



School District No.59 (Peace River South)

Board Highlights for May 19, 2021

Superintendent of Schools Report:

School/Student News:

School are busy and taking advantage of the spring weather.

At Tremblay Elementary students were actively exploring the ADST (Applied Design, Skills and Technologies) curriculum as they created solar ovens and cooked smores outdoors. They were tasked with figuring out the temperature needed to power the ovens.



Close to half of the Windrem Elementary School students took part in a talent show recently. Students also planted flowers in flower boxes in front of the school.

At Ecole Frank Ross Elementary students are learning about Indigenous people's ways of learning throughout the school. Students completed a unit on Red River Carts, studied Seven Grandfather Teachings and were weaving Metis sashes.

Schools in Chetwynd and Tumbler Ridge are excited to utilize the Pat O'Reilly Outdoor Education site for day use activities. Students enjoy taking part in rock climbing, canoeing/kayaking and hiking.

The District's Bee Yourself Challenge, an event celebrating diversity and inclusion, has attracted a lot of participation from across the District. The messages to remember to always 'Bee Yourself' resulted in amazing stickers, bulletin boards and decorated doors. At McLeod Elementary, the school took the challenge to another level where each student created a Bee Yourself portrait by forming clay on trees throughout their interpretive forest.



Schools joined the Tansi Friendship Centre in Chetwynd and the Nawican Friendship Centre in Dawson Creek in acknowledging the day of awareness for Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG). Grade 6/7 students at Windrem Elementary took part in the community event at Spirit Park. Students from DCSS took part in a community walk and created masks with red handprints to symbolize the event. Tumbler Ridge Secondary School also recognized the day by hanging a red dress which symbolized MMIWG.

A presentation for parents and caregivers was hosted by the district on May 18th that focused on Mental Health Literacy. The meeting was offered via zoom and attended by 20 people.

High School Graduation Ceremonies:

All 3 high schools have submitted graduation plans. With current COVID-19 protocols and the restrictions on group gatherings, the ceremonies will be held virtually. The ceremonies will be organized by student cohorts and will be streamed for family and friends to watch.

Pat O'Reilly Outdoor Education Site:

Despite a challenging year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the restrictions that have occurred as a result, the Pat O'Reilly Outdoor Education Site at Gwillim Lake has been open for school day visits to occur.

During the fall season, there was limited activity at the site with only four class visits occurring. The site is scheduled to be busier in May and June. It is expected that over 500 students will have accessed the site this school year. This is a considerable achievement, given the challenges of COVID restrictions.



Don Titus Montessori



Distributed Learning Program 2021+

The Provincial Distributed Learning model is in for significant changes in the 2022-23 school year.

The Ministry has divided the entire reorganization project into five separate categories of work, and each has its own timeline, but the end result is that they are all expected to be completed by September 2022. This school year (2021-2022) will be a time to transition to the new model.

The 5 categories of focus are:

- a single Online Learning Policy
- a new Quality Assurance Framework
- a centralized Learning Management Systems
- new provincial online learning schools or Provincial Online Service Providers
- shared educator resources

Secretary-Treasurer Reports:

BCSTA Trustee Compensation Survey

Survey results were presented that compared the Board of Education of School District No. 59 rates for trustee stipend, mileage and per diem with provincial rates. The Secretary-Treasurer further broke down the results to compare with school districts of similar size.

Pouce Coupe School Capital Project Plans

The draft plans were presented for the expansion of Pouce Coupe School. The plans include space for an additional two classrooms, learning assistance space and an all gendered washroom.

Trustee Items:

Retirement and Long Service Recognition

Once again, the Board of Education is unable to hold the annual retiree and long service award dinner traditionally held in June of each year. Policy 3090 specifically states that the Board recognize retirees and long service award recipients with a dinner event; therefore, the Board passed a motion to allow for an alternate recognition event.

Trustee Remuneration

Trustee Anderson presented a motion to cancel the annual CPI increase to trustee remuneration (re: Policy 2205 Trustee Remuneration, Benefits) that would take effect July 1, 2021. The motion was passed.

Upcoming Dates:

Date:	Event:
May 24, 2021	Victoria Day – Schools are closed
June 7, 2021	Non Instructional Day – Students do not attend school
June 23, 2021	Open Board Meeting – 1:00 pm
June 29, 2021	Last day of classes for students
June 30, 2021	Non Instructional Day – Students do not attend school

