

BOARD BUSINESS



Board of Education Trustees left to right, back row: Kat Hawksby, Janice Caton and Tonia Frawley
Front row: Michelle Waite, Ian Hargreaves, Sarah Jane Howe, and Sheila McDonnell

The Board of Education acknowledges that we are on the traditional territories of the K'òmoks First Nation. We would like to thank them for the privilege of living on their land and the gift of working with their children.

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BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Board Chair Welcome, Janice Caton

Presentations / Delegations

- 2018-19 Financial Statements & Office of the Auditor General Report. SD71 has prepared all financial statements in accordance with the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.
- North Island College – Strategic Planning Presentation by John Bowman, President, North Island College.

Superintendent Report

- A new **Strategic Priorities Plan** approved at June Board meeting that will guide the work of the District for the next four years.
- Collaborative Inquiries program (details in this issue).
- To date \$287,544 raised by the school district since it began participating in Terry Fox runs.
- Boundary/Catchment Consultation begins this fall.

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Board Highlights

Assistant Superintendent Report

- School Start-Up/Enrollment Update
- Board/Authority Authorized Education Courses

Human Resource Report

- Retirements and Recognition

Board Committee Reports

- Audit
- Finance
- Policy



Board Business/Correspondence

- Board Trustees' motions
- Letters from Education/Community Partners

All Board agendas & meeting minutes are posted online at

http://bit.ly/SD71_BoardMeetings

Media coverage of the first Board meeting can be read online at

<https://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/news/school-district-71-taking-eco-assessment-of-its-properties-in-comox-valley/>



For a complete video recording of this and other Board meetings visit our District [YouTube channel](#)

Superintendent's Welcome



For this video message and more visit [YouTube](#)

Collaborative Inquiries

We are pleased to take this opportunity to introduce a redesigned professional partnership/inquiry initiative called Collaborative Inquires which will be available to all staff. We will be allocating an initial budget of \$100,000 to this project. The Collaborative Inquiry program focuses on teams of practitioners working together with a focus on student achievement and instructional practices. The purpose of the program is to extend and enhance the capacity of all involved in the project. The funds are intended for release time and resources.

Deadline for applications is **October 31st**.

Find the application form online at

http://bit.ly/SD71_CollaborativeInquiries

In the News



Leading-edge Mental Health Supports Coming for Comox Valley students

The following is an abridged version of the Press Release issued by the Government of B.C.

Courtenay - Students in the Comox Valley School District will have a clearer, easier-to-understand path to mental health and substance use services. A “one-care-plan” approach is a new service delivery model being introduced in their school district. Integrated teams will work closely with school and team-based primary care and specialized services providers to offer wraparound care to children, youth and their families. This means individuals experiencing mental health and substance use challenges and their families will no longer need to retell their stories to different care providers or search on their own for the supports they need.

“For far too long, families have had to knock on door after door to get the help they need for their children,” said Judy Darcy, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

These integrated child and youth teams will make it so much easier to connect young people to the help they need, where and when they need it. The Comox Valley school district was selected as the location for the second integrated child and youth team because of its strong relationships throughout the community supporting the mental health of students as well as the proactive measures already in place. These measures include: developing a district mental health plan, including mental health wellness as part of its strategic plan, training school teams in the mental health curriculum, teaching mental health literacy at the high school level, establishing a school-based wellness centre, and working closely with community partners on all initiatives that support vulnerable youth.

Learn more at
https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/BCMentalHealthRoadmap_2019.pdf

“We are extremely fortunate to be part of this great initiative. Student mental health is one of our district’s strategic focuses and through this partnership, we will be able to work collaboratively with our community partners to provide our students with resources that will strengthen and improve their mental health.”

- Tom Demeo, Superintendent of Schools

School News



ECOLE ROBB ROAD

As part of a great start to the school year, Ecole Robb Road staff and students are focusing on the Six Cedars. This will weave together indigenous learning and content, the Essential Competencies of the redesigned curriculum and environmental/sustainability topics and projects. In this photo the students are learning about the role of "wise eagle" and estuaries through various stations.



HUBAND PARK



Huband had its welcome breakfast and read-in on Friday the 13th. The whole school was invited to a continental breakfast and then families were encouraged to stay and read with their child/grandchild in their classroom afterwards. We tired this last year and it was a big success, so it is an annual thing now for Huband.

VALLEY VIEW & ROYSTON ELEMENTARY

Valley View is being conscious of our environment. We are using Popsicle sticks that say welcome instead of paper late slips, metal spoons instead of plastic ones, frozen sponges for ice packs, a fountain that refills water bottles, litter less lunches and pack it in pack it out lunches (students take home their garbage and recycle it at home). We are teaching them about where their garbage goes. We are aligning with the strategic plan.



Royston received a third year of funding from the Breakfast Club of Canada for their growing breakfast club. Their garden mural was finished at the end of last year by the after school art club.



Indigenous Education hosted their 4th Welcome Back BBQ for families on Sept 18th. Over 200 students and their families joined. Senior Leadership supported this event by serving and cooking.

CHILD CARE STUDY

As you may recall, the early years collaborative (of which SD 71 is a member), was successful in their application to conduct a child care study with Courtenay, Comox and the Regional District (Cumberland is doing their own study and they are in communication with us). Presentations to councils, to the Komox chief and council and the regional district have already taken place. Over 450 people have responded to the survey representing all areas of the Comox Valley. Community consultation sessions will soon be taking place. The collaborative is grateful to SD 71 for the support they have provided.

Arden has eliminated single use plastics in their school by asking parents not to send juice boxes



CONTACT US

There are many, many things to celebrate daily in our schools. We encourage anyone with news to send items to heid.bell8888@gmail.com so that monthly we can honour all that our schools do to support the community and world.

Visit us on the web at <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca>

Student Vote

An authentic learning program that provides students with the opportunity to experience the voting process firsthand and practice the habits of citizenship. Twenty schools have signed up to participate, which places Comox Valley Schools in the top 10% of all school districts in Canada based on the percentage of schools registered. Among the schools, [Lake Trail Middle](#) was selected as one of six schools to have a question submitted to party candidates to be featured online. Read more at <https://studentvote.ca/canada/campaign-tools/> For complete news coverage visit [Comox Valley Record](#) online.





More School News



Jiffy Lube and Staples teamed up again this year to donate 200 backpacks for needy students. Each pack was stocked with supplies. Other donations came from the Kiwanis Club (297 packages of school supplies) and Northgate Church (70 backpacks).

See more on our
YouTube channel: [Backpacks](#)



Getting Ready for September - The Clerical Advisory Committee hosted a successful and well attended Annual Clerical Summer Institute for new and returning clerical staff.



MIRACLE BEACH

Miracle Beach Elementary has raised \$2400 for Cancer research. Half the money will go to Tour de Rock and the other half will go to Terry Fox. As a result, Mr. Cobey will be wearing a chicken suit for a whole school day.



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Young Cumberland Community School students shared the mic on air with the RCMP to promote the **Slow Driving in School Zone Campaign**. For this story and more, visit the District News online at
<https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/apps/news/>



The **Annual Maintenance BBQ** hosted at G.P. Vanier August 28 was another way to celebrate our hard-working staff who spent a busy summer preparing schools and grounds for the new school year.



See more images on Flickr
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/comoxvalleyschoolssd71/>

