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

BOARD NOTES

January 15, 2018

EDUCATION TOPIC

LITERACY IN KAMLOOPS (LinK) UPDATE — Ms. Fiona Clare told the Board about LinK programs to increase literacy in Kamloops this year. The Board heard that LinK has provided parents with more than 1,000 learn-to-read packages during 35 Come Read With Me sessions. These sessions assist parents to help their children learn to read. As well, LinK supported 160 one-to-one volunteers who are reading with 300 students in 22 schools. LinK also raised almost \$119,000 in the annual Raise-a-Reader campaign, a fundraising effort to support literacy in Kamloops and neighbouring communities. Coming soon will be the annual Interior Savings Unplug and Play Family Literacy Week (January 20 to 27). It's expected more than 5,500 students in 22 schools will take part, by setting aside their personal devices and reducing other screen time to do other things such as reading, trustees were told.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES, PETITIONS AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

OWL AWARD PRESENTATION — The Board of Education presented Dr. Nathan Matthew with this year's Owl Award, which recognizes outstanding system-wide contributions to education on the part of member of a community in support of the provision of education in School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson). Dr. Matthew was recognized as a long-time community leader who has supported education through his lengthy career in service to First Nations communities. This is the third year that School District No. 73 has given an individual or organization this award.

REPORTS FROM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

EXTRA-CURRICULAR STUDENT BUSSING — The Board was asked to approve a request to allow the expenditure of an extra \$6,128.52 per year to cover the costs of bussing Kamloops students to rural schools in the district for sporting events hosted by rural schools. The Board approved the request.

OUT-OF-PROVINCE FIELD TRIP REQUEST — Sa-Hali Secondary Schools asked for permission to send two students to a unique opportunity to travel to Ottawa to present a national youth white paper on water sustainability to the Canadian Senate and the Hon Dominic LeBlanc, the Minister of Oceans. Most of the cost of the trip will be subsidized by federal grants, with some funds required from participants. The Board approved the request.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION COUNCIL TERMS OF REFERENCE — The Board received revised terms of reference for the Aboriginal Education Council. The new terms call for a broader mandate for the Council to work more closely with the District on "Aboriginal education matters." The role of the Council is to guide and support the District in achieving its stated goals to ensure that every Aboriginal student receives quality academic, social, emotional and cultural programs and services for school success and lifelong learning.

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KAY BINGHAM ELEMENTARY STAFFING — The Board heard about the decision to add an additional teaching staff member at Kay Bingham Elementary School to address enrolment pressures in the City's North Shore schools. Funding for this position is available through existing staff budgets, the Board was told.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Wade told the board that she and Supt. Sidow met with Kamloops-North MLA Peter Milobar to discuss the District's pressing capital needs, and other local education issues.

The next public meeting will take place at the School Board Office in Kamloops on January 29th at 7 p.m.