



October 15, 2018

## **EDUCATION TOPIC**

Best friends **Akira Susanj** (grade 7) and **Alexander Teague** (grade 6) were joined by their Principal, **Krista Halland**, at Savona Elementary to highlight the many programs the school has incorporated to support hands-on learning, including Maker Space, and a Science Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program. The boys reported that their school is also into its first year of BOKS Kids, a free before school program aimed to improve students' physical, mental and social health through movement.

## **REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS**

### **School Learning Plans**

The schools learning plans have been reviewed by senior staff and presented to the Board. The Board was unanimous in approving the plans and commended school principals and teachers for the tremendous amount of thought that went into developing strategies that improve numeracy. They also commented on the plans' comprehensiveness and how clearly aligned the plans were with the strategic priorities.

### **Enrolment Update**

The final enrolment numbers are complete and were reported to the Ministry of Education on September 28, 2018 showing continued growth. There are an additional 208 students in grades 1 to 7, and an extra 77 in secondary for a net increase of 233 students across the District. The vast majority of new students came from families who are moving to Kamloops from other parts of the province.

## **REPORTS FROM SECRETARY-TREASURER**

### **SD73 Business Company Reserve**

Management fees paid to the district from its business company (SD73BC) have generated a reserve fund of \$485,872. Staff will come back to the board with a clear process and guidelines for how Parent Advisory Groups (PACs) may apply for a grant from these funds for recreational projects in support of students. Some of the ideas suggested included supports for new playgrounds and sport uniforms.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

The last few weeks have been busy for all trustees. Events attended included Raise-A-Reader, Orange Shirt Day, and the United Way Campaign kick-off. **Chair Wade** and **Superintendent Sidow** also attended the Premier's Awards for Excellence in Education to recognize **Maymie Tegar** from Blue Rive Elementary as Outstanding New Teacher. **Trustee Kershaw** raised the issue of grade 7s not being able to be part of the grade 8 volleyball and basketball teams in rural communities where schools do not follow the traditional grade configurations. **Assistant Superintendent Hamblett** is working with BC School Sports to determine if a policy change is a possible.