



"Together We Learn"

School District No. 23
(Central Okanagan)

BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Date: **Wednesday, January 26, 2011**

Family Literacy Day – January 27, 2011

January 27, 2011 is Family Literacy Day, so named in 1999 by ABC Canada Literacy Foundation to encourage families to read together daily. This year's theme is Play for Literacy, which is intended to promote the sort of play that encourages literacy, numeracy and comprehension skills. All seven StrongStart Centres in School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) will be promoting Family Literacy Day.

School Bus Safety Week – February 7, 2011 through to February 11, 2011

The Chairperson of the Board of Education made the following declaration:

School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) declare the week of February 7, 2011 through to February 11, 2011 as "School Bus Safety Week" in School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) supporting the theme "Be Aware - Know the Danger Zone!"

Recognition:

1. **Aline Moger, Student, Central School Programs and Services**

Murray McDonald, Teacher, Central School Programs and Services

The Board of Education recognized student Aline Moger for designing the medals for the International Children's Games being held in Kelowna January 2011, and teacher Murray McDonald for his support.

2. **John Simonson, Principal, Mount Boucherie Secondary School**

The Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools recognized John Simonson who was recently selected by The Learning Partnership as one of *Canada's Outstanding Principals*.

Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent reported on the following:

- The opening of the registration period begins February 1st in all of our schools. More information regarding the registration process is available on the School District website.
- Plans are well underway for the implementation of the new French Immersion Program at Dorothea Walker Elementary starting next September 2011.
- Admin Council will be making a presentation to KSS staff, students and parents on Thursday, January 27th, providing feedback from the input received to date. The presentations to parents will be at 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. The consultation period will continue until February 1, 2011. A final position paper will be presented to the KSS community on Tuesday, February 8th, 2011. At the conclusion of this process, the KSS admin team will be moving forward to prepare with the course selection process for the upcoming school year.

The Board Meeting Highlights are published after each Public Board Meeting.

Board Meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, except July, August and the fourth Wednesday in December, at the School Board Office.

Action Items:

1. **School Act Class Size/Class Composition Update Report**

The Board of Education approved the School Act Class Size/Class Composition Update Report for the month of December, 2010, and approved the Declaration of Appropriate Learning Situation by the Superintendent for submission to the Minister of Education.

2. **BCSTA Support for Health Canada's "Sodium Reduction Strategy"**

The Board of Education approved the following resolution be forwarded to the upcoming BCSTA Annual Meeting:

THAT: BCSTA support Health Canada's "Sodium Reduction Strategy" and lobby Health Canada to ensure that the recommendations within the strategy as they relate to sodium reduction targets by industry be changed from voluntary to mandatory; and, that there be restrictions placed on the marketing of foods high in sodium to children.

3. **Superintendent's Mid-Year Report on Student Achievement**

The Board of Education approved the Superintendent's Mid-Year Report on Student Achievement 2010-2011, and that the Report be forwarded to the Minister of Education to meet the January 31, 2011 deadline.

The following areas were recognized for notable improvement within the District:

- There is an encouraging trend in the primary grades with a significant increase in the percentage of students meeting and/or exceeding expectations in literacy and numeracy.
- The percentage of Aboriginal students identified as being at-risk at the end of grade three has significantly declined in the past three years.
- The number of students who are completing their core courses on time and at grade level has shown a steady increase over the past five years.
- School Completion Rates show an impressive trendline over the past eight years. In 2009-2010, over 85% of our students graduated compared to only 76% in 2002-2003.
- The Aboriginal Graduation Rate went up 5% last year, placing School District No. 23, 11% above the Provincial average for students within this cohort group.

The District has identified the following areas requiring further attention:

- There is continued work to be done to improve our Aboriginal Graduation Rate and to support Aboriginal success in all discipline areas.
- There will continue to be a focus on assessment strategies and instructional practices to enhance student engagement K-12.

The Superintendent also reported on initiatives that are underway to support children in care within our community.

The Superintendent concluded that the available data, as of December 2010, suggests that the Central Okanagan School District continues to attain levels of student achievement at or above Provincial averages. All partner groups should be very proud of what has been accomplished to date and recognized for their ongoing commitment to improving the achievement agenda.

4. **Family Life – Program Executive Summary and Program Review**

The Board of Education approved the Family Life Program Review.

5. **Amended Policy 525 and 525R (*Regulations*) “Field Trips”**
The Board of Education approved amendments to Policy 525 and 525R (*Regulations*) “Field Trips” which will provide clarity to staff and Principals/Vice-Principals when planning field trips.
6. **Correctional Facility Consultation Action Plan**
The Board of Education agreed to send a letter to the Parent Advisory Councils of the District of Lake Country Schools, Ellison Elementary School and COPAC informing them of the potential of a Correctional Facility in the area. The Board of Education also agreed to encourage the Parent Advisory Councils to present any opinion on the location of the identified site for the Correctional Facility to the local government that are conducting the consultation process, and to forward a copy of their presentation/comments to the Board of Education.
7. **Allocation of Additional Funding Received**
The Board of Education directed the Superintendent to prepare a recommendation for the allocation of the additional funding of approximately \$2 million received from the Ministry of Education, and present the recommendation for review at the Finance and Legal Committee on February 16, 2011.

Information Items:

1. **Kelowna Secondary School Timetable Review**
The Superintendent provided an overview of the upcoming meetings with the KSS community prior to a decision being made on February 8th, 2011.
2. **Amended Policy 710R (*Regulations*) “School Planning Councils”**
Policy 710R has been amended to reflect section 74.01 of the *School Act* which provides School Planning Councils with the authority over school-based video surveillance.
3. **School Ice Time – West Kelowna Joint Use Agreement**
The Board of Education discussed the West Kelowna Joint Use Agreement, with specific reference to the allocation of ice time for schools in West Kelowna and Peachland. The Secretary-Treasurer surveyed school principals regarding the availability of ice time, and reported that no concerns have been expressed about gaining access to the facilities this year.

Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting Date:

Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
School Board Office
1940 Underhill Street
Kelowna, B.C.
The public is welcome to attend.

Next Board Standing Committee Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, February 2, 2011
4:30 p.m. Human Resources and Staff Services Committee
6:30 p.m. Education and Student Services Committee