



World Class Learning in a Rural Environment

February 19, 2019
Superintendent/Secretary Treasurer Report
*Presented at the Education Partnership Committee,
 and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education*

1. February Enrollment notes

- Enrolment has decreased this month at NSS (119 students) and Lucerne (86 students) and NES (171 students) with an increase of three students at Edgewood School
- Below is the monthly enrolment chart by school and grade:

Grade:	Gr.K	Gr. 1	Gr. 2	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8	Gr. 9	Gr.1 0	Gr.1 1	Gr.1 2	TOTAL S	Jan	Dif
ALDL	2	2	4	2	2	3	4	3	2	2	0	8	9	43	41	2
BES	3	3	4	2										12	12	0
EES	1	1	1	2	1	0	8	2						16	15	1
LESS	8	7	6	3	7	9	10	8	6	4	8	5	5	86	90	-4
NES	24	12	16	25	22	21	27	24						171	173	-2
NSS									19	32	28	17	23	119	123	-4

TOTAL Per Grade	38	25	31	34	32	33	49	37	27	38	36	30	37			
District Total														447	454	-7

2. Three Year Enrollment Projections

- Each year, districts are required to establish enrollment projections over the next three years
- Projections over the next three years suggest that enrollment in the district will remain stable with marginal increases as shown below:

Year	Total Enrollment	ALDL	BES	EES	Lucerne	NES	NSS
2019-2020	470	50	18	17	86	174	125
2020-2021	470	42	21	9	89	169	141
2021-2022	466	34	21	9	95	173	134

3. M in STEM Pop-Ups – February 5th and 6th

- It was amazing to see the math excitement in our schools for both students and parents
- Kudos to our amazing teachers, EAs and principal at Lucerne for setting up an engaging Numeracy Fair for children and parents on Tuesday night, Feb 5th, and to our teachers, principal and vice principal, for hosting a vibrant Math Parent Night on Wednesday night, the 6th at NES
- Turnout for both events was very high, with over 95 parents and students at NES and 70 at Lucerne; the buzz of mathematical problem solving and fun with math in the air was intoxicating!
- We are most grateful for the support of UBC professor, Dr. Cynthia Nicol, and her grad student, Lindsay Reynolds, for their mentorship during the day at NES with three volunteer teachers and their learners, and also with our DL school parents and students and their teacher at Lucerne
- Cynthia and Lindsay had a great time in SD 10 and plan to return in the spring to work with more teachers and students at our other schools

4. Ministry Grant for Mental Health Early Intervention Initiatives

- The district was advised January 15th that one time \$37,000 in funding would be provided to support early intervention initiatives and plans addressing child and youth mental health
- Funding must be expended by June 30, 2019 and an action plan submitted to the Ministry by March 31st with initiatives including 4 approaches:
 - Mental Health literacy for students and parents
 - Social and Emotional Learning
 - Trauma-Informed Practice
 - Indigenous Perspectives
- School counsellors, Tessa Wiseman, and Keith Greenhalf; Director of Learning, Lorna Newman; and Superintendent Taylor attended a two-day Ministry of Education Mental Health conference in Vancouver on February 4th and 5th with school district teams from across the province, focused on developing a team approach to addressing mental health
- All our school counsellors have been trained in Mental Health Literacy with [Dr. Stan Kutcher](#) through a partnership with UBC and the Ministry of Education, so we look forward to seeing this work help educate our students, staff and parents in mental health awareness, resources and ways to help themselves or others
- [Dr Kutcher's research](#) into Mental Health Literacy shows significant improvements in student mental health as a result of implementation of Mental Health Literacy programs
- [Dr. Kutcher's TEDX talk](#) from 2016 shares his research and thinking on Mental Health Literacy and its crucial role in education
- Over the next few weeks, the district will pull together a range of educational partners and teachers and students in schools to co-plan how to use the Early Intervention funding in a comprehensive and systemic way to improve mental well-being for all our learners

5. Fauquier Property Update

- Our rezoning application for the Fauquier School property is with the Regional District
- The Westbank First Nation have indicated to RDCK that they would like the additional 30 day response period to review our application, so we have been advised that the application will be considered at the March RDCK meeting, rather than February
- All other conditions for subdividing the land have been met

- Our plans remain to allow sale to the Fauquier community of the current Fauquier School building and a small parcel of land at a modest price, and a larger lot, once subdivided and rezoned, to be sold at market value to help fund district capital projects in our schools

6. Lost Property in Hills and Arrow Park

- Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Shelly Woolf is following up with BC Assessment and provincial archives to determine where two pieces of School District 10 property are actually located
- BC Assessment notices indicate that one lot is in Hills and the other in Arrow Park but records dating back to the 1920s don't clearly indicate locations of these parcels of land
- We'll stay tuned for details as the detective work continues!

