



# BOARD BUSINESS

Welcome Bienvenue Gilakas'la

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Adoption of the Regular Public Board Meeting

Minutes January 18, 2020

### Adoption of the Committee of the Whole Meeting

Minutes February 13, 2020

### Boundary Catchment

Recommendations (Details inside, Page 2)

### Board Standing Committee Reports

- Education Committee
- Budget Committee
- Finance Committee
- Policy Committee

### Board Business

- **Trustee Frawley** - BCSTA Provincial Council meeting
- **Trustee Caton** - three reports presented for motion (one deferred to March Board meeting)

## IN THIS ISSUE

BOUNDARY CATCHMENT DECISIONS

CROSS BOUNDARY TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

YOUTH CLIMATE CONFERENCE

SKILLS CANADA BC REGIONAL COMPETITION

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

AND MORE SCHOOL SUCCESS STORIES

Video recording of meeting on YouTube



# STRATEGIC DIRECTION

## Boundary Consultation Recommendations

Trustees voted on five recommendations to address overcapacity in some District schools due to increasing enrollment. The following were approved:

### Royston Elementary

- Pursue the addition of one modular for 2020 and an additional modular for 2021 to address anticipated growth
- Close all cross-boundary transfers
- Grade 6 will remain
- Begin the process to request a capital expansion.

### Cumberland Community School

- Grade 9 will remain
- The Annex will be designated as space for the community school
- Close all cross-boundary transfers
- Pursue an additional modular to address growth
- Begin the process to request a capital expansion.

### Miracle Beach

- Remain a feeder school to G.P. Vanier Secondary
- Close all cross-boundary transfers.

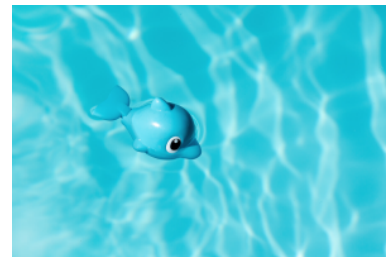
### Huband Park Elementary

- Current grade 6 and 7 students will be grandfathered to allow students to complete their elementary years at the school
- Effective Sept 2021, all cross boundary transfers will be rescinded and those affected students will return to their catchment school to finish elementary years
- Facilitate families of cross boundary transfers wishing to return to catchment school in 2020
- Close all cross-boundary transfers
- Remain a feeder school to G.P. Vanier Secondary
- Catchment boundary will remain unaffected.

## Superintendent Report

*Summer School* coming July 2020

- One secondary campus (Isfeld) and two elementary campuses (Valley View and Courtenay El.).
- Free to District students.
- More details later in spring!



## Assistant Superintendent Report

- First Regional Youth Climate Action Conference (Details, Page 3)

### Cross Boundary Restrictions

In addition to the recommendations for the four elementary schools, to ease capacity pressures at the secondary level, **G.P. Vanier Secondary** and **Mark R. Isfeld Secondary** are closed to all cross-boundary transfers.

For 2020/21, the following schools are closed to cross-boundary transfer including siblings.

- Cumberland Community School
- Royston Elementary
- Huband Park Elementary
- Miracle Beach Elementary
- G.P. Vanier Secondary
- Mark R. Isfeld Secondary

All **other** transfer requests can be made **online** during the month of March only.

# DISTRICT NEWS

## Youth Climate Action Conference - A First for the Region

Comox Valley Schools hosted the first Regional Youth Climate Action Conference at Florence Filberg Centre on February 13. The conference, titled **#EmpowermentforImpact**, was the first of its kind targeted for students in grade 8 to 12 throughout Vancouver Island and surrounding regions.

More than 300 registrants attended from the Valley and neighbouring school districts including Nanaimo/Ladysmith, Parksville/Qualicum, Powell River, and Campbell River.

The District's secondary school environment club educators Heather Beckett and Jill Peacock along with Serina Allison, EOL teacher, developed a robust day-long agenda centered entirely on optimism and positive environmental action. They brought in an impressive list of guest speakers with designed several activities and action workshops geared toward empowering and fostering collaboration.

Serina Allison, District Environmental and Outdoor Learning (EOL) teacher, teamed up Jill Peacock, recently retired educator and Heather Beckett, Mark R. Isfeld, to develop a robust agenda that included presentations from key community leaders, team-building activities, expert panel discussions, brainstorming, and, for the grand finale, an intense collaboration exercise on drafting a feasible action plan to tackle local issues.

