



Media Release **Highlights of April 15, 2024 Board Meeting**

Presenter – Annamarie Prohaska re: Ottawa Field Trip

Acting Superintendent Pond introduced Annamarie Prohaska from CHSS along with students Nikayla Johnson, London Louttit-Salo, and Anaiah Azcueta to present on the Experiences Canada trip to Ottawa. Ms. Prohaska and Mr. Kertes accompanied the students on this immersive experience. The students presented slide shows which featured highlights such as visits to Parliament, Montreal, local schools, hikes and a maple syrup farm. When the Ottawa students came to Prince Rupert they visited the Nass, Nisga'a museum, Nisga'a Parliament and the Debate team hosted a cultural dinner. The students were very thankful to partake in this experience and have made lasting bonds with the Ottawa students.

Vice-Chair Beil expressed her appreciation to the students for sharing the presentation on their exchange trip to Ottawa, and especially hearing in their own words, how their experiences will stay with them for a lifetime. "I think I can speak on behalf of the board when I say that students on both sides of the country may now have a better understanding of the diversity and uniqueness of where we come from, but at the same time, are able to celebrate the differences that creates a culture of inclusion, acceptance and understanding among all students."

Upcoming projects/Learning/Other

The Acting Superintendent, Sandra Pond, provided a summary of recent school activities and upcoming events in the school district. In March there were community connections at the Elementary Schools with Sparky from the Fire Department, Rupert Rampage Reads, and a visit from the RCMP and the Fire Department about the "Guns and Hoses" Hockey game. Toonies for Tummies and many businesses in Prince Rupert help fund the Breakfast Club of Canada Program which supports all of our schools. Conrad school is fundraising for an upcoming Grade 5 feast. Lax Kxeen is hosting a family luncheon for each division this year. This month, students participated in skiing, oolichan fishing and theme Days.

We have 12 students taking the two courses in the ECE Dual Credit Course this spring. There is still a great need for ECE Educators in our community. We are



working on the possibility of a child care pilot in the summer to help relieve some of the pressure for daycare. We are hosting Ready Set Learn Sessions for 3 to 4-year old's during the month of May. Play in the K Sessions will also be held for Preschool to Kindergarten students in all of our elementary schools for 2 one half days in June. Welcome to Kindergarten sessions will be held the first week in September.

Our Strategic Plan Priority #3 – Mental Health Literacy is to build capacity for mental health literacy for students, staff and families. Social Emotional Learning is something we have been focused on for a number of years. Our Implementation Day this year focused on mental health and fostering strength and resilience. The Large Framework for Enhancing Student Learning Group looked at student data regarding wellness. We are celebrating that Children in Care are strong in 3 areas and that there is less disparity between all students and Indigenous students. We are concerned that all of our results were at the low end of our range over time and all were at the low end of the Provincial average. Our students feeling safe is at the high end of the Provincial range. These results were from last spring and we expect to receive this year's results sometime this summer.

Policy Committee Work

The Board of Education approved the policies:

1610 – Field Trip Policy

2340 – Release Time of Staff to act as Resource Personnel Policy

2360 – Employee Conduct and Political Activities Policy

The Board of Education is seeking input from partner groups on the policies:

4310 – Occupational Health and Safety Policy

5110 – Corporate Sponsorship and Access to Students Policy

Upcoming Events

April 18-21, 2024

BCSTA AGM

April 19, 2024

Professional Development Day, Regional

May 17, 2024

Professional Development Day



Upcoming Events

May 20, 2024

Victoria Day

May 21, 2024

Board of Education Meeting

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