

January 19, 2021 Superintendent/Secretary Treasurer Report Presented at the Education Partnership Committee, and Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

1. Continued steady enrollment growth in the district

My Education BC: Student Enrollment Numbers																
As of:	January 13, 2021															
Grade:	Gr.K	Gr.1	Gr 2	Gr.3	Gr.4	Gr.5	Gr.6	Gr.7	Gr.8	Gr.9	Gr 10	Gr.11	Gr 12	TOTALS	30-Nov	Dif
ALDL	2	8	7	6	9	6	9	5	9	4	4	4	8	81	75	6
BES	2	4	5	6	7	4	3							31	31	0
EES	2	3	4	0										9	11	-2
LESS	10	9	8	10	5	5	7	8	9	7	10	6	7	101	101	0
NES	23	24	23	13	15	22	22	21						163	161	2
NSS									29	28	22	31	27	137	139	-2
TOTAL	39	48	47	35	36	37	41	34	47	39	36	41	42			
District Total														522	518	4

2. Fauquier Property Update

- Amidst many delays exacerbated by the pandemic, slow and steady progress on the Fauquier School property file has been made
- Application was approved by the Ministry of Transportation and the Agricultural Land Commission to subdivide the property into two lots in the fall –these are significant milestones
- The Board has committed that the one Fauquier School building lot is to be sold at a modest price to the community of Fauquier, while the second lot will be put up for sale at market value
- Currently, the application for land disposal is sitting with the Ministry of Education for their approval as per the School Act; the application has been approved by Land Titles Office for subdivision of the existing property into two lots.
- The final review period of 90 days will have concluded at the end of February, at which point district staff anticipate good news
- The process of transferring ownership of the old Fauquier School and property to the community of Fauquier will commence as soon as approvals by the Ministry of Education is complete
- For over five years, district staff have been working on the many requirements and challenges related to Fauquier, with special commendations to Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Shelly Woolf!
- Many thanks also to RDCK Director Paul Peterson for his unwavering support on behalf of the community of Fauquier in this important endeavour to create a crucial community-owned resource for many years to come

3. Burton Community Learning Centre/School District Partnership

- After many years of working together at Burton School, BCLC Society has moved their gym and fitness equipment out of the school building due to two factors: 1) increased enrollment pressures at Burton School and 2) constraints that the pandemic has placed on the district to require enhanced cleaning and student and staff safety which restrict community use in school buildings
- There are three classrooms at Burton School with one classroom currently in use for Ms. Wallis' primary class, the second classroom in use as Mr. Johnston's intermediate classroom, and the third classroom recently vacated by Burton Community Learning Centre is being used for Strong Start

- The partnership with BCLC began when the Burton School was closed in 2012 due to declining enrolment and only a small handful of students remaining
- The district would like to express great appreciation for the care and commitment that Burton Community Learning Centre Society has taken over the past eight years in looking after the school building and, as Burton School has re-opened, working side by side with the school and district
- BCLC will continue with shared use of the school library and Burton Reading Centre and the current Shared Use Agreement will be updated accordingly
- > Our work with BCLC aligns with Strategic Plan Goal 2: Cultivate Community Connections

4. Nakusp Child Care Centre Update

- Final architectural drawings have been completed by the school district architect, and construction engineers and consultants have been engaged
- On Monday, January 11th, the architect, Manager of Operations, and civil, electrical and structural engineers all attended an onsite consultation to review details needed for each of these areas of construction planning and detail for the Nakusp Child Care Centre HUB
- The architect and district staff are working on the RFP for construction slated to be posted on BC Bid in late February
- Legal counsel is working with senior staff regarding registration status of the existing portables at NES and plan for portable removal from the site; removal is planned for early March, prior to construction
- The school district is also working with a geotechnical engineer to conduct the required Geotech assessment in the next two months, prior to the commencement of construction
- > The project is proceeding on time, albeit with minor adjustments to the schedule, and is on budget
- The Nakusp Child Care Centre HUB project aligns with all three Board Strategic Plan goals: Enhance Teaching and Learning, Cultivate Community Connections, and Build Advocacy for SD 10

