



# BOARD BUSINESS

## Return to School 2020

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

### **Adoption of the Regular Public Board Meeting Minutes** September 1, 2020

**Board Elections** - Chair and Vice Chair positions, provincial committee representatives

#### **Old Business:**

- Seatbelts on School Buses Report (Details inside, Page 2)
- By-election Update - Area C Trustee election to be announced. Earliest December 2020.

**2019 -20 Financial Statements Audit Opinion** - Office of the Auditor General of BC

**Strategic Direction** - Federal Funding, Restart Update and Enrolment

#### **Facilities Committee Report**

- Turf Field, G.P. Vanier
- Capital Projects

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### IN THIS ISSUE

BOARD ELECTIONS

FEDERAL SAFE RETURN TO CLASS FUND

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY IN CANADA - A PILOT STUDY

BACK PACK DONATION

RETURN TO SCHOOL 2020 DISTRICT / SCHOOL STORIES

[Video recording of meeting on YouTube](#)



# STRATEGIC REPORTS

## Superintendent Report

### School Bus Safety

Transport Canada announced a new pilot project underway to test the use of seatbelts on school buses. Two B.C. school districts will take part in the nation-wide project including Nanaimo-Ladysmith and Fraser-Cascade. The project was launched as a result of the findings of the Task Force on School Bus Safety (Feb 2020). In a briefing note, the District reported on its continued practice to purchase only activity buses with seatbelts and will work with contractors around bus safety pending results of the pilot project. Full report found on pages 12 - 38 of the [Meeting Agenda](#).



### Restart Funding

Comox Valley Schools received approximately \$3.4 million as part of the Federal Safe Return to Class Fund. Funds are in alignment with the District Restart Plan and will be used for mental wellness initiatives, mental health support for students and staff, additional health and safety resources, technology requirements, and creating outdoor learning environments.

[Full details in District news online.](#)

## BOARD ELECTIONS

2020 - 2021



### Board Chair

Sheila McDonnell  
Area A (Baynes Sound,  
Hornby & Denman Islands)

"I value a collaborative process and that we work as a Board and as a District to make sure we have all the resources to empower our students and allows us to meet the goals set out in our Strategic Priorities Plan."



### Vice Chair

Michelle Waite  
Area B (Lazo North)

"I am honoured to work and learn together with our Board and as part of our exceptional District team with the overarching goal of Excellence in Education for all students and staff"

## Assistant Superintendent Report - Enrolment

A high percentage of students have returned to schools. At the elementary level, approximately 90 % of students returned to in-class, full-time instruction. At the secondary level, approximately 95 % of students have returned. Students that are registered in a neighbour or choice program school, or in the distance learning program offered through Navigate/NIDES are considered District-enrolled students.

# SCHOOL START-UP

## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOLS!

We are all so pleased here at Comox Valley Schools to welcome students back and reopen our school communities. Staff began the year with training and orientation led by school Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees (JOHSC). On September 10 and 11, doors opened to our students for their orientation and a review of all health & safety protocols.

The COVID-19 Health & Safety Protocols continue to be updated regularly as new information is made available from the BCCDC, Provincial Health Officer and Ministers of Health and Education. Protocols can be found online at [https://bit.ly/SD71\\_COVID19Protocols](https://bit.ly/SD71_COVID19Protocols) ◀

Many schools showcased the return to in-class learning with images that expressed gratitude and kindness including messages from their respective school communities.

### Arden Elementary

Ms. Lambert prepared a special welcome back message with her Arden colleagues to share a message to their school community of how excited they are to be back with their students. ➤ [Take a look!](#)





# DISTRICT NEWS



## BACK PACKS ARE BACK

Jiffy Lube and Staples Canada - Courtenay stores - teamed up once again to support education by providing students with school supplies and a pack to carry it all in.

It took Kevin Wilson of Jiffy Lube and Sharon Mischook of Staples two truck loads to deliver 200 packs to the School Board Office on Tuesday, September 15. Staff and Trustee Frawley pitched in to offload the packs with the help of Terry Farrell, CV Record, who dropped by to cover the good news community story!



➤ [Read more - Comox Valley Record online](#)

## BLUEBERRIES FOR VANIER

**Blue Haven Farms** showed their support to schools and student learning with a generous donation of fresh blueberries for G.P. Vanier Home Ec. classes. Students masked-up and baked batches of delicious muffins! Although we never did receive any samples here at the Board Office, we are grateful for the continued outpouring of support from our community that comes in many different ways!

