

# BOARD BUSINESS

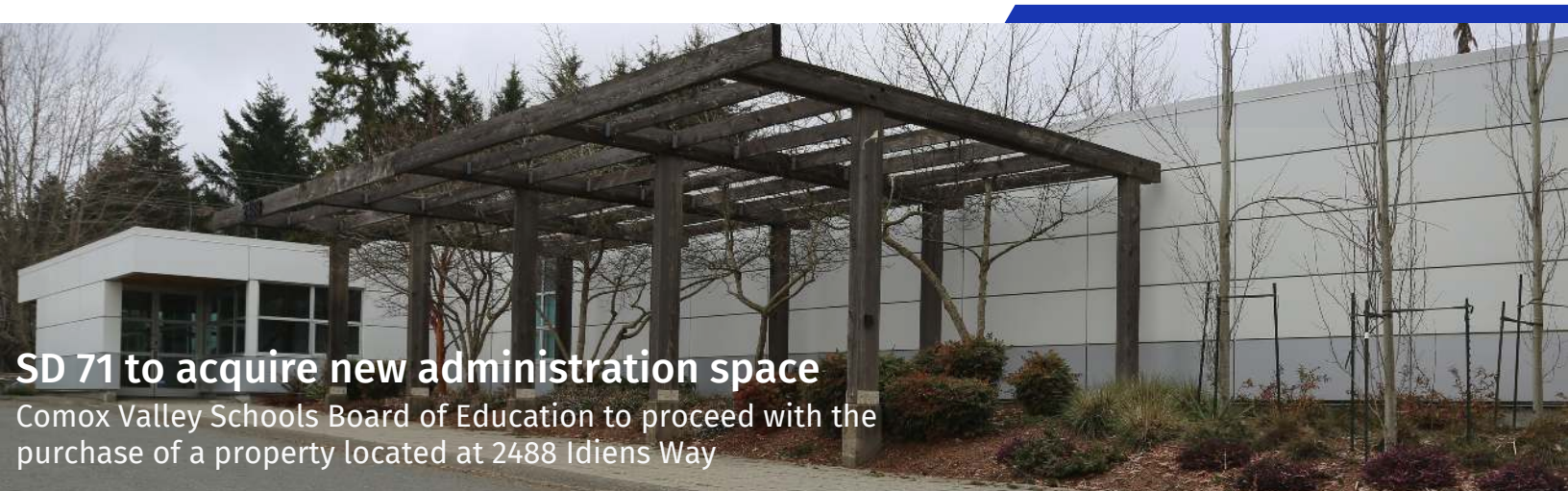
February 2022



**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE



## SD 71 to acquire new administration space

Comox Valley Schools Board of Education to proceed with the purchase of a property located at 2488 Idiens Way

### **PURCHASE IS A COST-EFFECTIVE, TIMELY OPTION TO ADDRESS THE NEED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SPACE**

SD 71 is experiencing unexpected enrollment pressures and there are more housing developments underway throughout the valley, causing a need to quickly create classroom spaces. Currently administrative functions and educational programs are dispersed throughout the district in six different locations – which is neither effective nor efficient. Acquiring 2488 Idiens Way will allow SD 71 to consolidate some of these functions – moving them out of classrooms and modulares – and into appropriate office space. SD 71 will re-locate the current board office and administration to 2488 Idiens Way to make space in the 607 Cumberland Road location for district programs. Many of SD 71's departments and programs require better spaces to meet their needs. For example, the Indigenous Education department requires a more appropriate space as their enrollment and staffing grows. The Inclusive Education department has moved three times in recent years and the school district needs the Airport Elementary classrooms.



*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.*

### **BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Update from new Board Chair  
Tonia Frawley

Update from  
Superintendent/CEO of Schools  
Tom Demeo

SD 71 acquires 2488 Idiens Way

Board passes amended Budget

Cumberland child care  
partnership

**WATCH  
FEBRUARY  
22  
BOARD  
MEETING**

# BOARD BUSINESS

Board Meeting Highlights - February 2022



**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE



## Board Chair Update

**Board of Education Chair, Tonia Frawley**

Back in December, many of our Trustees attended the Trustee Academy, which had a strong focus on Indigenous Learning. Our District Pro-D Day was held on February 18th, hosting Jo Chrona as our Keynote Speaker, who also focused on Indigenous learning as well as anti-racism.

