

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## School District 46 Introduces New Student Trustee for 2023-2024 Academic Year

SUNSHINE COAST, BRITISH COLUMBIA – The Sunshine Coast School District is pleased to announce the appointment of Cael Read as the Student Trustee for the upcoming academic year, 2023-2024.



Cael Read took the oath of office on September 13th during the Regular Meeting of the Board in Gibsons. This appointment marks the eleventh student trustee in the district's history. Cael's inclusion ensures the continuation of the district's tradition of having an influential student voice at the Board table. Aligning with the Board of Education's Strategic Plan, which emphasizes the respectful consideration and action upon students' voices,

Cael's presence promises to contribute to this ongoing commitment. For further insights into the role of student voice within the district, please refer to <u>Regulation 1290, Student Leadership</u>.

To provide support for the student trustee, the district has established the District Student Leadership Team (DSLT), comprised of students from all four SD46 secondary schools. This dedicated team facilitates Cael Read's understanding of pertinent issues concerning the student community, while also providing a platform for student discourse and connection between the geographically distanced schools. Monthly meetings with key educational figures, including the superintendent of schools, district principal of Indigenous learning, secondary principals, and vice-principals, empower the DSLT to actively contribute. The selection process for DSLT members involves an application and interview procedure. Representatives from grades 10, 11, and 12 serve on the DSLT, culminating in the election of the grade 12 student trustee each June for the ensuing school year.

Having completed grade seven at Roberts Creek Elementary, Cael currently attends Elphinstone Secondary. Here, he has been able to explore a diverse range of courses, and aspires to pursue higher education in the field of Political Science. In addition to his academic pursuits, Cael's interests include music, writing, politics and history.

## **Quotes:**

Student Trustee Cael Read shared, "I am honoured to serve as the Student Trustee and look forward to working with the DSLT to represent the voices of the students in SD46. As Student Trustee I will endeavour to make student voice more accessible, and to create new opportunities for students to share their ideas and suggestions. Across the district, students have so many great ideas about how to improve the student experience, make schools more inclusive, engaging, and supportive. I hope to bring all these voices to the Board table and help create a school environment where all students can thrive."

Board Chair Amanda Amaral expressed, "The role of student trustees and their representation of student perspectives is valued in our process. Our Board, and our decisions, are better because student voice is part of our dialogue. With each student trustee we evolve in our understanding of the role and the ways that we can harness and leverage student voice to create a meaningful student experience. We are honoured that we have students who serve as trustees alongside us and are excited to welcome Cael Read to the Board table for the 2023/24 school year!"

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## For media inquiries, please contact:

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We acknowledge with respect the unceded and traditional lands and waters of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Nation) and the shíshálh Nation where we gather, learn, and collaborate with one another.

