



December 17, 2018

EDUCATION TOPIC

Honoured by the District Honour Choir

Christy Gauley, Choir Director, assisted by **Rachel Casponi** led a few members of the **Kamloops Thompson Honour Choir** (grades 5 to 8) through Build Me a World, and Bidi Bom before persuading the board, staff and the gathered audience to join in a sing-a-long to Jingle Bell Rock and We Wish You A Merry Christmas. The choir of **Brooklynn, Robert Fraizer, Jacob Marchand, Ryan Sherlock, Ryan Zeeshan, Violet Lewis, Kianna Reed, Jakob Chapin, Lauren Schnider** and **Kylee Koppes** were accompanied by **Kerry Tarnawsky** on piano.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES, PETITIONS AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

2018 Owl Award for Excellence in Education

Fiona Clare, Literacy Outreach Co-ordinator for Literacy in Kamloops was recognized with the Award for Excellence in Public Education for her contributions to learning throughout the region. Her legacy to literacy began by coordinating the One-to-One Reading Program at Barriere Ridge Primary in 1998 when it was first introduced to seven schools. The program soon grew and now includes 22 of 33 in the district. [Read more here.](#)

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

School Completion Progress

In the Six-Year Completion Rate Data released by the Ministry of Education, SD73 has obtained an 88% completion rate for resident students in 2017-2018 and is moving closer to its goal of a 90% completion rate and parity for Aboriginal students. Aboriginal student completion rates were at 78% during the same reporting period. Since 2004-2005 the gap between All Students and Aboriginal Students has narrowed considerably. [More at the Ministry of Education](#)

Vavenby Elementary School

The PAC at Vavenby Elementary has asked the Board to consider reconfiguring the school to include grade 5 for the 2019-2020 year. Assistant Superintendent **Rob Schoen** recommends further consultation with the PAC, Principal **Lori Bradstock**, along with Chair **Kathleen Karpuk** and Trustee **Shelley Sim** as per [Policy 1115.1 School Planning and Organization](#).

SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

Long Range Facilities Plan

The Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) drafted by Director **Art McDonald** and Assistant Superintendents **Bill Hamblett** and **Rob Schoen** has articulated the challenges the district faces in light of growing enrollment and diminishing classroom spaces. Recommendations

include: a public consultation process regarding the re-opening of Westsyde Elementary, the purchase of six (6) additional portables for an estimated cost of \$900,000 and the purchase of four (4) additional school buses at an estimated cost of \$560,000 to deal with 2019-2020 projected enrollment growth. [Read the full report here.](#)

Trustee Remuneration

A slight increase to trustee stipends has been approved to offset changes by the Canadian Revenue Agency and to bring the board more in line with other districts with similar student enrollments resulting in total increases of \$3,226 for the Chair, \$2,727 for the Vice Chair and \$2,329 for Trustees.

CHAIR REPORT

BC Winter Games

SD73 was one of seven local organizations to benefit from the allocation of the BC Winter Games Legacy Fund. Chair **Kathleen Karpuk** and Assistant Superintendent **Bill Hamblett** were on hand to receive the \$10,000 on behalf of the District on Thursday, December 13, 2018. [Read more here.](#)

RCMP Youth Advisory Council

Held December 14, a panel consisting of Chair **Kathleen Karpuk**, RCMP Superintendent **Sid Lecky**, Mayor **Ken Christian**, District Principal **Vessy Mochikas**, and a representative from Child and Youth Mental Health responded to questions from youth related to cannabis, vaping, health education, consent and a multitude of other topics. The students were articulate with direct and well thought out questions. [Read more here.](#)