

BOARD REPORT

A brief summary of items discussed at Trustees' Regular Meetings

Board of Education Report

Following are some highlights from the Board of Education meeting held on November 21, 2022.

Staff updated the Board on the strategic planning process that is currently ongoing. The District community, under the leadership and oversight of the Board of Education, is currently developing a new strategic plan to help set the direction of the District for the next 10 years. In-person meetings have already occurred and there will be multiple ways for staff, students, parents, rightsholders, and community partners to provide feedback in the coming weeks with the ultimate timeline of unveiling the new plan by Spring Break 2023. Check out our website to complete a survey: [SD 53 Community Voice](#)

Superintendent Young reported that our local Take-a-Risk grants will be coming back this year. These grants are open to all teachers, or teacher teams in the District, who are trying new approaches in their classrooms to increase student success. Funds of up to \$1,000 are to support planning, collaboration, and assessment. Applications are due November 25, 2022.

As mentioned previously, the District has received \$55,000 from the Ministry of Education and Child Care to support mental health and well-being promotion in support of students, families and/or educators. This grant also supports districts in their work to ensure planned activities are culturally safe and meet the needs of Indigenous children and youth. Plans are now in place to utilize this funding by way of training, learning and support resources and in-facility mini grants to support specific groups.

This school year will see the implementation of a communication tool for students, parents and teachers called Spaces. Spaces will be taking the place of FreshGrade which is no longer available. Spaces is a communication tool that will enable the transition to continuous reporting throughout our District, as required in the new BC Reporting Order that will come into effect in July 2023. Features built into SpacesEDU are designed to document the day-by-day learning in schools and to showcase the process and progress of classroom learning. It connects student work to the curriculum highlighting core and curricular competencies. Students and families can be messaged directly using this platform and teachers can comment on student work in real-time.

Finally, I would like to welcome all trustees, new and returning, to the beginning of their new term. Trustee committee assignments and liaison assignments have been given out and trustees will now be starting in their new roles. I wish all trustees an enjoyable experience in their roles.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Zandee, Chairperson
School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen)