



CONNECTING STUDENTS  
TO THEIR FUTURE

 **SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73  
(KAMLOOPS-THOMPSON)**  
1383 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Kamloops, BC  
V2C 3X7

# BOARD NOTES

March 12, 2018

## CONSENT AGENDA

- Finance and Planning Committee Highlights
- Day of Suwentwecw 2018
- Let's Talk Cannabis Project

*Details of the consent agenda can be found in the public agenda.*

## EDUCATION TOPIC

WHAT SUSTAINS US? EXPLORATIONS PROGRAM, BROCK MIDDLE SCHOOL — Grade 8 students from Brock Middle School joined school teacher Nikki Stewart to tell the Board about a unique inquiry-based program that saw them explore the concept of what is required to sustain life. The students explored everything from rudimentary wilderness survival skills to building more complex living structures such as yurts. They explored the history of the area's homesteading pioneers as well as First Nations history and how they lived. The program was made possible by an Innovation Grant from the Board.

## PUBLIC INQUIRIES, PETITIONS AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

SMOKING AND VAPING REDUCTION, INTERIOR HEALTH — Jeff Connors told trustees that tobacco will kill five times more people this year than opioid abuse, making the use of tobacco and vaping products an ongoing and persistent health crisis. He suggested districts can better integrate wording regarding tobacco and vaping products into existing school alcohol and drug prohibition policies.

## REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SAFER SCHOOLS TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP — Supt. Alison Sidow told the trustees the membership of the Superintendent's task force has been decided and the work of the committee will get underway shortly. The group will be chaired by Michelle Marginet, who retired last year from SD 73 from her position as Health and Safety Manager. The task force will provide a report to the Superintendent and to the Board by June 30. Full details of the task force members and their credentials can be found in the public agenda.

RURAL SCHOOLS CONSULTATION UPDATE — Trustees will begin Phase 2 of a consultation effort designed to explore the possibility of moving Grade 7 students from elementary schools to secondary schools in Clearwater, Barriere and Chase. Public meetings with the Board will happen March 13, 14 and 15 in all of the communities. The Board is expected to make the decision regarding this proposal at the public meeting on April 23.

## REPORTS FROM SECRETARY-TREASURER

PROVINCIAL BUDGET UPDATE — Trustees were provided a summary of the recent provincial budget. Education in B.C. will receive \$409 million in additional funding to accommodate a range of initiatives, including \$207 million for enrollment growth. As well, changes to MSP will see SD 73 save \$425,000 this year but will increase costs by \$250,000 per year starting in 2020.

*The next public meeting will take place at Haldane Elementary School in Chase on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.*