The Board of Education passed Policy 24 – Equity and Non Discrimination at our January Board meeting. This all ties together to start our journey as a district, coming together as a whole community, willing to be educated, to learn, to listen so that we can listen to learn; setting an example for our students so that we can stand up for and stand with those who have been affected by any form of discrimination or racism. This also needs to be a community effort and I am hopeful that this wonderful community, which we live in will join us in these steps forward. It starts with education.

I would like to thank our hard-working leaders of our school district and the staff for all the extra hours of work they have put in, not only these last few months, but this last couple of years to support our students and families.

## Superintendent Update

**Superintendent/CEO of Schools, Tom Demeo**

So far, 2022 has been a very busy year for Comox Valley Schools. We've successfully been able to keep our schools open for students during this latest wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and it looks like things will slowly start to return to more normal learning conditions. We've received rapid antigen tests for staff and we are in the process of distributing them for students.

In late January, the board voted to change the boundaries for Courtenay and Royston schools. This was a difficult decision and I would like to thank the community for the many thoughtful and insightful questions and comments we received. We are now developing a transition plan to make the move for families a successful one and to ensure the supports for students who need them are there.

This month we are moving forward with purchasing a new space for SD 71 administration purposes. The sale will close in April 2022. It's expected that 2488 Idiens Way will need an addition and minor renovation and should be ready for occupation by SD 71 in August 2023. The 607 Cumberland Road property will continue to be utilized for educational purposes by the district in the foreseeable future.



FEBRUARY 2022



# BOARD BUSINESS

Board Meeting Highlights - February 2022



**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

## Board passes amended 2021/2022 budget



### Snapshot 2021-2022 SCHOOL DISTRICT #71 Amended Annual Budget

Operating Revenue - \$102.7 million  
Less: Operating Expenses - \$103.2 million  
Capital and Reserves - \$ 5.0 million

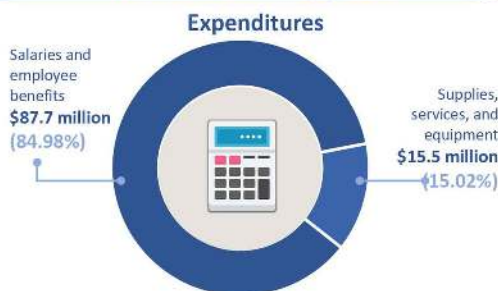
#### Where the money comes from



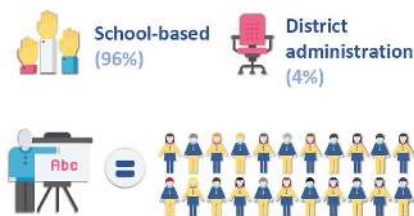
#### Our staff team



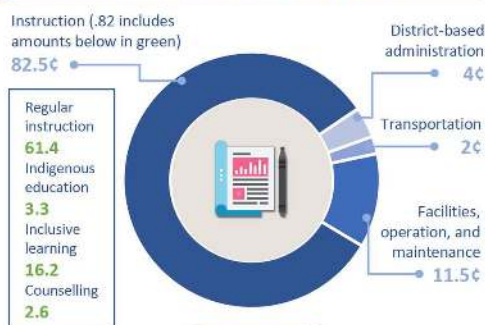
#### Where the money goes



\$87.7 million of operating budget

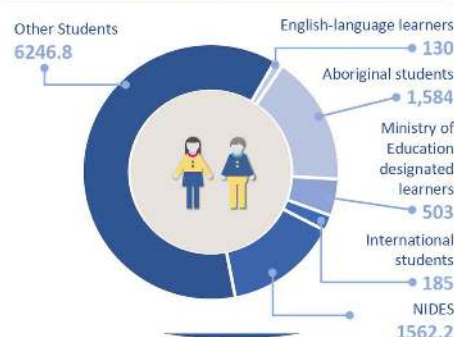


#### How each dollar is spent



one student = \$10,106 total spent

#### Projected students 10,211



Enrolment is projected to have moderate to high growth over next 10 years

# BOARD BUSINESS

## Board Meeting Highlights - February 2022



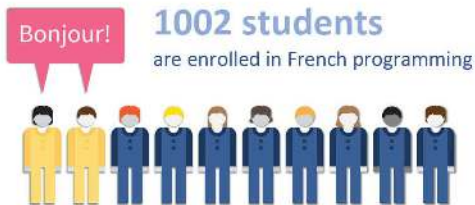
**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

Snapshot 2021-2022 continued...

