Vancouver School Board

Board Meeting Report by Mia Liu

Nov 27th, 2023

In this report, I will provide an overview of VDSC’s recent projects and upcoming initiatives.

At the last general meeting, VDSC officially introduced the CANley Cup initiative to fundraise for the Greater Vancouver community. This year, schools will have the option of partnering with the Greater Vancouver Food Bank or its community partner agencies. Schools may also choose to use the drive to support their local school community directly. Results of the fundraiser will be announced on December 19th, where the top three schools with the most cans-per-person ratio will take home CANley Cup Trophies.

Further, VDSC conducted two constitutional amendment votes to broaden diversity in student representation in VDSC discussions. The first amendment integrated a voting Sustainability Representative onto the VDSC, which was passed unanimously. VDSC is working closely with the sustainability representative to co-advertise the sustainability grant and other initiatives of the VSB Sustainability Connection, hoping to together foster a greener future. The second Amendment integrated a voting Indigenous Representative into the Council, which was also passed with a decisive majority decision. VDSC looks forward to hearing from our new indigenous representative on agenda items such as continuing student consultation on the SLO program, providing feedback on mental health supports, integrating indigenous ways of learning into meeting conduct, and more.

In discussing goals for this school year, VDSC identified common areas of concern across VSB schools, which include hopes for improved and repaired bathroom resources, increased participation in school spirit events, as well as greater inclusivity in school communities. Such goals will form the basis of discussion for future VDSC meetings. Aside from learning from each other’s issues and successes through inter-school discussions, VDSC also looks to invite district staff to our meetings as guest speakers to communicate student feedback and seek answers to students’ questions related to school resources and facilities.

Finally, VDSC finalized an application package for the Student Leadership Grant passed earlier this year through voting and discussion-based input from student representatives. With support from our sponsors, VDSC is working with district staff to open the application process before winter break. I look forward to updating the Board on progress related to this initiative in the near future.

Thank you.