



# School District No.59 (Peace River South)

## **Board Highlights for November, 2023**

### ***Presentations:***

#### **Student Voice**

Dawson Creek Secondary Students – South Peace Campus, Damean Perrin and Ireland Bassendowski, shared their experience of attending the BCSTA Trustee Academy recently held in Vancouver. The local student voice group was one of four BC school districts selected to speak about their local initiatives. The students also had the opportunity to visit Rockridge Secondary School in West Vancouver to learn more about their student leadership program.



### ***Superintendent of Schools Report:***

#### **School/Student News**

Remembrance Day Assemblies were held in schools across the district. Dawson Creek Secondary School - South Peace Campus students from Contemporary Indigenous Studies 12 and 20th Century History had the opportunity to work with Mr. Wayne Lariviere to create multi-medium art pieces honouring National Indigenous Veterans Day and Remembrance Day. These art pieces honour the sacrifice of Canada's fallen soldiers and provide a visible reminder that We Remember Them.



The elementary volleyball league held their end of season volleyball tournament. The teams showed great sportsmanship all through out the day as they had fun playing and cheering with the other teams. Congratulations to Crescent Park as both their teams ended up playing each other in the finals.





As part of their Halloween activities, Pouce Coupe Elementary School held a food drive for the local food bank.

Students at Devereaux Elementary had fun learning in the Halloween Costumes!



Intermediate students from Don Titus Elementary School had fun learning how to curl at the local curling rink in Chetwynd.



The 2023 National Women's U-18 Hockey Championships was hosted in Dawson Creek from November 5-11, 2023. The teams visited local schools and talked to students about goal setting, finding your path in life and what it takes to be a high level athlete. The students enjoyed the school visits but the highlight was cheering the teams on when they got to watch them play at the Oviniv Centre.





Frank, the bulldog mascot from Ecole Frank Ross has been a huge hit at sporting games and assemblies. Frank is modelling how to be calm, kind, determined, and courageous.

Through the feeding futures fund, schools are creating healthy food counters that offer food to students, barrier free, all throughout the day.



Across the district schools honoured Louis Riel on November 16, 2023; the day he lost his life because he was fighting to protect the rights of Métis people.

Moberly Lake Elementary school honoured Louis Riel by making infinity bannock.

Hunter Brekkaas, a grade 3 student from Crescent Park Elementary School was an honorary Fire Chief for the Day! She spent her day with the local fire department and learned all about what the fire department does to protect our community. Congratulations Hunter.



Chetwynd Secondary Students were having fun creating some new science experiments.



Students at Tumbler Ridge Secondary School created canvas and cloth prints framed with ribbons with Mr. Lariviere. The artwork is a beautiful representation of the land we live on.



Chetwynd Secondary School hosted their annual community dinner. This event is a tradition of the school and is eagerly anticipated by the students and community and is always well attended.

Andrée-Anne Rivard, a teacher from Chetwynd Secondary School was awarded a Certificate of Achievement from the Prime Minister. Recipients are honoured for their remarkable achievements in education and for their commitment to preparing youth for a digital and innovation-based economy. Congratulations Ms. Rivard!



As quoted by her nominator, *“Andrée-Anne is a science and math teacher, a community builder, and a gifted coach. Not only does she design and deliver programs within her school, but she also inspires those who cross her path to continue their journeys in learning and leadership.”*

A further quote from a student solidifies the that Ms. Rivard is an exceptional choice for this award - *“The reason Ms. Rivard is such an extraordinary teacher is that she finds true joy in teaching. With her passion for her job, she adds a unique touch to it. I look up to Ms. Rivard because I want to inspire and impact people the way she does. Her smile greets students every morning, and it is clear she was born to teach.”*

## **Ministry of Education and Child Care Updates**

### ***Changes to Social Studies Grade 10 Curriculum***

*Selection from October 30, 2023 Ministry of Education and Child Care Media Release – “The provincial government is broadening the scope of the required Grade 10 social studies curriculum. This will ensure that when learning about discriminatory policies and injustices in Canada and around the world, all students in B.C. will also learn about the Holocaust. The changes will take effect in the 2025-26 school year to allow for consultation and development with the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, the Jewish community and education partners.”*

### ***First Nations School of Choice Policy***

*Update from Ministry of Education and Child Care – “The new First Nations Schools of Choice provisions in the *School Act* set out a process for First Nations to choose which school First Nation students who live on-reserve, self-governing First Nation lands or Treaty lands will attend. These provisions ensure that a First Nation can designate an elementary, middle school (where applicable), and secondary school for their students. First Nations will determine which schools the First Nation’s students living on-reserve, self-governing First Nation lands or Treaty lands will attend through their own internal processes. If a First Nation parent/caregiver wishes to have their child enrolled at a different program or school (e.g. specialty programs) than the school(s) of choice, the existing enrolment provisions apply. First Nation students who live on-reserve or on Treaty lands have priority to attend the public school designated by their First Nation.”*

### **K-12 Student Reporting**

*Excerpt from K-12 Student Reporting Information Pamphlet for Parents and Caregivers - The learning students do today is more complex than ever. British Columbia redesigned the provincial curriculum to respond to the needs of today’s learners. The curriculum continues to give your child a strong foundation in reading, writing, and math. But it also teaches your child how to think critically, communicate, solve problems, and use their knowledge in ways that both matter in school and will matter in a rapidly changing future.*

The new curriculum has been in place in all grades since 2019, but report cards and the way student learning is communicated haven’t really changed for decades. Report cards are now changing to align with the curriculum and to help ensure that every student in the province is set up for success in their learning.

The district has created a video to assist students and parents/caregivers in understanding the new reporting procedures, [Changes to Communicating Student Learning](#).

You can learn more about the changes on the Ministry of Education and Child Care’s website by going to <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/reporting/resources-for-parents-and-caregivers>.

### **Fied Trips**

Dawson Creek Secondary School – Central Campus received approval in principle to proceed with planning a trip to Quebec from May 25 – June 3, 2024.

The board received an update on the progress of trip preparations from Dawson Creek Secondary School – Central Campus for an international trip to Europe for travel in the spring of 2024.

### ***Reports from the Secretary-Treasurer:***

#### **2023-24 Estimated Operating Grant**

The Secretary-Treasurer provided an update on the estimated 2023-24 operating grant comparing the September 2023 actual enrolment to the February 2023 projections submitted to the Ministry. The operating grant will be recalculated officially by the Ministry with an announcement in December.

#### ***Trustee Items:***

##### **BCSTA Update**

Trustees attended the BCSTA Trustee Academy held in Vancouver November 23-26, 2023.

##### **Conflict of Interest Update**

Trustee Hillton reported she has a family member belonging to CUPE Local 3052; therefore, has resigned as the BCPSEA representative.

Trustee Gulick was appointed as the new trustee representative for BCPSEA and Trustee Schurmann will be the alternate.

#### ***Committee Reports:***

##### **Indigenous Councils**

Both Indigenous Education Councils held their annual enhancement meetings. Members of council broke into smaller groups which included school administrators and school mentors to review the school goals from last year and create new goals for the current year.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

Date:	Event:
December 20, 2023	Public Board Meeting – Dawson Creek
December 25, 2023 - January 5, 2024	Winter Break – Schools Closed
January 8, 2024	First day back from winter break
January 24, 2024	Public Board Meeting – Dawson Creek
February 2, 2024	Non-Instructional Day – Students do not attend school
February 19, 2024	Family Day Stat – Schools are closed
February 21, 2024	Public Board Meeting – Dawson Creek