

November 7, 2024
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/Pcd7DO6e2-4>

Eddy and Gillis Re-Elected as Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Trustees Kat Eddy and Craig Gillis retain their positions as board chairperson and vice-chair. Both were re-elected by acclamation from their fellow trustees at the November 5 public board meeting.

After reclaiming the role of meeting chairperson, Chair Kat Eddy said, "I would like to thank my colleagues, my fellow trustees, for entrusting such a position to me. It has been a learning curve over the last couple of years and I continue to learn. I appreciate your support and your confidence in me representing SD72 as a board chair in provincial matters."

Following his re-election Vice-Chair Craig Gillis said, "I would like to thank the board. This is a wonderful opportunity; I am learning a lot. There are times when I am uncertain but with your support and encouragement, I think we, together as a team, can create the very best possible education for the students in our district."

Watch this segment: [0:00:53](#)

Superintendent Remarks

Superintendent Geoff Manning opened his remarks by congratulating Board Chair Eddy and Vice-Chair Gillis on their re-election. He commented on the interesting times we live in, referencing the series of recent elections and the sad news of the passing of Murray Sinclair who led the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and helped create the 94 Calls to Action.

In speaking to Murray Sinclair's remarkable legacy, Superintendent Manning shared Sinclair's infamous quote, "Education got us into this mess, and education will get us out of it" and how we will try to continue to honour Sinclair in the work we do within Campbell River School

District. He also shared that in Sinclair's memory SD72 schools flew their flags at half-mast for the day and will again lower them to half-mast on the day of his memorial service, which is yet to be determined.

Superintendent Manning continued his remarks by sharing with the board that the district's communications manager, Jennifer Patrick, was recently recognized with a Canadian Association of Communicators in Education award for the development of the district's crisis communications manual. The awards recognize outstanding work in school public relations, communications, marketing and engagement.

He ended his remarks by sharing that the district also received a certificate of appreciation from RiverCity Inclusion and the North Island Employment Society for our work in providing job opportunities for people with disabilities. He spoke with pride of the intent for the school district to continue to embody that inclusive nature.

Watch this segment: [0:06:46](#)

Indigenous Student Graduation Transitions Event

Trustee Janice Gladish shared about a special event held on October 16 to support Indigenous students as they prepare to transition from high school. The event gathered Indigenous grade 12 students from across the district for a day of inspiration and motivation, marking the first event of its kind.

Trustee Gladish, who attended, shared that one of the highlights was hearing from a hereditary leader, who spoke to students about the importance of the Kwanwatsi Big House – a place of cultural significance and learning – the protocols that guide being there.



The gathering also featured talks by Shawn Decaire and Junior Henderson who shared their unique educational journeys. Through their stories, it was highlighted that there are many pathways that can lead students to success and students were encouraged to find the path that resonates with them.

The event was an opportunity for graduating Indigenous students to connect with each other and community, and there is already enthusiasm for more events like this in the future.

Watch: [0:14:36](#)

Board Changes its Role of Committees and Representatives Governance Policy

The Board of Education has adopted changes to its Role of Committees and Representatives board governance policy.

The changes are to include reference to the board's governance committee, minor changes to the terms of reference for the audit and risk management committee, and new terms of reference for the board's governance committee

A notice of motion was given to allow for feedback at the board's October 15 public meeting. The board's governance committee received no comments or concerns on the policy changes.

The revised policy will be posted on the district's website under Board of Education/Governance Policies & Bylaws within the next couple of days.

Watch: [0:16:43](#)

Board Considers Motions Ahead of BCSTA AGM

The board discussed the upcoming BC School Trustees' Association (BCSTA) annual general meeting (AGM) to be held on April 24-26 and decided to bring two motions forward to the Vancouver Island School Trustees' Association (VISTA) branch meeting.

The first motion that trustees are hoping VISTA will agree to table at the BCSTA AGM is for BCSTA to advocate to the Ministry of Education and Child Care for a coordinated and funded provincial approach to addressing cyber security on behalf of school districts.

The second motion is for BCSTA to advocate to the Ministry of Education and Child Care to create an additional and new funding stream (an Annual Technology Grant) aligned with the Annual Facilities Grant to properly fund and support student and instructional technology in a modern learning environment.

Watch: [0:20:16](#)

Quarterly Finance Report Shows Revenues Up

Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Patrick presented the board with a quarterly financial report as of September 30, 2024.

As the first quarterly financial report for the school year includes two summer months and only one month of school operation, this first report always reflects uneven expenses and revenues given receipt of one-time Ministry grants and summer maintenance work.

While revenues in the quarterly financial report are showing an increase of \$1.4 million expenses have gone up by equal measure, which will come into alignment as the year goes on.

The budget year-to-date is based on the preliminary budget which included the forecast of 75 students more than the actual September 30 enrollment number and doesn't reflect the \$700,000 in budget reductions that were made to offset this decrease from projections. Those items will be reflected in the final budget.

Watch: [0:26:45](#)

