



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for January 18, 2023

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News

Devereaux Elementary students have been busy. They collected items for the food bank and are enjoying the warmer weather by taking part in lots of outdoor activities, such as sliding, skiing snowshoeing, and skating. Students have also been creating their own snow town.



Mr. Bricker's class at Tremblay Elementary had a unique experience, the students inflated cow lungs in their exploration of body systems.

DCSS Central Campus is having a school wide skate on January 26th, with a hockey game to follow. The basketball teams are on the court and enjoying success early in the season.

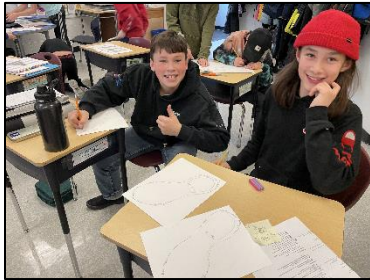
Two photography students from DCSS South Peace are assisting the district in capturing the essence of the district. The students are taking pictures across the district to use for various promotional materials that will be used for recruiting.

Four students from Tumbler Ridge Secondary School attended the 94th BC Youth Parliament in Victoria over the winter break. The aim of Youth Parliament is promotion of youth service in communities

L to R: Peace River North MLA Dan Davies, TRSS Students Savannah Gulick, Rio Smith, Puneet Hundal (recent graduate), Savannah White, Ronan Deeley and Fort St. John student Emily Babcock.



Canalta Elementary School has increased their hot lunch program; Mrs. Hiebert's class has been exploring unique ways to make hot chocolate; Ms. Lockhart's 6-7 class is taking steps toward success using the core competencies and the Kindergarten class had fun making their own fireworks through art.



2023-24 DRAFT School Calendar

The proposed 2023-24 school calendar was presented. The draft calendar reflects the current collective agreement language around start, end and break times with special provision for the two-week spring break. The draft calendar also has September 30th designated as a day for observance as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation; October 2nd has been marked as a federal statutory day in the draft calendar but may change if further guidance is provided by the province.

The proposed calendar is being circulated to allow for public input. The consultation period allows for public feedback before the calendar is adopted by the board and submitted to the Ministry before March 31st. Feedback must be made in writing to Jan Proulx (japroulx@sd59.bc.ca) by March 3, 2023 to be considered.

Middle Years Development Instrument

The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a voluntary online questionnaire that was developed for students in grades 4 to 8. The questionnaire asks about their experiences in school, in the home, and in the community. The MDI uses a strengths-based approach to assess five dimensions of child development (social and emotional well being, health, academic achievement, and overall success through school and life). An extensive overview of the questionnaire results is compiled by the Human Early Learning Partnership at UBC and the district has access to the data to learn more about student's thoughts, feelings, and experiences inside and outside of school. The data is useful to the district in developing programs, prioritizing initiatives and allocating resources.

Reports from the Secretary Treasurer:

Finance Reports

The Secretary Treasurer presented the monthly finance reports as of December 31, 2022.

2022-23 Amended Operating Grant

The Secretary Treasurer reviewed the amended operating grant funding which was announced in December. The Amended Operating Grant increased by \$60,626 (0.1%).

New Spaces Grant

The district is submitting an application for the ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund to support child care services within the district. The application is for infrastructure to support twelve Under 36 Months spaces and twenty five 30 Months to School Age spaces.

As part of the application, the board passed a motion to commit to covering any ineligible project costs if the application is successful.

Portable Update:

An occupancy permit has been issued for the refurbished portable placed at Canalta Elementary School. The school classroom that was housed in the gym since the beginning of the year moved into the “like new” portable at the beginning of January and the school can now use the gym for athletics again.

The second refurbished portable was placed at Crescent Park Elementary; work continues on this portable to have it ready for a classroom within the next few weeks.

Committee Reports:**Indigenous Councils**

The Indigenous Councils (both Chetwynd and Dawson Creek) had a presentation on Sense of Belonging in Schools. The councils reflected on the Enhancement Agreements goals and reviewed the graduation data that was recently released for 2022 grad year. Councils were also asked for input on the Indigenous focused non-instructional day scheduled on May 1st, 2023.

Policy Committee

The Policy Committee revised policy 4115 School Library Programs. The revision includes a change in the name to Function of School Libraries.

The committee is recommending to repeal Policy 3110 Responsibilities of School Personnel.

The policies are being circulated for feedback until March 6, 2023. The policies can be viewed on the district website (www.sd59.bc.ca). Feedback must be made in writing to Mike Readman, mreadman@sd59.bc.ca.

Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
February 3, 2023	Non-Instructional Day – students do not attend school
February 15, 2023	Regular Board Meeting – Dawson Creek
February 20, 2023	Family Day Holiday – schools are closed
March 15, 2023	Regular Board Meeting – Dawson Creek
March 20-31, 2023	Spring Break – schools are closed