

BOARD BUSINESS

February 2024



Isfeld's Improv team wins first place at Improv Games

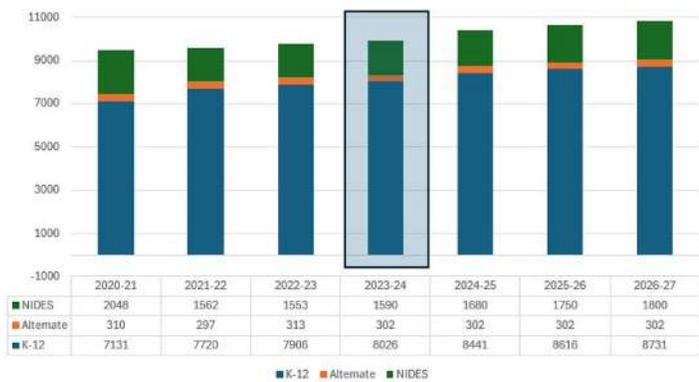
BOARD MEETING IN REVIEW

2023-2024 Amended Budget

Secretary Treasurer Russell Horswill presented the 2023-2024 Amended Budget that is based on recalculated grants the Ministry of Education and Child Care provides to districts each December using September enrolment counts.

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.

Enrolment Data



The district continues to grow and enrolments are forecast to increase in years ahead. It should be noted that most allotted dollars are tied to salaries, supplies, services and equipment.

**WATCH
FEB 27
BOARD
MEETING**

Where the money goes

Operating Expenditures



Forecasted annual revenues increased from \$119.9 million to \$122.35 million. Expenses increased from \$117.39 million to \$120.26 million. Overall, the total budget increased from \$147 million to \$158.8 million.

Consultations will soon begin with the public and stakeholders regarding the budgeting process for the 2024-2025 school year. All school districts must submit a balanced budget into the Ministry of Education and Childcare no later than June 30th.



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Board Chairperson Update

Board of Education Chairperson, Michelle Waite - ᑕᑭᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ



This week marked the launch of significant initial steps in developing our new Strategic Plan. Alongside in-depth focus groups, we're offering a chance for feedback through an online survey. There's an option for students, parents/ guardians, staff, and the community—truly something for everyone. The survey aims to gather perspectives on various aspects of education in the district, including core competencies, values, vision, mission, and innovative strategies for powerful learning.

Your participation and feedback are crucial to the visioning process and will directly influence our support for deep, rigorous, and lifelong learning across our schools. We appreciate those who have already completed the survey. If you haven't yet, you can find the link here:

www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/our-strategic-plan

Recently, the Board invited representatives from our Partner Groups and Rights' Holders to discuss our recent Feeding Futures District Scan. These discussions are invaluable for engaging in thoughtful, curious, and well-informed dialogue. Our focus is on providing stigma-free healthy food to students in need, acknowledging local food sources, and respecting the uniqueness of each school community. We look forward to using the outcomes of this session to guide future steps in this critical and meaningful endeavor.

As previously mentioned, our District Professional Development Day on February 16 was centered on 'Valuing Place, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.' This day was filled with a mix of in-person, school-based and virtual events. Once again, our Professional Development Committee and everyone involved executed an amazing day of teaching and learning opportunities for our District teams.

We look forward to your attendance at our next Public Board Meeting on March 12.

Gilakas'la



**HELP US SHAPE THE
FUTURE**



**STRATEGIC PLAN
SURVEY**



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WWW.COMOXVALLEYSCHOOLS.CA/OUR-STRATEGIC-PLAN

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DISTRICT NEWS



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SD 71 teams thrive at Canada Improv Games

Comox Valley Schools' improv teams shone at the Canadian Improv Games in Victoria! Leading the charge was the Isfeld Junior team, who clinched first place under the tutelage of coach and teacher, Peter Spencer and coach Ellie McNamee. GP Vanier Secondary School also showcased exceptional talent with three teams participating. The junior team – coached by Jason Arsenault took a well-earned second place, demonstrating their burgeoning skills and creativity. Meanwhile, the senior teams coached by Lori Mazey and alumnus Howie Shaw also made their mark, securing second and fourth places respectively, showcasing the depth of talent within the school. Highland Secondary School's senior team Five Things coached by Lisa Williams and Olivia Parsons delivered a memorable performance earning them third place. In addition to the team accolades, Ellie McNamee of Comox Valley was honored with the Spirit of the Games Award. Congratulations to all the students, coaches, and everyone involved in achieving these fantastic results!



Wrestlers wrap season with impressive showing at provincials

The Comox Valley Wrestlers had another impressive showing to wrap their season at the BC School Sports Provincial Championships. A weekend of tremendous individual effort was capped off by the GP Vanier Team placing 3rd out of 136 Schools in the Girls Division. The GP Vanier Girls were led by Unya Hollmayer who racked up four pins on the day in under 3 minutes to win her second consecutive and 3rd overall Provincial Gold. Alice Clements secured four falls as well to earn her second Provincial Silver medal. First year wrestler Jolina Healey fought through a very talented bracket to earn a 6th place finish and a spot on the podium. Alexis Acton and Kylie Cameron-Patterson also competed well into the tournament before coming up just one win each from placing in the top 6 of their respective weight classes. Jacob Price (GP Vanier) showed tremendous grit on the road to his first Provincial placement winning 6 out of 8 matches over two days to finish 5th. Ryan Nasadyk (Highland) had an incredible run in the tournament by reaching the Championship Semi-Finals before falling to the eventual champion from Carson Graham Secondary. Ryan finished 6th in his weight class to earn his first Provincial placement as well. The rest of the Comox Valley wrestlers along with the place winners combined to win 31 individual matches at the championships this year as a testament to their hard work all season long.



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Schools honour Black History month

As February draws to a close, our schools have been exploring, learning, and engaging in a variety of classes, lessons, and activities dedicated to examining Black history in Canada and British Columbia. From the powerful performances to the profound discussions in our classrooms, every moment has been an opportunity for growth and reflection. Schools examined the stories of Black Canadians who have shaped our nation, and we've celebrated the ongoing contributions and resilience of the Black community. Black History Month includes conversations about the significant contributions of Black Canadians, the impacts of racism, and our commitment to making the district a safe and respectful place for all members of our community. Although Black History Month is a month-long celebration in February, it's important to remember that continuous effort is needed to promote diversity and inclusion always.



SD 71 students shine at Skills Canada Regional

Comox Valley schools Students excelled recently at the North Island Regional Skills Canada Competition held at North Island College in Campbell River. SD 71 was well-represented among the medal winners, with students from G.P. Vanier Secondary, Mark R Isfeld Secondary, and other schools within the district, achieving top honors in their respective categories.

Additionally, SD 71 students also secured silver and bronze medals in categories such as Graphic Design, Electronics, Photography, TV/Video, Baking, Welding, Culinary Arts, and Carpentry, demonstrating a wide range of skills and dedication to their crafts.

This year's competition also marks a significant milestone for Steve Claassen, the North Island Regional Coordinator from SD 71, who will be passing on his role after ten years of dedication and service. Claassen's commitment to fostering skills and trades education in the Comox Valley has been instrumental in the success of countless students at regional, provincial, and national competitions.



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