[▶ DETAILS](#)

[Click for more coverage](#)

## FARM TO SCHOOL LEARNING CIRCLE

Jenn Meilleur, F2C Coordinator, held the first of three learning circles February 19. The event brought key school and community stakeholders together to create a vision, goals, action and an implementation plan for an already robust school feeding program. These goals and action will build upon what is already happening throughout the District and help steward the work into the future. Two District youth participated and shared their voice contributing to the vision for growing the food movement in schools.

[Click for more images](#)



# DISTRICT NEWS



## District Music Showcase 2020 hosted by Mark R. Isfeld

Mark R. Isfeld invited its family of schools to a night of musical entertainment. Band and choir groups performed individually and collectively to their school communities. Showcase rotates annually among the three secondary schools and is a chance for feeder schools to see how pursuing music can lead to opportunities beyond elementary school.



## Valley View Drumming Ceremony

Drums have been used for centuries in many cultures to cultivate well-being. In our District, drumming enhances Indigenous ways and knowing. At a drumming ceremony at Valley View February 18, elementary students were gifted drums made by Mark R. Isfeld secondary students as a gesture of kindness and to connect one learning community with another.

➤ [Watch more on YouTube](#)



## G.P. VANIER CAPTURES 3<sup>rd</sup> AT VI IMPROV REGIONALS

Five top senior secondary improv teams for the Vancouver Island Region gathered at Vanier February 16 for the Canadian Improv Games in hopes to earn a spot to compete at the Nationals in Ottawa. Only the first place team moves on. Congratulations to our students at G.P. Vanier for capturing a strong third place finish. Highland and Isfeld also performed very well earlier in the season. Well done to all!



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

Pro D Day for our maintenance and operations team involved a simulated exercise designed to hone skills in first aid and emergency response. Staged by Russel Roy, Manager of Health and Safety, the fake incident used students and staff to play casualties, all made up with realistic injuries. Training also included recertification on fire extinguishers. The event was made possible with the participation of St. Johns Ambulance, Courtenay and Union Bay Fire Departments.



## Inquiry-based Learning Through Clothing

Comox Archives and Museum has produced a resource of historical material for elementary teachers and students across the District. The kit is designed to lead students through inquiry-based learning about clothing and how it has changed from locally, handmade items to those obtained from across the world. Through a variety of engaging activities and critical thinking, students will see the impact the modern clothing industry has on our environment.

# DISTRICT NEWS

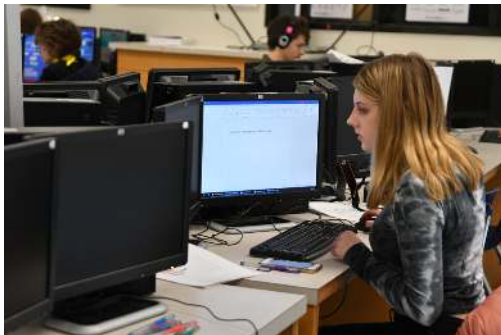


## SKILLS CANADA BC REGIONALS

### *District captures Gold in 13 of 20 events!*

Skills Canada BC's North Island Regional event was held at G.P. Vanier Secondary School on Friday, February 21.

A total of 240 competitors from 17 schools across the region competed in skilled trades and technology categories ranging from automotive, carpentry, culinary, and welding to media including photography, animation, and web design. A junior event is also included in the annual regional event with competitions in gravity cars (design and performance), spaghetti-bridge design and VexIQ robotics.



Competitors winning at the regional competition advance to the provincials 15 April at the Abbotsford Tradex. Provincial winners will advance to the Skills Canada Nationals that will be held at the Vancouver Convention Centre 28 and 29 May. Students can then compete at the WorldSkills competition.



*"I am always amazed to see the skill level of students at this competition and see these kids as our future designers, coders, builders and troubleshooters," says Steve Claassen, Career Coordinator for Trades and ADST who organized the event and has been involved with Skills Canada for almost 20 years. "Our valley is fortunate to have some very skilled students in Trades and Technology and in most years some of our student reach the nationals and comes back with medals."*

[\*\*➤ Click for results\*\*](#)

## CECSS Community Breakfast

The perfect way to celebrate the upcoming Family Day weekend is to invite your school community to breakfast! Courtenay Elementary Community School hosted a Breakfast & Celebration of Learning. More than 300 plates were served at the annual affair with many staying the morning to visit their child's classroom and participate in a rhythm and drum performance. [Click to check out all the fun!](#)

