

## **Board Report January 09, 2019**

As Chairperson, I am very pleased to report that following a very busy December with many events at schools and within the community to celebrate the season, the Board is eager to start the New Year meeting with our educational partners and stakeholders to discuss issues of mutual interest.

In this regard, liaison meetings with the City of Surrey and City of White Rock have been arranged for January and February. In addition, a meeting with our local MLAs to discuss key issues facing the district, including capital and the Ministry of Education's funding model review, is being planned.

Earlier today, on behalf of the Board, I attended a meeting of the BCSTA English Language Learners' Consortium. MPs and MLAs were invited to attend the meeting and to view a presentation by lower mainland school districts on the challenges districts face in supporting ELL students ineligible for settlement funding. The meeting was informative and highlighted issues that we will continue to advocate for on behalf of the district and our ELL learners.

On December 17<sup>th</sup>, on behalf of the Board, Superintendent Jordan Tinney and Secretary Treasurer Greg Frank presented to the City of Surrey Mayor and Council, at their regular public Council in Committee meeting, an update on capital projects recently completed, under construction or in various planning stages within the district. This presentation was part of an ongoing series of presentations focused on strengthening the partnership and connection with the City's development plans and our district's capital space challenges.

The Board of Education remains committed to learning about specific issues that affect our students, our staff and our school communities and one of the ways we do this is through the provision of regular Trustee In-Service sessions. Today, prior to this Board meeting, Trustees attended an In-Service by staff on student achievement. There is always more work to be done, however the Board of Education appreciates the varied initiatives and efforts district and school based teams put towards improving student achievement and results. Some of that work will be highlighted in the Superintendent's report later in this evening's agenda under District Achievement.

At the end of this month, Trustee representatives will attend the Annual General Meeting of the BC Public Sector Employer's Association focusing on governance issues and discussions in preparation for 2019 collective bargaining, and the BCSTA/BCPSEA Trustee Orientation which will explore a variety of topics around the broad work of a Board of Education and its trustees.