### Core French & Immersion



**VIVE LE FRANCAIS!!**

### Inclusive learning



**\$13.8 million budgeted**  
(2021-2022)



Fluid and flexible learning spaces in schools; including several unique programs

### Regular program completion rates



**84% approx.**

High School graduation levels holding steady over the past three years.

### Post Secondary pathways



**492 students**

participated in pathways & partnerships programs in 2020-2021

### Class size-composition



**\$11.5 million**

to restore collective agreement class size and composition language in 2021-2022 resulting in 60.6 additional teachers and 25.6 non-enrolling teachers to enhance learning.

### Our schools



- 14** Elementary schools (K-5, 6 or 7)
- 1** Middle school (6-9)
- 3** Secondary schools (8-12)
- 2** Continuing/alternate education centers
- 1** Distance education center
- 1** K-9 school

*School District #71 has 15 urban schools and 6 rural schools.*

### Planned capital investments



**\$250,000**

Mark Isfeld entrance renewal



**\$700,000**

Arden Fire Suppression



**\$100,000**

Huband Mechanical

**\$720,000**

Outdoor Classrooms

*The above improvements are funded through a strategic application of Board Reserves.*

### Engaging our community



**100+**

Public Board of Education and committee meetings



**30,000**

Website visitors monthly (avg)



**20**

Parent Advisory Councils

*Ongoing community partnerships and consultation for budgets, LRFP, strategic planning, program reviews, boundary, and catchment consultations*



Providing public education to students in:

**3 municipalities and 4 outlying areas**

(Courtenay, Comox, Cumberland, Miracle Beach, Royston, Hornby Island and Denman Island)

**1 First Nation Community**

(K'omoks First Nation)



Comox Valley Schools  
A Community of Learners  
INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

[www.ComoxValleySchools.ca](http://www.ComoxValleySchools.ca)

School District 71: Comox Valley  
607 Cumberland Road, Courtenay, BC V9N 7G5  
**250-334-5500**

### Our Mission:

To inspire engaged, compassionate, resilient lifelong learners and cultivate a collaborative community together.

A Community of Learners

FEBRUARY 2022



# BOARD BUSINESS

## February News



**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

### Glacier View Student Designs Shirt for Pink Shirt Day!

One of Comox Valley School's very own has been picked as the designer of the pink shirt for this year's Pink Shirt Day happenings. The theme of the shirt is, "Be Bright, Be Bold Be, Be You!" August Jones is a 17-year-old LGBT artist going to school in the Comox Valley. August is interested in painting, digital art and traditional art.

"I create my own stories and create a huge variety of characters to one day use for a comic. I enjoy drawing things others might be scared to, I enjoy drawing flaws and what others might dislike about themselves but from an artist's perspective I find them fascinating and pretty. All my art is about diversity and positivity," said August. "The lovely people that I have chosen to draw are people of different races and genders. I chose that because of lack of representation. I chose to try to give as much representation to everyone because everyone has been bullied once in their life and it's sad that it's so normalized to be made fun of or harassed for just being you."

The shirts were printed by Wachiay Studio, social enterprise owned and operated by the Wachiay Friendship Centre, a non-profit society supporting the urban Indigenous population of the Comox Valley through programs and services.

### Former SD 71 student published children's book on gender identity

A Mark R. Isfeld grad and first-year student at Thompson Rivers University has written and illustrated a children's book, titled *I am Everything In Between*. The book came to life after Sydney Sunderland got the idea when working on her Capstone project last year. It received a lot of positive feedback from teachers and peers, encouraging her to publish it.

*I am Everything In Between* is as a book that "highlights kids who don't fit into stereotypical gender ideals." This book celebrates children and how they gender identify by sending a positive message that regardless of biological gender, it's okay to feel like a girl, it's okay to feel like a boy, and it's okay to feel like 'Everything In Between.' Release date for the book is March 15.



FEBRUARY 2022



# BOARD BUSINESS

## February News



**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

### Isfeld hosting Island Championship

The Isfeld Ice senior boys basketball team finished the regular season with a 22-1 record and recently went on to win the triple-A north island crown in Nanaimo.

Isfeld is the fourth-ranked triple-A team in B.C.

They host the Island finals for the first time since 2007.

Games start Thursday, Feb. 24.

Isfeld takes on Esquimalt at 2 p.m.

Timberline faces Victoria High at 4 p.m.

Carihi plays Stellys at 6 p.m.

Barsby faces St. Michaels of Victoria at 8 p.m.

Games will be live streamed.

