



Media Release

Highlights of June 13, 2017 Board Meeting

Site Unseen

Principal Cam Hill and the secondary students of Hartley Bay School attended the Board meeting on June 13, 2017 through the use of Skype. Mr. Hill and his students described the project they completed with students from West Vancouver and their teacher (and former Prince Rupert teacher) Jackie Wong.

During the project the students visited each community to learn about their culture, art and schooling. One highlight was a visit to Kiel, Hartley Bay's Seaweed Camp, a place of harvesting. An art presentation, highlighting the project, is currently on display at the Museum of Northern BC.

The following quotes from the project are representative of the learning which took place:

"Take what you need and use what you take."

"Reconciliation is repairing damage that has been done between communities."

The district acknowledges the financial contributions of the West Vancouver Community Foundation, the West Vancouver Artists Foundation and the Government of Canada (a Canada 150 project) which made this project possible.

"The Board was so excited to speak with the students of Hartley Bay and learn about this project," said Board Chair Tina Last. "The display at the Museum of Northern BC is a first-class exhibit that everyone should go and see."

Summer Programs

Camp Jupiter will operate again in the summer of 2017, and Summer Read and Play will return to the district after a number of years' absence. Schools will be in contact with families who are eligible to participate in these summer programs. The district is thankful to Pacific Northwest LNG for the funding which will allow these programs to operate.



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Capital Plan

The Board of Education approved the 2018-2019 Capital Plan at the June 13, 2017 meeting. Replacement of Prince Rupert Middle School remains the districts highest priority for capital funds.

The full capital plan is as follows:

Seismic Project

1. Prince Rupert Middle School

Replacement Projects

1. Conrad Street Elementary School
2. District Support Services Building

School Enhancement Projects

1. CHSS Learning Commons
2. Booth Fire Suppression
3. Booth Dust Collection
4. Booth Roofing

Carbon Neutral Capital Program Projects

1. Pineridge Elementary DDC
2. Lax Kxeen Elementary Boiler Replacement

Carbon Neutral Action Report

The Board of Education received the Carbon Neutral Action Report for 2016 at the board meeting on June 13, 2017. The report, which is available on the district website, shows that the amount of carbon offsets purchased continued its downward trend in 2016. As can be seen in the capital plan, the district continues to look for projects which will improve the efficiency of heating systems in schools.

School Plans

Draft school plans were presented to the Board of Education at the board meeting on June 13, 2017. A summary, with representative samples from each school, was also presented. This summary will be made available on the district website.



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Privacy Concern

The Director of Instruction, Information Technology reported to the Board that one of the district's servers had experienced unusual activity. Steps have been taken to restore the server and the district's firewall has been upgraded. The Secretary-Treasurer advised that, as the server contained personal information, letters would be sent to everyone whose information was stored on this server.

Teacher Correspondence

The Board of Education received two letters from the Prince Rupert District Teachers Union expressing concerns with budget decisions and the assessment of students. The Superintendent, Sandra Jones, responded to those concerns at the Board meeting. The Board Chair, Tina Last, will write to the union to thank them for the letters and advise them that the Board has asked the Superintendent to follow up with them.

Policy Committee Work

2 policies were approved by the Board of Education to be sent to partner groups for feedback:

- French Immersion Policy
- Communicable Diseases and Immunizations Policy

3 policies were approved by the Board of Education to be updated in the policy book:

- Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Role of the Superintendent Policy
- Delegation to the Superintendent Policy

To ensure that approved policies will meet the needs of the district's students and staff, feedback from partner groups on draft policies is welcomed by the Board.

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