
Board Report October 9, 2019

As Chairperson, I am pleased to report on the work of the Board of Education since our last report in early September.

Surrey Environment & Business Awards

The district strives to incorporate environmental sustainability in our daily operations as well as integrate environmental stewardship into the curriculum taught to our students. And this year, I am very pleased to report that the Surrey School District was selected as the winner of the Surrey Environment & Business Awards, Large Business Award category. The award, on display in front of us, validates the work of so many staff across our district. Speaking of staff, I would like to recognize all the work done in regard to leading and maintaining the district's focus on the environment by our now former Manager of Energy Management & Sustainability, Tracy Blagdon. And of course, this award is for our students from elementary to secondary who drive so many of our environmental initiatives.

AEDs in schools

I am pleased to report that following our budget process which was completed in May of this year, the Board initiated development of a plan and a commitment of resources to expand the use of AED's in Surrey Schools. This plan will see AED's installed in all of our secondary schools and the Bell theatre. Staff are now working on this initiative and further details on implementation and time lines will be brought back to a future Board meeting.

Menstrual Products

I am pleased to report that staff are also working on the implementation and roll out plan to provide menstrual products, free of charge to all students who may require them by December 31st this year. Further details will be brought forward to a future meeting.

French Immersion

I would also like to remind the Board and public that the Board approved a motion at the May 15, 2019 Regular Public Board meeting requesting staff bring back options regarding possible expansion of the French Immersion program. Staff are continuing to review options and will bring a report to a future public meeting for Board consideration.

World Teachers Day

Each year on October 5th, the United Nations commemorates World Teachers' Day, and the Board is proud to recognize the contribution our teachers make to the education and development of our students in Surrey. We understand the challenges and successes of the teaching profession and wish to publicly acknowledge and appreciate the work of teachers in our district, and around the world.

Take our Kids to Work Day

On November 6th, 2019, the Board is pleased to again support the annual Take our Kids to Work Day. The initiative provides an opportunity for our youth in secondary schools to explore the many career options within our district and gain a better understanding of the connection between education and the world of work. We are always encouraged by our staff and students who participate in the event and look forward to another successful event this year.

Thank you and that concludes the Board Report.