



Board Highlights for April 19, 2023

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

Don Titus students are excited to begin their swimming lessons at the Chetwynd Aquatic Centre and their jelly bean math centres have been lots of fun!

The school also hosted an outdoor carnival that was loads of fun!



Primary teachers at Crescent Park Elementary School are collaborating to create morning literacy stations that include dramatic play and move to learn activities to develop word associations.

Moberly Lake Elementary students are creating morning messages to practice letter formation, spaces, words and phrasing. Students are also building sight words with play dough.



At Canalta Elementary, Mrs. Hiebert's grade 3-4 class designed a thematic day where they took a trip to Disneyland. They boarded a plane (made from cardboard) outside of the classroom and flew to Disneyland (classroom). While there, the students participated in many of activities throughout the day linked to Disneyland. The students really enjoyed their trip to Disneyland!



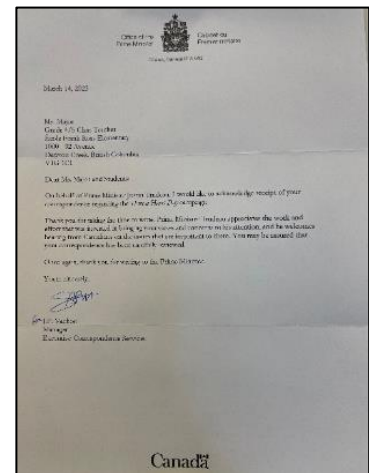
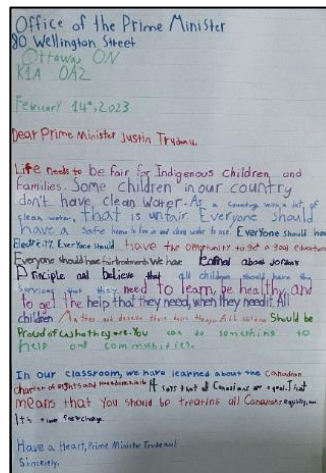
Students and staff at TRSS enjoyed a turkey dinner that was prepared by students, staff and volunteers.

TRSS woodworking students are building playhouses to raffle off when they are completed.



Good luck to all the students that are heading off to the BC Skills Canada provincial competitions in Abbotsford. Students will be competing in provincial junior and senior skills competitions on April 19, 2023.

Ecole Frank Ross students were excited to receive a reply from the Prime Minister's office. The letter was sent as part of their study of the book, Spirit Bear and Children Make History by Cindy Blakstock and Eddie Robinson. The book is based on a true story of how kids can make a difference and the importance of standing up for what you believe in. The story focuses on the Human Rights Tribunal that fought for equal rights of First Nations kids and their families.





Students at Ecole Frank Ross had fun playing a game of Guess Who?. Pictures of staff members hiding behind one of their favourite books were posted on the bulletin board and students had to guess who was behind the book.

At DCSS – Central Campus, Ms. Malkinson was a good spirit and participated in a fundraiser event that allowed students to throw jello and whip cream at her! The fundraiser was one of the many activities that took place during la semaine de la Francophonie which was a week of planned activities to celebrate the French culture.



Grade 8 Student, Stephan Beaudoin, was one of the students who helped out at the elementary school basketball tournament held at DCSS Central Campus. Central students volunteered for scorekeeping and referee duties.

Gwillim Lake Adventure Race

The Gwillim Lake Adventure Race is planned to take place on May 26-28 at the Pat O'Reilly Education Centre. The Adventure Race is open for students from grade 6 to 12 and involves students competing in groups of three to complete 20 kilometres of trekking, biking and paddling. The race promotes teamwork and outdoor education. Mr. Chisholm talked about the planning that is involved to host an event of this nature and the itinerary for the two-day event. Students have until May 1st to send in their registration for the race.