Results can be viewed at [sportvictoria.com](http://sportvictoria.com).

Spectator seating will be 50 per cent capacity.



### Vanier wins North Island 4A tournament

Vanier's senior boys basketball team won the 4A North Island tournament, Feb. 18-19 at Cowichan Secondary in Duncan.

The first game was a 77-71 win over Dover Bay. The game featured back and forth scoring, with Vanier up 40-35 at half. The Towhees controlled the third quarter and kept an eight to 10-point lead, but early in the fourth Dover tied the game at 62 even. Vanier then went on a tear and was up 74-65.

The second game against North District Secondary (NDSS) was a battle for first and second. It was the teams' fourth meeting of the season. The first half was tight, but Vanier went on to win 67-56 — their first North Island 4A championship in many years.

The 4A Island tourney is Feb. 24-26 at Mount Doug in Victoria. Four teams from the north and four from Victoria are competing. Vanier plays Mount Doug Thursday at 2 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2022





# BOARD BUSINESS



## February News

**Comox Valley Schools**

A Community of Learners

INNOVATIVE • INQUISITIVE • INCLUSIVE

### Robotics71 teams continue strong showings

Comox Valley Schools Robotics71 teams continue to dominate at Vancouver Island Vex Robotics competitions.

The most recent successes were at the first major tournament of 2022 on Saturday, February 12 at Highland Secondary, which saw 25 teams from across Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands competing.

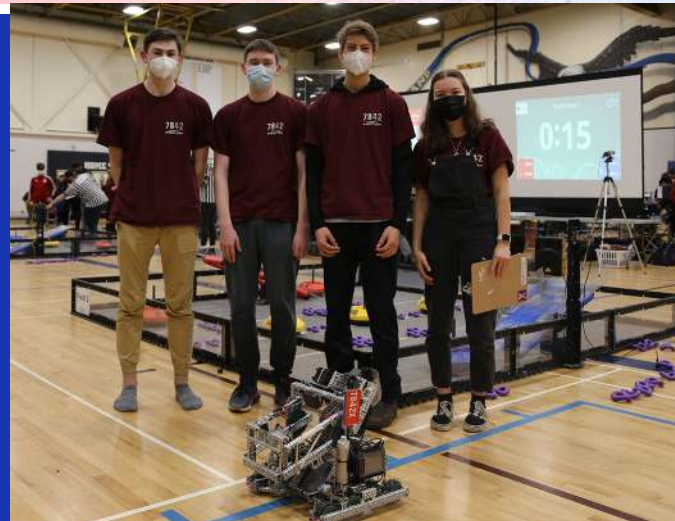
Senior team's players Katie Brown, Andrew Phillips, Nicholas Horel and Noah Doeschner-Fretts once again took the top spot in the Robot Skills event and were Tournament Champions with their alliance partner, 1022X from Claremont Secondary. They also won the "Excellence Award" which is the award based on top judged overall performance at the tournament, as well as their presentation of the engineering process, coding, and building of their robot.

SD 71's teams 7842A and 7842D were also in the finals for the day, but could not take down the senior team.

Robotics71 is a district-wide after school robotics program based out of Highland Secondary School offered to all Comox Valley Schools students in grades 8-12.

Robotics incorporates mechanics, coding, driving skills and teamwork.

The next tournament will be the Vancouver Island Regional Championship held at Shawnigan Lake School on March 5. Teams will compete for a coveted spot in the Vex World Robotics Championship in Dallas Texas, where teams from all over the world take part in April.



COMOX VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT MUSICAL 2022

HIGHLAND ISFELD VANIER

TOGETHER PRESENT

nickelodeon

THE

**SPONGEBOB MUSICAL**

MARCH 8-12 @ 7 PM

HIGHLAND SCHOOL Comox, BC

\* IF LIVE PERFORMANCES ARE ALLOWED, IF NOT: TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A RECORDED PERFORMANCE FOR AT-HOME VIEWING!

### Get tix now for Spongebob Musical

We are thrilled for the return of live performances with audiences!

The SpongeBob Musical is this year's Comox Valley School's Musical on from Mar. 8-12.

It is an energetic, colourful, and joyful show suitable for audiences of all ages.

Students from throughout SD 71 have been working to bring your favourite characters to life! Watch as they come together to save their world with positivity, teamwork, and entertaining song & dance!

Ticket sales & information are at:

[comoxvalleyschools.ca](http://comoxvalleyschools.ca)

FEBRUARY 2022