



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for January 2019

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

Director of Instruction Mike Readman and District Vice-Principal Brad Booker presented the Kindergarten to Grade 12 Career Exploration opportunities in our school district.

The following programs are available for students at the high school level:

Dual Credit

A high school student is considered enrolled in a Dual Credit Program when he/she is enrolled at a high school and enrolled in a course or program at a post-secondary institution (PSI). Upon successful completion of the PSI course or program, the student earns credits from both the post-secondary institution and graduation credits from the high school. These credits are considered dual credits as they count as graduation credits recorded on the students' high school transcript and post-secondary credits that are recorded on their post-secondary transcript. Dual Credit programs are a great way for students to get a head start in their career or obtaining courses that count towards post-secondary programs. The district currently has 24 students in dual credit programs.

The Trade Sampler program is a unique program offered through Northern Lights College that focuses on five different trades related to the construction industry (Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Welding, Heavy Duty Mechanics) and concludes with a work experience opportunity at the end of the program. The students are enrolled in the program fulltime for one semester. Upon completion of the program, the student may enroll in a dual credit program in their grade 12 year to obtain further training and certification.

Youth Work in Trades

The Youth Work in Trades program involve students being hired on as apprentices while earning a wage and obtaining high school credits towards graduation plus a red seal trade certification. Students apprentice under a red seal journeyman to gain experience and earn hours that count towards the various levels of their red seal trade. The district currently has 40 students in "Youth Work in Trades".

Work Experience

Career Education also includes Work Experience opportunities for students. As part of the new graduation Capstone program, students will need to complete work experience requirements. Work Experience includes internships, mentorship programs, career exploration and work placements. Currently in the district, there are over 100 students active in Work Experience.

Upcoming Career Education events in the district:

- Skills Canada Regional Competition - February 22nd
 - Junior Skills Events
 - Grade 7 Try-A-Trade Event
 - Women in Industry Conference
- District Career Fair – March 14 – at DCSS-SP Campus
- Heavy Equipment Experience – May 6 to 11 – Program delivered in Chetwynd
 - week long experience for 12 students
- Peace Energy Week – May 13 to 17 – This event exposes students to many careers in the energy industry and includes site tours, career exploration, networking activities and social events for the students and business leaders.

The backbone of the entire career program is the power of community partnerships.

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

Windrem Elementary created a school wide bullying awareness project. They focused on what is bullying, what is not, getting along, and how do you advocate for yourself. They created a school wide event where older students led younger students through a number of stations while modelling good behaviour.

At Don Titus, Mrs. Pohl's class is continuing to learn about, share and appreciate kindness and what does that mean, look like and feel like. The class raised money for the months of November and December by collecting bottles and holding a concession at school. They donated \$350 to the long-term care unit at the hospital as well as visited the patients. The students gave patients a Christmas decoration made by a 3D printer and sang songs. They also bought \$175 worth of toys for the local toy drive for Christmas.

At Parkland, they have a school wide theme around the book "What Do You Do with a New Idea?" They have assemblies with the book and then use it as a school-wide theme.

DCSS-SP Campus Field Trip Request:

Final approval was given for an international field trip to Peru. Four students from the DCSS-SP Campus Me to We group will travel with students from the Me to We group from the Prince George School District during Spring Break. The students will participate in many events while in Peru, including volunteer opportunities.

Update on Chetwynd French immersion

In March of 2018 the board approved a recommendation to discontinue the French Immersion program in Chetwynd due to decreased enrollment in the program. This involved a cessation of the program at Windrem Elementary as of September 2018. At the high school, the goal was to transition the program out while supporting the students currently enrolled in the program in obtaining their dual dogwood through distance learning French Immersion courses. Currently there are 6 students in French Immersion at Chetwynd Secondary.

The on-line distance learning courses are no longer available for the French program. Chetwynd Senior Secondary administration has had to get creative to ensure the six students are meeting the minimum French Immersion program requirements. Administration is researching how to transition the current students through to their graduation year; however, with no distance learning courses available the program is becoming more complicated to continue offering and feasibility is a factor.

Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer:

Funding Model Review Update

The current funding model has been in place since 2002 and has become increasingly complex over the years. Many other provinces in Canada have made changes to their funding models to align with modern education pedagogy. The new funding model should align with the redesigned provincial curriculum and graduation requirements.

In February 2018 a seven membered Independent Funding Model Review Panel was established to review and provide recommendations to the way funding is allocated. The goal was to provide a framework for achieving even better results for all students in BC, particularly those who are vulnerable or who have lower achievement results. The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the 22 recommendations with the board. The link to the full report detailing the recommendations is below.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/resource-management/k12funding/funding-model-review/independent_review_panel-final_report_2018.pdf

Finance Reports

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the current school and revenue reports and income statement with the board.

2018-19 Amended Operating Budget Update

The Secretary Treasurer provided an update on the current position of the amended operating budget which is at a deficit of \$1.5 million. This is in direct result in a loss of funding protection. Currently the district has a healthy accumulate operating surplus which has developed from the many years in which the district has received additional funding protection dollars. The Secretary-Treasurer stressed there is the need to “right-size” the district, which involves scaling school district operations and services to match the current enrollment level. The Secretary-Treasurer will continue to work on decreasing the deficit before the amended operating budget is presented at the February board meeting.

Trustee Items:

Pouce Coupe Council Meeting Update

Trustee Chad Anderson and Travis Jones were invited to attend a Pouce Coupe Council meeting on December 19th to introduce themselves as newly elected trustees for the area. Secretary Treasurer, Melissa Panoulis, attended the meeting as well to provide a summary of where the district is at in terms of the Pouce Coupe Elementary School expansion request. The school district has submitted a one classroom capital expansion request and is awaiting the decision from the Ministry of Education. Funding announcements are expected in March 2019. In the meantime, the Pouce Coupe Library has provided space to the school district which is being used as a temporary classroom.

The Secretary Treasurer is currently exploring other options in preparation if the district is not successful in the capital expansion request. As they are a large stakeholder, the Village of Pouce Coupe will continue to be informed of the process.

Committee Reports:

Policy Committee:

The policy committee brought forward two policies for repeal:

- Policy 3010: Hiring and Transfer of School-Based Teaching and Education Support Staff
- Policy 3140: In District Conferences-Teachers.

The board approved to repeal both policies as the information is covered in collective agreements.

Policies are posted on the school district website at <https://www.sd59.bc.ca/district/policies>.

Upcoming Events:

Date:	Event:
January 28, 2019	Non-Instructional Day - students do not attend school
February 13, 2019 *date change*	Open Board Meeting - 1 pm @ School Board Office
February 13/14, 2019	Early Dismissal Days – students are dismissed 1 hr earlier
February 18, 2019	Family Day Holiday – Schools are closed
March 13, 2019	Open Board Meeting - 1 pm @ Chetwynd (Location TBA)
March 18-29, 2019	Spring Break – Schools are closed