



## **Media Release Highlights of December 8, 2020 Board Meeting**

### **Roosevelt School – “Breakfast is for Everyone”**

Principal Andrée Michaud from École Roosevelt Park Community School described the changes implemented to the school’s breakfast program in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, rather than students going to a specific room prior to classes, breakfast is now being served in each class at the start of the day. This allows teachers to have meaningful conversations with students in a different context. While costs have increased for a number of reasons, the community has supported the school to make this possible.

“The Board is very thankful for the generous contributions provided to Roosevelt School,” said Board Chair James Horne. “Hearing that this new program has helped to remove any stigma attached to students participating in the breakfast program is good news.”

### **Christmas Break**

The district’s Christmas Break is for the two weeks commencing December 21, 2020 and ending on January 1, 2021. Students return to class on Monday, January 4, 2021. The Board of Education had a robust debate about the implications of the Christmas Break during this year’s pandemic. Extending the break for a week, and requiring masks for the first week after the break, were both considered. In the end the Board’s decision was to continue to follow the specific guidance of the public health authorities.

### **Strategic Planning**

In accordance with Ministry of Education requirements associated with the update of the Framework for Enhancing Student Learning, the district will begin the process to renew and update the 2017-2021 Strategic Plan. Further information will be provided in the New Year.

### **Mental Health Survey**

The district will be participating in a youth mental health survey sponsored by the BC Children’s Hospital. Information will be available on the district’s web site, and participation is voluntary. The survey will help to identify gaps in mental health services in district communities.



## Annual Budget Consultation

The consultation process for the 2021-2022 Annual Budget will commence in the new year. Meetings are expected to be held remotely as a result of the pandemic. The dates approved by the Board are as follows:

Thursday, February 4	Public information meeting and Talking Circle Consultation @ 7:00pm
Tuesday, February 23	Individual presentations from partner groups, IN PUBLIC, starting @ 7:00pm
Friday, February 26	Deadline for budget submissions @ 4:00pm
Monday, March 29	Report back to public on input received and Ministry Funding, starting @ 7:00pm
Tuesday, April 13	Board meeting to approve budget, starting @ 7:00pm

## Policy Committee Work

2 policies were approved by the Board of Education for the district policy book:

4310 Occupational Health & Safety Policy  
5310 Volunteers Policy

2 policies were approved for distribution to the district's partner groups for their review and comment:

1610 Field Trip Policy  
5110 Corporate Sponsorship and Access to Students Policy



## Upcoming Events

Monday, December 21, 2020 to Friday, January 1, 2021 Winter Break

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

Friday, January 22, 2021 Professional Development Day - Middle and Elementary Schools

Thursday, January 28, 2021 BCPSEA Annual General Meeting

### Contact Persons:

James Horne, Chair  
Board of Education  
James.Horne@sd52.bc.ca

Andrew Samoil,  
Superintendent  
Board of Education  
(250) 624-6717