

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 17, 2011

Last night at the Public Board meeting, the Board of Education approved the District Achievement Contract. The *School Act* requires each Board of Education in British Columbia to prepare and submit to the Minister of Education, an Achievement Contract with respect to standards for student performance and plans for improving achievement in the district. The Achievement Contract is a public statement of commitment by a Board of Education to improve success for each student in the district.

The Achievement Contract consists of one goal with five objectives to support attainment of the goal. The District goal is “To achieve a 100% completion rate for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students”.

Chair Bill Turanski commented that this is a stretch goal and encompasses all the work we do in our District to improve learning. We want all of our students to graduate with a sense of purpose, confidence and a plan for their future.

The objectives to support the goal include strategies that support Early Learning, Literacy, Numeracy, Aboriginal student transition rates, and completion rates.

The Board undertook a consultative process to help guide the development of the contract. Teachers, parents, parents of Aboriginal students, early childhood educators, and business and community members provided towards the development of the contract. A steering committee made up of representatives from partner groups facilitated the meetings and helped to support the writing of the final document.

The contract also includes as determined through the collaborative process, statements of the attributes that should have been attained by a graduate of School District No. 22. These attributes are being:

- ▶ Prepared for the transition to post secondary or the world of work
- ▶ Empathetic and respectful
- ▶ Confident and competent
- ▶ Able to communicate effectively through reading, writing and speaking
- ▶ Able to access information to make informed decisions
- ▶ Understanding and respectful of one’s own culture , Aboriginal cultures and others
- ▶ Able to persevere for a life of learning
- ▶ Numerate and have problem solving skills

The Board thanked the Superintendent and steering committee for the work in the development of the Achievement Contract. “This plan will help focus our work to support improving learning for all students in our District.” stated Chair Turanski.

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A copy of the Achievement Contract will be posted on School District No.22 website www.sd22.bc.ca

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