
Board Chair Ciel Patenaude acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional and unceded territory of the Northern Secwepemc People.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT TO THE BOARD

Superintendent/Acting Secretary-Treasurer van der Mark reported on the following:



As always, this is a busy time of year! Schools have been organizing concerts and performances for students to showcase their talents, while spreading cheer and providing opportunities for families and communities to come together. The Board Office was given a special treat as Ms. Enns and Mrs. Dueck's classes from Cataline came by to sing carols as part of their efforts to collect and share gifts and cheer!

We also understand this can be a challenging time for families. Please take care of yourselves and look after each other. We wish you the very best of the holiday season.

NEW CABINET ANNOUNCEMENTS

Premier David Eby [announced](#) his new Cabinet at Government House. Among the many changes, [Rachna Singh](#) has been appointed as the new Minister of Education and Child Care and [Grace Lore](#) has been appointed as the new Minister of State for Child Care. These changes are effective immediately. Thanks to outgoing Minister Whiteside and Minister of State Chen for the many contributions they've made over the past few years

BCSTA TRUSTEE ACADEMY

SD27 trustees and senior leadership joined trustees from around the province in Vancouver Dec 1-3, where they help set the stage and provide orientation for new trustees. Key themes, beyond understanding the role of a trustee, included the continued emphasis on truth and reconciliation and inclusion. Our team will have been able to recognize much of the work that SD27 has been engaged in over the past couple of years. Trustees also had the chance to hear from Shelley Moore, who has been working with SD27 schools. This is an excellent opportunity for trustees to connect. It also sets the stage for helping new trustees understand their roles within a governance structure.

TRUSTEE ORIENTATION

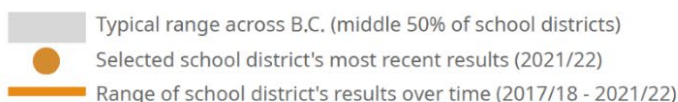
The new Board of Education engaged in their first orientation session this past week. Key themes included:

- The Role of A Trustee
- Conflict of Interest
- Celebrating Successes and Identifying Challenges
- Working as a Board
- Managing or Governing

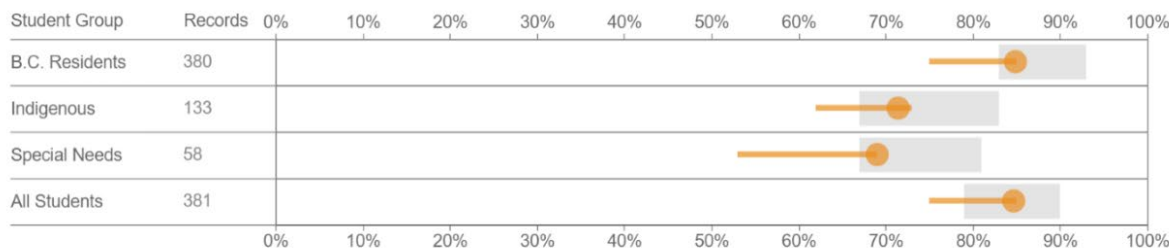
Massive thanks to all for participating and learning how to function as a Board.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Ministry of Education and Child Care released its latest data on school district achievement in BC. SD27 has continued to build on its steady growth with regards to the historic measure of a 6-year completion rate. The last 3 years have shown the best results in SD history, with this year's completion rates for all students reaching 85% and for indigenous students, 71%. We still have a long way to go, but the efforts in schools continue to show improvements across multiple domains. We are also beginning to look more critically at the 5-year grad rate, which is still more variable. We will spend more time on a thorough review of district data in January.



Completion Rates



WINTER SOLSTICE GATHERING

Classrooms 2 Communities held its annual Winter Solstice Networking event on December 15 to celebrate place-based learning in BC. SD27 teacher Nara Riplinger was one of the two featured success stories. The District co-hosted a gathering in Williams Lake with the local Environmental Educators Provincial Specialist Association (EPPSA) Chapter to participate in the event. School teams at Alexis Creek and Lac La Hache also joined.



PUBLIC SECTOR CLIMATE LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Director of Facilities and Operations, Patrick Mccarron was invited to share some of SD27's work with regards to energy initiatives. He specifically shared the work being done at Mile 108 and the Geothermal Upgrades.

PROVINCIAL BARGAINING AND EXCLUDED/EXEMPT INCREASES

Upon completion of BCTF bargaining and ratification, BCPSEA has updated regional salary grids for exempt and excluded positions. SD27 had built in excluded and exempt raises in anticipation of public sector bargaining. PSEC has built in the lifts to exempt and excluded staff for the first

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year of the settlement, so any allocation will be moved forward to 2023-2024. The SD will be working to adjust salary grids accordingly.

ADJUSTED FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

Government released the new funding charts based on September 30th snapshot information. SD#27 will be up a little over \$700k.

COMPLIANCE AUDIT REVIEW

The Ministry of Education and Childcare has announced a student enrolment audit that will focus on PSO, LCSS, and Skyline. This is part of the regular schedule of audits the Ministry engages in to ensure districts are claiming correctly. The District had some significant issues with regards to its alternate programs and secondary student enrolment 4 years ago. We have worked hard to address these issues. While we are fairly certain to be in a better position of compliance this time, it is likely there will also be new learning where our practice can be better.

COLUMNEETZA DAYCARE PROJECT

We are happy to announce that we have been successful in securing additional funding for this project to help with the escalating costs. The support and cooperation of the Ministry of Education and Childcare, as well as MCFD, is greatly appreciated as we continue to work towards completion of this valuable community enhancement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICY

December meeting was cancelled to allow for Trustee Orientation

FINANCE AND FACILITIES

December meeting was cancelled to allow for Trustee Orientation

EDUCATION

School Plans (FESL Update) - Director of Learning and Innovation, Sean Cameron provided and update and reviewed the process of “School Plan” development, outlining the goals and focus areas for the year including the strategies and structures to be utilized throughout the year.

Ms. Kelly Glen, Marie Sharpe Principal, provided the committee with her school plan and how the teaching staff are working and collaborating to put the plan in place.

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