

Board Meeting Highlights

Unofficial Summary of the Public Board Meeting, held February 14, 2024

Framework for Enhancing Student Learning (FESL) Report Feedback

The district received positive feedback from the Ministry of Education and Child Care regarding the [September 2023 Enhancing Student Learning Report](#). This feedback serves as a performance assessment, and the district performed exceptionally well.

GISS Student Council

Claira Hunwicks, Soley Lapp, Haylee Guedes-Buckley, Lucie Luke, and Maya Drake shared an overview of the activities undertaken by this year's GISS Student Council. Initiatives encompass the revival of school dances, organization of mental health and sexual consent workshops (with the latter being integrated as a mandatory component of CLC 12), coordination of Scholarship Night, installation of urinal dividers, revitalization of clubs (with Debate Club and Art Club being the most popular), and the undertaking of a Student Feedback Survey.

Draft Calendar Feedback

The Board adopted instructional calendars for [2025/2026](#) and [2026/2027](#). These will be forwarded to the Ministry of Education for approval before final circulation to students, staff and families.

Staffing and Enrolment

The spring staffing process has commenced, with school principals gathering their projected enrollment figures for September. Initial estimates indicate a decline in student enrollment of approximately 60-75 students. This decrease is primarily attributed to a large graduating class and a smaller intake in Kindergarten registrations.

Cell Phones in Schools

Following Premier David Eby's [January 26, 2024 announcement](#), school districts will be expected to restrict the use of personal devices during instructional periods in order to safeguard students against online risks and protect instruction time from digital distraction. Provincial direction will follow, and may include recommendations for policy development, official guidelines, administrative practices, or requirements within school Codes of Conduct.

Equitable Hiring Special Programs Application (LOU 4)

The goal of LOU #4 is to ensure that the diversity of the student population is reflected in those who teach them. Currently, 10% of SD64 students are of Indigenous ancestry and the district, in partnership with the local teachers' union, is working towards achieving that same representation percentage of employees through new hiring practices.

Financial Reports

The monthly operating expense report reveals that expenses are within 0.3% of the annual budget. Additionally, the 2023/2024 Annual Amended Budget was presented, with the bylaw receiving three readings and subsequent approval. The finalized 2023/2024 Amended Annual Budget is available on the Board [Finance](#) page of the district website. Signing authorities for the district's operational and education trust accounts were updated for April 1st.

GISS Playing Fields

The Board reviewed expenses associated with maintaining the GISS playing fields. Further deliberations on strategies to maintain the usability of these fields for students will be carried out during the Finance, Audit & Facilities Committee Meeting scheduled for April 10.

Committee of the Whole

The Board of Education has been diligently involved in the process of renewing its [Strategic Plan](#). The draft plan will undergo further revision by staff before being made available for public consultation.

Policy Committee

- Bylaw #2 Board Procedures received second and third reading and was adopted.
- The Board adopted Policy 1.30 Trustee Code of Conduct.
- The Board adopted Policy 1.31 Addressing Breaches of the Code of Conduct.
- The Board repealed Policy 107 Trustee Code of Conduct.
- The Board adopted Policy 1.32 Trustee Conflict of Interest.

As the Board continues the renovation of its policy manual, it welcomes feedback on draft policies, which are posted on the district [Bylaws and Policies](#) page.