
**Board Report
December 9, 2020**

I am pleased to report on the work of the Board since the last update. Trustees continue to meet regularly and work on governance and advocacy through various online platforms and virtual meetings.

On Friday and Saturday, November 27th and 28th, trustees and executive attended the virtual 2020 BCSTA Trustee Academy. Many topics were addressed including racism, enhancing student learning, mental health, and technology, as well as leadership, collaboration and advocacy during the pandemic.

The new provincial government cabinet members were sworn in on November 26th, and as per the motion carried at the November meeting, I wrote to the Ministers of Education and Finance regarding a review of the school site acquisition charge. The Board is committed to continue its advocacy for financing for Surrey schools – for new schools and for the care and upkeep of those that we already have – to provide our students with environments that best support their learning.

During December, trustees usually have the privilege of attending various events that honour our staff, students and volunteers. This year, of course, in person events are not taking place and we look forward to participating in virtual events where possible. As this year comes to a close, I do not need to remind anyone of how unexpected, unprecedented and unusual it has been, and I would like to acknowledge all staff – executive, administration, managers, teachers, support staff - volunteers and, of course, parents and families who have come together and, wherever possible, helped bring some sense of normalcy in the routines for our students. I cannot commend enough the effort and work put in by everyone involved. On behalf of all of my fellow trustees, thank you. We wish everyone a safe and peaceful winter break to spend time with family and friends within your bubble and do those things that are meaningful to you and bring you joy.

Thank you.