

TOPICS:

Student Spaceflight Experiment Program
Board Motions
Lead in Water Update

PRESENTATION – Teachers Mary Anne Perkins, Martha Parker and Beverly Long shared an [update](#) on Nanaimo District Secondary School’s Student Spaceflight Experiment Program (SSEP).

SSEP is a program of the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education in the U.S. and the Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Space Education internationally. The program is designed to be a national model for inspiring and engaging the next generation of American and Canadian scientists and engineers, and addressing science literacy.

There are approximately 500 students and 20 staff members from NDSS taking part. Students in Grades 8 to 12 will be working in groups to design experiments that will compete to be tested in the micro gravity environment on the International Space Station. One experiment will be chosen and will be sent up to the space station in the spring of 2018.

[Watch the presentation](#)

MOTIONS - The Board dealt with recommendations brought forward from committee meetings held earlier this month:

- The Board agreed to write a letter to the Ministry of Education that would urge the Ministry to make the information received from the Foundation Skills Assessment only available to teachers, parents, administrators and/or release the information on a large aggregate basis rather than school-based such that the details are masked.
 - The Board directed staff to explore a mechanism for parents of Grades 4 and 7 students to opt out of certain results of the Foundation Skills Assessment not to be forwarded outside of the Ministry.
 - The Board directed staff to develop, with input from the Board, a policy and/or administrative procedure regarding donation requests. Staff will present the policy and/or administrative procedure at a committee meeting in the spring of 2018.
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PRESENTATION – Brian Hackwood, Maintenance Manager, provided a lead in water testing [update](#).

The information included work completed along with the district's water testing plan for this school year.

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