

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73 (KAMLOOPS/THOMPSON)

Notes from the Public Meeting of the Board of Education



June 26, 2017

CONSENT AGENDA

- o Video Surveillance Report

Details of the consent agenda can be found on the public agenda.

EDUCATION TOPIC

STREET SCHOOL PRESENTATION — Principal Kent Brewer introduced some of the staff and students from the Street School, a unique program that offers students a “second chance at school.” The Board also heard from two graduates from the program who told trustees that the Street School allowed them the ability to overcome significant life challenges and succeed in a way never before possible for them.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

EARLY CLOSURE DATES — The Board approved a schedule of early closure days for the 2017/18 calendar school year, based on calculations of minimum instructional hours and days available in the calendar. Early closures are often used to provide support for parent-teacher interviews. The calendar of early closure days by school can be found in the public agenda.

GRAD SURVEY RESULTS — The Board was provided with the results of the annual graduate survey. This year, 64 per cent of graduates responded with an indication of their future plans. TRU remains the top post-secondary destination for district graduates, although trustees also heard there is a slight increase in the number of students who intend to study elsewhere.

REPORTS FROM SECRETARY-TREASURER

2018-2019 CAPITAL PLAN — The Board heard about the district’s capital infrastructure priorities for the years ahead. There are several new priorities identified this year, based on consideration of the provincial government’s direction regarding capital projects.

This list identified an addition to Valleyview secondary (\$21.8M), an addition to Westmount elementary (\$8.6M) and a new elementary school in Pineview Valley (\$18.1M) as the district's top priorities. As well, a new gymnasium at South Kamloops secondary (\$17.2M) and eventual replacement of South Kamloops secondary (\$52.7M) remain high on the list.

Additionally, the district needs upgrades to dust collector systems at secondary schools to provide safer shop environments for students (\$1.9M), as well as replacement of seven school buses (\$864,000). The district has also identified a boiler upgrade (\$220,000) at Bert Edwards elementary school.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PUBLIC INQUIRIES

The Board heard a response provided to the Kamloops-Thompson Teachers Association regarding an inquiry from May 30 seeking support for Secwepemc Language Teachers as well as the development of an Aboriginal Education Policy, specifically around "smudging" and Aboriginal world view.

Trustees heard that the district is working towards new policies or initiatives in co-operation with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee and the Aboriginal Education Council.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair of the Board provided updates of the Board's recent activities, including attendance at a district dinner for retiring employees.

The Board also congratulated staff, parents and students at Marion Schilling elementary for their efforts to secure \$100,000 towards a new playground in the BCAA community playground challenge.

The next regular public Board meeting will occur on August 28, 2017, at the School District Office at 1383-9th Avenue, Kamloops, B.C.