

# REPORT TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.46 (SUNSHINE COAST)

## STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT: DISTRICT FACILITIES

Submitted by Secretary-Treasurer Weswick  
June 10, 2020

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3e Our **district facilities** will be safe, engaging and energy efficient.

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In our transition to Stage 3, with the voluntary return to school of our students, our custodial and maintenance departments are working hard to ensuring that the safety guidelines described in the ministry's *Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Setting* are adhered to, including the cleaning and disinfection protocols, as well as additional measures such as:

- General cleaning and disinfection taking place at least once a day,
- High touch points and surfaces are being disinfected twice daily,
- Using ministry approved disinfecting sprays,
- Providing paper hand towels,
- Disabling water fountains and encouraging students to bring water bottles for the water bottle filling stations,
- Ensuring the availability of cleaning products for common devices and materials used for the delivery of education (e.g. photocopiers, supply rooms, etc.),
- Ensuring washrooms are cleaned at least twice a day keeping in line with the high touch surface area protocols.

As reported at the May Operations Committee Meeting, our maintenance staff are working on, or have completed, the following projects:

- Fields have been fertilized, aerated, top dressed and are being reseeded.
- Pea gravel has been removed from the playground at Kinnikinnick Elementary and is being replaced with accessible, engineered wood fibre.
- School Board Office flooring, staff room and boardroom renovations completed.
- Sechelt Learning Centre gym furnace has been replaced with a high efficiency, condensing air handling unit.
- Fire alarm panel replaced at Chatelech Secondary,
- Elphinstone and Chatelech Secondary Schools received new dust collection systems through School Enhancement Program,
- The playground at Roberts Creek Elementary being replaced through Playground Enhancement Program,

- Sunshine Building renovation nearing completion, including:
  - Improved ventilation ducting for air distribution throughout the building,
  - Complete renovation of both student washrooms,
  - New wall coverings and paint throughout,
  - Installation of a filtered water bottle filler and drinking fountain to the foyer.
- Installation of 100 kW PV solar at Gibsons Elementary School at 95% completion.

The district has completed a seismic assessment of the Sunshine Building at the Sechelt Learning Centre to support a request for capital funding for a seismic retrofit at that site. Other exciting developments at the Sechelt Learning Centre include the long awaited development of a day care to fill a much needed gap in the Sechelt area, and to further enhance the early years programs already in place at the site.

The district is about to commence work on the major expansion project at West Sechelt Elementary. This project will allow for the removal of all portables on site through the addition of classroom space for approximately 150 students. There will also be improved inclusive education space and the creation of a daycare through supplemental funding from the Ministry. A more comprehensive report on plans and work to date will be presented at the Operations Committee later this month.

The Ministry of Education has approved HVAC upgrades at both Kinnikinnick Elementary and Halfmoon Bay Elementary, to support a move from gas powered heating systems to high efficiency electric systems, and includes the addition of solar arrays to offset the cost of those electric heating systems. By investing capital funding into solar power systems at these sites, the district is able to convert capital fund expenditures into operating fund savings over the long term, while reducing the district's overall carbon footprint.

We are proud of our status as an energy leader in the province, with the installation of photovoltaic solar power at four sites, currently; Gibsons Elementary, Davis Bay Elementary, Langdale Elementary and Pender Harbour Elementary-Secondary, and two more for the 2020-21 school year; Halfmoon Bay Elementary and Kinnikinnick Elementary. The installed arrays have the capacity to generate 284 kilowatt hours, the equivalent to 40% of the total kilowatt hours produced by all 39 schools in the province with existing arrays. **The district has set a goal to install solar arrays at all of our schools by 2030.** We are pleased to announce that, thanks to energy efficiency upgrades over the years and support from staff and students, the cumulative energy savings at all sites has resulted in a savings of \$1,470,000 in energy costs since 2011.

#### **Next Steps:**

In addition to the approved capital projects at Kinnikinnick Elementary and Halfmoon Bay Elementary, the following projects are expected to take place in the 20/21 school year, through the Annual Facilities Grant (AFG):

- Replacement of hand dryers with paper towel dispensers,
- Roofing upgrades at various sites,
- Repairs to the Elphinstone Secondary track, including repainting of lines,
- Application of a water-proof membrane to the Sechelt Learning Centre gym to address water egress issues,

- Playground repairs at various facilities,
- Field upgrades to continue improvement of our school fields,
- Gym floor re-coating to improve and lengthen floor lifespan,
- Reviewing and addressing perimeter drainage issues at Kinnikinnick Elementary,
- Completion of the renovation at the Sechelt Learning Centre and commencement of renovation at Halfmoon Bay Elementary,
- Power factor correction at Davis Bay Elementary,
- Partial funding for a lighting consultant,
- Additional funding to top up solar project at Kinnikinnick Elementary,
- Demolition of end-of-life portables at Roberts Creek Elementary.