7. Wifi at Lucerne

- A number of years ago, the matter of wireless technology was discussed with teachers and parents at Lucerne school
- In March 2016, the Board of Education approved a low wifi emission dual system of both hard-wired and wireless technology to be implemented in high school classrooms, while in elementary areas, only hard-wired access to the Internet was installed
- The District created a [Lucerne Wireless Technology Protocol](#) which laid out how wireless was to be used in that school
- Over the past three years since the protocol was introduced, technology for learning resources have changed; now many devices and applications are available only in wireless format which has caused some challenges with access to technology for Lucerne elementary students
- The school's educators are examining the potential benefit of installing a similar dual system in the elementary wing of the school, allowing teachers to turn the wifi on when needed for learning and off when not required as happens in the secondary part of the building
- The matter was discussed at a recent Lucerne School PAC meeting
- Of note, is that as wireless technology has become more common in homes, ambient wireless signal strength in the neighbourhood surrounding the school, is significantly higher inside the school building than are the wireless signals from the equipment currently inside the high school

8. Ministry Special Education Audit

- Kudos to our Director of Learning, Learning Resource teachers, and principals for their hard work ensuring the 39 student files that will be audited are all ready for the audit visit on March 11th
- The Ministry audit team anticipates spending three days in the district as they review the files for compliance with audit criteria

9. ChildCareBC [New Spaces](#) grant application

- Plans are proceeding to apply to the ChildCare BC New Spaces Fund to create new full day and after school child care spaces in two decommissioned classrooms at Lucerne School
- A recent survey undertaken in partnership with the school and early childhood educators and parents in the New Denver area, revealed that there is strong need for child care between 8 am and 5 pm and during school holidays
- Significant capital funding is available to renovate the existing classrooms and adjacent washroom facilities for the purpose of creating new and sustainable child care spaces
- A non-profit child care society would operate the child care facility with the school district providing the physical space for new child care spaces in the community

- This matter will come before the Board for approval at the Regular meeting February 19th as a ten year commitment is required for the level of funding required to renovate the school facilities
- As yet, there has not been interest expressed in the other communities in the school district to pursue a child care partnership

10. Ministry Funding Review Update

- As follow up to the Ministry's [Independent Panel Funding Review Report](#), four working groups have been formed with representation from all partner groups
- The working groups will meet four to five times over the next five months (March to August 2019) and help inform the new Funding Formula
- These working groups will examine the Panel's report which makes 22 recommendations encompassing four themes:
 - 1) Inclusive Education
 - 2) Online Learning/DL
 - 3) Financial Accountability
 - 4) Continuing Education/Adult Education
- Superintendent Terry Taylor has been asked to represent rural districts on the Inclusive Education working group on behalf of the Rural Education Advisory Committee, a consortium of 16 rural school districts and five post-secondary partners
- SD 10 is a key member of the Rural Education Advisory, which liaises with the Ministry of Education on matters core to rural districts and schools

11. SD 10 Annual Budget Consultation Process Update

- The Board of Education, Director of Learning, and Superintendent have now heard from staff and parents at four schools in the district as well as the Leadership team in our annual budget consultation process
- Meetings have been well attended and have provided thoughtful feedback on the current budget as well as recommendations for the 2019-20 budget
- Three Finance Committee meetings will be held: February 26th, March 12th and April 16th with representation from CUPE, ALTA, our PVPs, and DPAC, our educational partners
- Our budget consultation process helps the Board and the District understand the unique contexts of each school, and consider the diverse strengths, challenges and needs in our rural schools and communities as the budget is prepared each year
- The 2019-20 Budget By-law will be passed by the Board on Monday, April 29th, 2019

12. Excellence in Education Award nominations

- The Ministry of Education is again seeking nominations for excellence in education through the Excellence in Education Award: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/teach/excellence-in-education>
- There are expanded categories this year for teachers, support staff, principals and vice principals, and district leaders – 10 categories in all!
- Last year, Katrina Sumrall from Lucerne School was chosen as a Finalist for this auspicious award in the Community Engagement category

13. Long Range Facilities Plan Planning

- Manager of Operations, Art Olson, and Superintendent/ST Taylor, held a recent conference call with the Ministry Capital Plan department to discuss development of a Long Range Facilities Plan
- All districts are being encouraged to develop LRFs which are often quite costly and
- The Ministry acknowledges that we in SD 10, already engage in thoughtful long-range planning, look at maintenance and capital needs of our facilities, and consider enrolment projections and community use of school facilities, as well as consider partnership agreements with community groups as we plan for facility use
- In light of the district size and strong practice, we have agreement from the Ministry that we will prepare a LRF plan to be submitted to the Ministry by February 2020