comparators, cash and non-cash compensation, compensation administration and accountability. The disclosure includes the executive level decision makers with compensation of over $125,000. The report is reviewed by both BCPSEA and PSEC.

2026 Final Enrolment Report
A final enrolment count of 3525.56 FTE was submitted to the Ministry. The enrolment count increased 49.56 FTE from the spring projections; however enrolment remains 120.44 FTE lower than the prior year.

Election Results
The 2026 General School Trustee Election concluded on the evening of October 17, 2026. Congratulations to the following candidates:

TEA I - Trisha MacTavish (Acclaimed)
TEA I - Darren Shankel (Acclaimed)
TEA II - Roxanne Gulick (Elected)
TEA III - Deanna Sudnik (Elected)
TEA III - Christina Wards (Elected)
TEA IV – Chad Anderson (Elected)
TEA IV – Kevin Kurjata (Elected)

Capital Projects Update

Crescent Park Elementary School Expansion
Final work is nearing completion on the Crescent Park Elementary school expansion. Students and staff have been enjoying the new spaces. Total budget is expected to complete at 9.21 million.

Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge Child Care Facilities
Work is progressing on both child care facilities. Foundations are being completed, structural beams have been erected and installation of water and sewer services are being connected. The walls for the Tumbler Ridge centre are being built off site, and will be delivered and erected once completed.

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

Tumbler Ridge Kodiak Campus
Final work is being completed on the new parking lot and installation of millwork is being completed in the new center complex.

Ministry of Education and Child Care provided approval to lease a new space for the StrongStart program while the new school is being built.

Committee Reports:

Indigenous Education Partners' Advisory Council (Dawson Creek)
Trustee Jones reported the Dawson Creek council will be meeting on October 27, 2026.

Indigenous Education Council
Trustee Hillton reported the Indigenous Education Council will be meeting on October 26, 2026 and will be finalizing the Enhancement Agreement.

Policy Committee
Policy & Regulation 2205 Trustee Remuneration, Benefits and Recognition is under review. Feedback will be accepted until October 30, 2026. Please email feedback to cfennell@sd59.bc.ca.

Policies are available for review on the district website: District Policies | School District 59.

Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
November 2, 2026	Inaugural Meeting of New Board of Education – School Board Office – Dawson Creek
November 11, 2026	Remembrance Day – schools are closed
November 18, 2026	Public Board Meeting – School Board Office – Dawson Creek
November 30, 2026	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
December 16, 2026	Public Board Meeting – School Board Office – Dawson Creek

Sydney, a therapy dog provided by Victim Services, loves supporting staff and students at TRSS Kodiak Campus.