5. Power Outage, School Closures, and Tree Damage to NES Playground

- On Wednesday, January 13th, a significant windstorm knocked out power across the school district and trees were strewn across roads from Burton to Box Lake preventing busses from operating
- For safety reasons with the windstorm still blowing, trees down across the district, and unknown power restoration times, the rare decision to close all district schools was made



6. Goat Mountain Child Care Centre

- Operations at the new Goat Mountain Child Care Centre are going well, with qualified Early Childhood Educators and ECE Assistants serving the needs of a growing number of young children and families in the
- New Denver and area community The school district is working with local contractors on final construction rectifications which also include

 One of the consequences of the storm was that a large fir tree fell onto the NES playground
A number of trees in the NES school forest were also knocked down

As a result, both the forest play area and the damaged area of the playground are currently out of bounds and cordoned off while an assessment of trees on NES and all school properties is conducted completion of the outdoor play area and final program equipment and supplies now that budget reconciliation shows the funds are available

- Of note is that all construction costs were completed under budget a testament to the prudent leadership of Project Manager, Laurie Hicks and Art Olson, SD 10 Manager of Operations
- An extension to the project completion deadline in order to conduct these final parts of the project and the financial reconciliation and financial audit has been approved by MCFD and CBT to February 28th
- The project remains within budget and a beautiful child care centre aligned with Goal 1: Enhance Teaching and Learning, Goal 2: Cultivate Community Connections and Goal 3: Build Advocacy for SD 10 has been created
- Official opening of the Child Care Centre will be delayed due to the pandemic until MCFD authorizes this celebration

7. Child Care Policy in the works as Child Care Responsibilities Change

- In accordance with the provincial government and Ministry of Education direction, more and more child care centres are being built and operated by school districts within existing schools
- The <u>November 27, 2020 NDP Mandate letter to the Minister of Education</u> gives direction that the Minister of Education is to:
 - "Work with the Minister of Children and Family Development and the Minister of State for Child Care to integrate child care into the broader learning environment by developing a strategy to move delivery of child care into the Ministry of Education by 2023."
- As a result of government's direction that provision of childcare move into Education, the School Act was updated
 - o in February 2020 to allow Boards to provide before and after school child care, and
 - in August 31, 2020 to provide clarity that school districts with child care provided on school district property require a governing Board policy compliant with the Act
- > In SD 10, there are currently two child care programs operating at the Lucerne School:
 - a part time 3-5 year old program operated by Slocan Lake Early Learning Society co-located in the Strong Start Centre at the school, and
 - the newly opened Goat Mountain Child Care Centre.
- > In May 2022, the opening of the Nakusp Child Care Centre HUB is planned.
- The Board of Education Policy Committee has received a draft Child Care policy prepared by staff which complies with the August 31 Ministry update and will review this draft policy at a future Policy Committee meeting
- All current and future Shared Use Agreements with non-profit childcare providers will comply with forthcoming Board Policy and the School Act

8. Ministry Funding Update – Great news!

- > Final 2020-21 Operating Grant tables were released by the Ministry just before the winter break
- Based on increased student enrolment at September 30, 2020, which was significantly beyond the projections submitted to the Ministry in February 2020, the district's operating grant has increased to \$8,896,161
- Enrollment in September 2020 increased to 448 FTE in the five neighbourhood schools in the district and 65 FTE in the Arrow Lakes Distributed Learning School
- Additional funding resulted from increases in the funding formula for geographic factors and the Small Community Supplement and an increase in students with designated diverse learning needs
- > In total, funding for the 2020/21 school year is \$760,229 higher than projected
- Although enrollment has continued to grow since September 30th, additional funding under the Ministry allocation formula will only be accrued for Grade 10-12 DL students who complete courses and additional students with diverse needs

9. January 25th, 2021 Pro-D day

- In accordance with the Board's Strategic Plan Priority to enhance physical and mental wellbeing for student and adult learners, we are pleased to present a dynamic and thoughtful day of professional learning for all education staff (teachers, EAs and PVPs) with a focus on wellness
- Wellness through an Indigenous Lens, and Understanding Anxiety are two topics that will be addressed during the day, as well as time for educators to collaborate together to enhance well-being
- Many thanks to the ALTA and ALELA for their partnership and support in this wonderful collaborative professional learning event!

