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**Board Report – May 12, 2021**

I am pleased to report on the work of the Board since our last update.

**Liaison and Advocacy**

From April 15-17<sup>th</sup> trustees attended the virtual BCSTA AGM to participate in provincial and committee business and to deliberate on education during and beyond the pandemic. Later in the month trustees participated in committee meetings at the Surrey Board of Trade, City of Surrey and the DPAC general meeting.

The Board together with executive staff have met for liaison meetings with the SPVPA and DPAC over the past couple of weeks and student representatives earlier today. These meetings have provided the opportunity for our partners to discuss current and upcoming challenges as well as share highlights of successes that have emerged over the past months. Topics have included the pandemic, the budget, and capital.

**COVID-19**

The Board continues its advocacy around the health and safety of staff and students, and I am pleased to report that all staff in the district were given priority to receive COVID-19 vaccinations. Additionally, in collaboration with Fraser Health and BC Children's Hospital, all schools in our district have recently been provided with take-home COVID-19 sample collection kits that provide quick access to testing should a student become symptomatic while at school. This rapid response is another tool to assist in the prevention of transmission in our schools.

**Appreciation**

The Board is very proud of how all staff in the district have managed the continuation of programs and services during these unprecedented times. It is a testament of the commitment everyone has to our students and public education. May 1<sup>st</sup> recognizes school principals and vice-principals nationally, and this year we would like to give special thanks to our administrators who have shown tremendous grit and leadership over the past year in supporting their staff to address the ongoing challenges and keep our schools open and children safe. Thank you.