## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release 2022NRSD4611 September 15, 2022

# SD46 BOARD OF EDUCATION WELCOMES NEW STUDENT TRUSTEE TO THE TABLE

SUNSHINE COAST, BRITISH COLUMBIA – The trustees of School District 46 (SD46) are very pleased to welcome Annalisa Achee to the role of student trustee for the 2022-2023 school year.



Annalisa Achee was sworn in on September 14<sup>th</sup> at the Regular Meeting of the Board in Gibsons. Achee is the 10<sup>th</sup> student trustee in the district's history. She is sure to continue the rich legacy of having an influential student voice at the Board table. The Board of Education's Strategic Plan includes as its first goal, "Our students' voices will be respectfully heard and acted upon." For further information on student voice in SD46, please see Regulation 1290, Student Leadership.

In order to properly support the student trustee, the district has established a District Student Leadership Team (DSLT), which includes students from all of the secondary schools. This team

helps the student trustee to understand issues that are relevant and important to the district's student body and to provide a venue for student discussion and support. The DSLT meets monthly with the superintendent of schools, district principal of Indigenous learning, secondary principals and vice-principals. The DSLT is selected at the end of the year through an application and interview process. Students hold a seat on the DSLT in both grade 11 and 12 and elect the grade 12 student trustee in June of each school year for the subsequent school year. Also, this year, grade 10 DSLT representatives will be selected to join the DSLT in January 2023.

Achee completed grade 7 at West Sechelt Elementary school and currently attends Elphinstone Secondary. She hopes to apply to university to study Life Sciences and eventually build a career in this dynamic field. Her passions include creative writing, playing the alto saxophone, painting and digital art. She loves many sports, especially playing volleyball. Achee has been a Girl Guide since 2015 and enjoys working to make a difference in the community.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT 46 - SUNSHINE COAST

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### **QUOTES:**

"Having the opportunity to listen to students from throughout the district and communicate their opinions, ideas and concerns is truly a privilege. I will work hard to find creative ways to engage and reach out to students, so they can have a platform to be understood and included. I believe that the student voice is influential and can lead to concrete actions and changes in their learning experience. I know this will be an exciting role and I look forward to meeting, working and having fun with incredible people along the way!" – Student Trustee Annalisa Achee

"With Annalisa joining our Board we celebrate a decade of student voice around our Board table. Student trustees, and their role representing student voice, is treasured in our process. The richness of our debate, the diversity in our perspectives and the impact on our decision making are made better because student voice is at our table. The energy of witnessing a young citizen come alive to the impact of participating and engaging in governance is an incomparable inspiration. Welcome to the Board table Annalisa!" – Board Chair Amanda Amaral.

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