



Media Release Highlights of April 11, 2017 Board Meeting

CHSS Police Car Restoration Project

Vice-principal Carla Street and students Bren Stevenson and Sehjot Sahdra of Charles Hays Secondary School attended the Board meeting on April 11, 2017. The students demonstrated their work in the media arts class to document the restoration of a 1940's police car by the auto shop class.

"It is exciting to see the collaboration between the shop class and the media arts class," said Board Chair Tina Last. "The Board is looking forward to the day when this car will appear in the Seafest parade."

School Calendar for 2017-18

The Board of Education has been advised that the Prince Rupert District Teachers' Union approved, for a second year, the changes required to the collective agreement that will enable a 2 week Spring Break in 2017-18. This concluded the process required to finalize the school calendar.

Capital Bylaw

The Ministry of Education has approved \$550,000 in capital funds for the following projects:

- Conrad Street Elementary School roof repairs
- Lax Kxeen Elementary School DDC upgrade
- Lax Kxeen Elementary School floor repairs

The Ministry is also considering urgent work required at Prince Rupert Middle School to ensure this building can continue to operate until it is replaced. This work will include the roof, boilers and the electrical system.



Annual Budget for 2017-18

The Board of Education has adopted the annual budget for 2017-18. The operating budget reflects a surplus of about 2% of the budget as a reserve to address future operational issues. In addition, another 2.6% is held as a contingency for staffing if enrolment increases in September 2017.

Total expenses in the approved operating budget are \$25,323,000. In approving the budget the Board agreed to both ongoing and one-time spending increases.

The district also has a new special purpose fund, the Classroom Enhancement Fund, with \$1,349,168 of Provincial funding to address the restoration of the class size and composition language in the teacher collective agreement. \$188,288 of these funds are allocated to overhead costs and will be used to restore the dayshift custodian position and provide additional release time for principals.

"The Board has approved one-time funding in the budget to support schools in the implementation of the new curriculum and to support the recruitment of more teachers," said Board Chair Tina Last. "On behalf of the Board I would like to thank our partner groups who provided valuable input in the budget process."

Student Learning Grant

School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert) will be receiving an estimated \$99,000 from the Ministry of Education for the Student Learning Grant. This is a one-time grant that is intended to support students in the new curriculum and save parents money. For elementary and middle school students, basic school supplies will be purchased, saving parents the money required for these purchases.

The remaining money in the elementary and middle schools, and the money in the secondary schools, will be used to support hands-on learning in schools.



Youth Trades Grant

The Industry Training Authority has approved a series of grants to the school district to upgrade tools in the shops at Charles Hays Secondary School and Prince Rupert Middle School. The approved grants are as follows:

2017	\$15,920
2018	\$32,760
2019	\$43,400

"The school district is very appreciative of the work by the district career coordinator, Sebastien Paquet and the Director of Operations, Dave Garcia, to gather the information required and ensure this grant application was submitted," said Board Chair Tina Last. "Our students will benefit from these new tools for many years."

Policy Committee Work

2 policies were approved by the Board of Education to be sent to partner groups for feedback:

- French Immersion Policy
- Communicable Diseases and Immunizations Policy

2 policies were approved by the Board of Education to be updated in the policy book:

- Student Reporting Policy
- Use of Schools, Grounds and Equipment Policy

The Student Fees and Deposits Policy was deleted as the provisions of the *School Act* apply.

To ensure that approved policies will meet the needs of the district's students and staff, feedback from partner groups on draft policies is welcomed by the Board.

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