

School District 72 Board News

MEETING OF
APR. 18, 2023

April 19, 2023
INFORMATION RELEASE

*Please note these are not official minutes of the Campbell River Board of Education.
Minutes are available from the school district website at www.sd72.bc.ca.
Find us on Facebook under [Campbell River School District – SD72](#) or on Twitter under [@CRSD72](#)*

You can watch a recording of the meeting on the district's YouTube channel at:
<https://youtu.be/ufKX6MMFFtw>

Chairperson Remarks

Chairperson Kat Eddy started the meeting by welcoming staff and students back from spring break. She congratulated everyone on making it through most of the school year and joked about how quickly the last three months of the school year will go by, almost feeling as though the three months of April, May, and June become one month.

Watch this segment: 0:00:26

Superintendent Remarks

In his comments Superintendent Morrow shared that it has been a smooth return from spring break and that summer school is starting to take shape as educators are planning and proposing innovative and engaging opportunities for students this summer. Registration will open in May. The district's summer school program is very popular with over 800 students participating last year alone.

He continued by acknowledging that April 28 is the National Day of Mourning to remember and honour those who have died, have been injured or have suffered illness in the workplace. It's an opportunity for those of us in the district to recommit to ensuring that our schools and worksites are as safe as we can make them.

Moving on, Superintendent Morrow congratulated students Torin Brooks (Carihi Secondary), Fayth Pontious and Alex Jackson (Timberline Secondary) on their excellent results at the 2023 Canadian Wrestling Nationals that were held from March 24 to 26. Fayth won a silver medal in freestyle and a bronze in Greco in the 73 kg women's division and both Alex and Torin came in 7th in freestyle in their respective divisions. Alex also came in 4th in Greco. The trio of Campbell River wrestlers qualified for the nationals based on their school results at provincials and throughout the season.

He also shared that tomorrow night is opening night for Carihi Secondary's musical theatre production of "Newsies" and that there are still a few tickets available from the school office.

In closing, Superintendent Morrow spoke about how the district is starting a new accessibility committee in support of the Accessible BC Act and will be asking for interested staff, parent and student representatives to sit on the committee.

The committee will work to identify, prevent and eliminate barriers to accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities, contribute to the creation of a district accessibility plan, and will provide counsel to ensure the ongoing accessibility of our schools, offices and programs.

Watch: 0:01:16

Early Years Lay Critical Foundation for Student Success

Brenda Wagman, coordinator for the Campbell River Family Network and Early Years Council, and Anne Boyd, a member of the Early Years Council and representative from CR Literacy Now, provided the board with an overview of the recently released Campbell River State of the Child report, latest early development index (EDI) results, BC Child Poverty Report Card, and local statistics from the Campbell River Community Foundation's Vital Signs of Campbell River report.

Through their presentation they spoke of how the foundation of education is rooted in early learning experiences and asked that young children's early experiences and development before they start kindergarten be considered and included in the school district's new strategic plan.



According to Wagman and Boyd, some specific challenges facing our community are: the pandemic's longer-term impacts such as missing developmental screenings, social isolation, financial instability; the absence of childcare and early learning programs because of a lack of qualified early childhood educators, food insecurity; lack of affordable and safe housing; and the inequities and additional struggles faced by single parent families, which Campbell River has a high percentage of.

On the EDI emotional maturity scale the vulnerability index has increased to 19.3%, social competence vulnerability has increased to 16.6%, and communication and general knowledge vulnerability has increased to 12.8%. Out of the 759 kindergarten children included in the EDI wave eight, 256 or 33.7% were vulnerable on one or more of these scales.

The Campbell River Family Network is a network of 24 service providers, agencies and organizations focused on the benefit of children ages 0-8 years old and their families.

[Watch this segment: 0:07:51](#)

School Calendars for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 Approved

The Board of Education passed a motion to approve the revised 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school calendars. Superintendent Morrow presented the board with adjusted calendars in response to parent and staff feedback that had expressed concern with the previously proposed four half-day Pro-D sessions.

The final calendars no longer feature the proposed four half Pro-D days and instead have two full Pro-D days in their place.

Superintendent Morrow also shared that the intent going forward is for the calendar committee to develop the next three-year calendar in the final year of the calendar cycle so that families and staff can plan around school holidays up to three years in advance.

The final school calendars for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 will be available for download from the district and school websites.

[Watch this segment: 0:30:37](#)

Budget Features Prominently at Recent DPAC and Student Leadership Committee Meetings

Trustees Joyce McMann and Shannon Briggs reported that the recent district parent advisory council and superintendent's student leadership committee meetings were focused on budget consultations.

Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Patrick attended both meetings to share budget information and to gather valuable input from these groups as the district considers the development of the 2023-2024 operating budget.

[Watch this segment: 0:34:25](#)

