




CONNECTING STUDENTS  
TO THEIR FUTURE

 **SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73**  
**(KAMLOOPS-THOMPSON)**  
1383 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Kamloops, BC  
V2C 3X7

# BOARD NOTES

January 29, 2018

## CONSENT AGENDA

- Superintendent's Update
- Finance and Planning Committee Highlights
- District Parent Advisory Committee Highlights
- Schedule of 2018 Budget Meetings
- Notices of Motion:
  - Policy 201.1 Board Committees
  - Policy 300.1 School Boundaries and Student Transfer Requests
  - Policy 303.1 International Student Program
  - Policy 1012.1 Smoking and Vaping-Free Environment
  - Policy 1136.1 Travel: Expenses and Insurance

*Details of the consent agenda can be found in the public agenda.*

## EDUCATION TOPIC

**TEACHER-LIBRARIAN STORYTELLING GRANT PROJECT** — District Coordinator Andrea Wallin, along with four colleagues, told the Board about a project that saw students in a variety of grades and schools analyze stories and storytelling techniques, particularly oral stories as often shared by First Nations culture. The project, funded by an Innovation Grant, saw students use a variety of mediums and props to explore oral storytelling techniques, including moving, acting, speaking and listening. The students produced a series of videos to demonstrate their acquired skills.

## REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**SIX-YEAR COMPLETION RATE DATA** — In January, the Ministry of Education released the six-year completion rates to districts across the province. An analysis of the 2016-17 school year shows SD 73 met its goal of obtaining an 85 per cent completion rate. Trustees also learned the completion rates were up across a variety of student categories, including Aboriginal and students with special needs. The Board also heard that the gap between completion rates for all students and Aboriginal students has narrowed dramatically through the last five years, with parity between the groups coming closer to reality.

**EQUITY IN ACTION PROJECT** — The Board learned about a project the District is participating in with the Ministry of Education's Aboriginal Education Unit. Currently there are six pilot projects across the province, and SD 73 is working closely with the Equity Action Team in preparation for joining the project next year. The project will generate student-specific data for school leaders to review in order to improve Aboriginal student success rates and develop meaningful strategies and interventions. It's believed the project will help close the academic achievement gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.

**GRADE 7 to 12 RURAL SCHOOL PROPOSAL** — Principals from secondary schools in Barriere, Clearwater and Chase told the Board about a proposal to move Grade 7 students in those communities from the elementary schools to secondary schools. If approved by trustees following consultation with parents, the transition could happen next school year. The plan was proposed as a way to create learning environments that

enhance positive outcomes for students and more effectively utilize space at both secondary and elementary schools.

**RURAL SCHOOL PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS** — Trustees approved a two-phase consultation plan regarding a proposal to move rural Grade 7s to secondary schools. Phase 1 of the plan will see staff and trustees first meet with parents and school staff in Barriere, Clearwater and Chase to provide information about the proposal. Phase 2 will see public Board meetings held in each of the communities to allow trustees to hear directly from the public about their thoughts and concerns. The district will also use an online consultation portal to help share information with parents and gather feedback. A report will be prepared for Board consideration of the proposal for the April 23 public meeting.

**SUMMER SCHOOL** — The District's summer learning programs provide an essential service to students who require support in acquiring foundational skills and core competencies necessary for graduation, trustees were told. As a result, the program will continue this school year, despite the fact that operating costs outpace revenues generated by enrollment.

**ELEMENTARY STAFFING** — A review of learning assistance needs determined that an additional 0.1 FTE is needed at McGowan Park Elementary and 0.5 FTE is required at Haldane Elementary to better support learning assistance programs in these schools. The additional support will be paid from existing staff budgets.

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Wade moved that trustees Harper and Karpuk be named to the Aboriginal Education Council. The motion was approved.

*The next public meeting will take place at the School Board Office in Kamloops on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.*