

Background

On June 1, 2022, the Board of Education passed the following motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) direct staff to commence a 30 day consultation period as per Policy 2.17 Public Participation to change the name of Coal Tye Elementary School to “syuwén'ct”.

On January 26, 2022, the Board passed the following motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 68 (Nanaimo-Ladysmith) engage Policy 2.19 and assign an ad hoc Committee to rename Coal Tye Elementary School.

An [Action Sheet](#) was brought forward to the Education Committee on January 5, 2022, which provided the history of the Coal Tye name together with district's reasons for proposing a name change. This Action Sheet outlines the work of the ad hoc Committee and proposes next steps with respect to the renaming of Coal Tye Elementary School. A consultation plan will be shared on the District's website.

Discussion

Coal Tye Elementary School was named when it opened in 1996.

Now, in recognition of our strong relationship with Snuneymuxw First Nation, we look to them to rename this school in honour of the land, Snuneymuxw teachings and to foster healing for all.

The new name, ***Syuwén'ct***, means *our tradition, our history* in hul'q'umi'num. Listen to the pronunciation here: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/syuwenct.mp3>

Snuneymuxw First Nation welcomes everyone who touches this great land to continue their legacy of learning from, caring for, protecting, and enjoying the unsparing blessings of this sacred place.

Community Engagement Plan

Utilize the community engagement webpage and include background information with instructions on how to participate during the consultation period: <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/board/community-engagement/>

Information on the community engagement period will be:

- Emailed to all district staff via district email
- Emailed to all families via School Messenger platform
- Posted on weekly district news
- Shared on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)

The 30-day notice of motion consultation period began on June 1, 2022. The community will have until July 1, 2022 to provide feedback in two ways:

1. Email sent to consultation@sd68.bc.ca
2. [Online survey](#)

Timeline

- Thursday, June 2, 2022
 - Email to staff and families
 - Social media posts
- Thursday, June 9, 2022
 - District news
- Thursday, June 16, 2022
 - Reminder email to staff and families
 - District news
- Thursday, June 23, 2022
 - District news
 - Social media reminder

Messaging

Email to staff and families:

The Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools' Board of Education is seeking feedback on the renaming of the:

- NDSS Community Field; and
- Coal Tye Elementary

We invite you to first read the background information on the district's [community engagement webpage](#). From there, you may provide feedback via a brief online survey or email consultation@sd68.bc.ca. The consultation period will end on July 1, 2022. The Board will discuss the results at a special meeting held in July.

Thank you/Hay ch q'a

Social media:

Facebook/Instagram

- We want to hear from you on the renaming of the NDSS community field and Coal Tye Elementary. First, read the background information and then participate in two ways: online survey or email. Participate on or before July 1, 2022.

Information can be found on the district's community engagement webpage:

<https://www.sd68.bc.ca/board/community-engagement/>

Twitter

- It's time to provide feedback on the renaming of the NDSS field and Coal Tye Elementary. Background info and how to participate can be found at <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/board/community-engagement/>