

The Highlighter

October 2, 2018

Recognition and Delegations

Trustee Cathy Schmidt – Trustee Spilsbury congratulated the Board of Education on the last meeting of their term and expressed thanks for a term well done. Trustee Cathy Schmidt was recognized for her many years as a School Trustee and her exemplary service to students and parents in the District. She was presented with a token of appreciation from the Board.

Introduction of Communications Manager – The Superintendent introduced Mike Russell, who joined the District October 1st as Communications Manager. Mr. Russell spoke about his passion for community engagement and was warmly welcomed by Trustee Spilsbury on behalf of the Board.

Board of Education

Trustee Election 2018 –The School Board Trustee Election is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2018 and there are 8 candidates running for 7 seats.

Education

District Update – The Superintendent reported on the following items in the District:

District Overview - The Superintendent advised that the District has approximately 8,077 students, an increase of 220 over projections and a total increase of 289 from September of last year. He gave a comparison of the district now compared to September 2014, recognizing an increase of 814 students, 94 teachers and 61 support staff. The Operating Budget has increased 15%, Special Purpose Grants 159%, and Capital by 3%. The Superintendent reported that there are many brand new teachers in the district, giving us a much younger demographic than in prior years.

Orange Shirt Day - Orange Shirt Day for Residential School Awareness was recognized in schools on Friday, September 28th and Monday, October 1st. The Superintendent reported that it had an excellent participation by every school and that challenging questions about our history are beginning to be asked.



Education, continued

DSAC Grade 12 Gathering - The District Student Advisory Committee is hosting a Grade 12 gathering on October 10th in conjunction with Vancouver Island University. Students will come together for an opportunity to get to know each other as well as learn more about post-secondary opportunities. The event will take place between 10:30 am and 1:30 pm at VIU.

Mill Bay Elementary Nature School Grand Opening – The Grand Opening of Mill Bay Elementary Nature School is scheduled for October 23rd. Details will be provided at a later date.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings and Events

Event	Date/Time	Location
DSAC Meeting	October 18, 10:00 am	Inspire Room (Annex)
DPAC Meeting	October 18, 6:30 pm	Yuxwule' Eagle Room (Boardroom)
2018 Trustee Election	October 20	
Inaugural Board Meeting	November 6, 4:30 pm	Yuxwule' Eagle Room (Boardroom)

Board of Education Trustees

[Candace Spilsbury](#), Chair
[Barb de Groot](#), Vice-Chair
[Elizabeth Croft](#)
[Randy Doman](#)
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