Supporting School Food Programs

The provincial government announced a new Feeding Futures fund, School District No. 59 has been allocated \$521,677 for the 2023/24 school year. The funding will support the district to expand existing school food programs and increase the capacity to address student hunger. This funding builds on the progress made with the Student and Family Affordability Fund that was allocated for the 2022/23 school year.

Indigenous Focus Professional Development

Dianne Bassendowski presented to the board about the designated Indigenous focused professional development day scheduled for May 1, 2023. The theme of the day is, Reconciliation: Our Path Forward.

Key note speakers will be Monique Gray Smith and Kevin Lamoureux. The day honours call to action and the tripartite agreement. Participants will listen, learn and collectively create plans for next steps in working together for reconciliation. The day also includes a youth panel and a

school reviewing and planning session. The day will end with a closing ceremony that will have all participants gather in a large circle and make a personal call to action by writing their commitment on a popsicle stick and placing it in the fire to allow the flame to represent reconciliation.

Reports from the Secretary Treasurer:

Finance Reports

The Secretary Treasurer presented the monthly finance reports as of March 31, 2023.

Capital Addition

The board approved a capital addition of \$15,000 to the 2022/23 budget. The additional funds will be used in the Operations Department towards the bobcat renewal contract, purchase of a new snow bucket and overages on the purchase of the 1/2 ton pickup.

2023-24 Preliminary Operating Grant

The Preliminary Operating Grant Funding for the 2023-24 school year was announced on March 15, 2023. The total Preliminary Operating Grant for the district is \$50,067,243. The increase over the previous years funding is a culmination of a slight increase in FTE enrolment and increases in the per student rates because of additional funding for labour settlements and wage lifts for exempt staff.

BCSTA Trustee Compensation Survey

The Secretary Treasurer presented the annual results of the BCSTA trustee compensation survey. The survey reports on trustee stipends, including a breakdown of trustees, vice-chair and chair compensation and per diem rates for trustees across the province.

Trustee Items:

BCSTA Update

Four trustees will be attending BCSTA AGM to be held in Vancouver from April 27-30, 2023. The Superintendent and Trustee Hillton will be doing a presentation at the AGM on Leadership Commitment to Equity for Indigenous Education.

Board Meeting Date Changes

The Board of Education of School District No. 59 (PRS) has revised the board meeting schedule for the May and June board meetings. The new board meeting dates are May 31, 2023 and June 28, 2028. The May board meeting will still be held in Tumbler Ridge at Northern Lights College Campus; the public meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:00 pm.

Committee Reports:

Indigenous Councils

The councils received an overview of activities that have been happening at the schools that promote a sense of belonging for Indigenous students. The councils had a report on numeracy data and received updates on the professional development being planned for designated Indigenous focused professional development day scheduled on May 1st, as well as, the annual Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration which will be held on June 21st. Schools throughout the

district are contracting with presenters to provide a variety of activities that include music, art, mental health and wellness and mural painting.

Policy Committee:

The board approved to circulate Policy 3230 Fire Fighting Duties for consideration of repeal as employee leaves follow process established through the Human Resources department considering the employment standards act and collective agreement language. The Policy Committee will consider any feedback received and bring the policy back to the board at the June 28th meeting.

Feedback can be sent to Christy Fennell at cfennell@sd59.bc.ca up to June 7th.

The following regulations were revised and presented to the board for information:

- Regulation 3090 – Long Service/Retirement Recognition
- Regulation 4115 – Function of School Libraries (previous name was School Library Programs)

All policies are posted on the school district website. (www.sd59.bc.ca).

Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
May 1, 2023	Indigenous Focused Professional Development Day for staff – students do not attend school
May 22, 2023	Victoria Day – schools are closed
May 31, 2023* new date	Regular Board Meeting – Tumbler Ridge
June 2, 2023	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
June 7, 2023	Board of Education Retirement & Long Service Recognition Event
June 28, 2023* new date	Regular Board Meeting – Dawson Creek
June 29, 2023	Last day of classes for students
June 30, 2023	Non-Instructional Day / Administrative Day – students do not attend school

