

# Staff Report



June 18, 2024

**To** Board of Education (Public Meeting)  
**From** Sean Nosek, Superintendent/CEO  
**Re** School Presentations – Jackson and Sandy Hill Elementary Schools

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This report is being presented to the Board for information.

## **BACKGROUND:**

To deepen the understanding and connection between the Board's activities and the district's core mission of preparing students for a lifetime of success, *School Presentations* will serve as a standard feature at Public Board Meetings and are scheduled for the next two years. This strategic initiative provides a dynamic and interactive forum for our staff and students to showcase innovative work happening in our schools, highlighting how efforts contribute to student achievement and align with operational plans.

The following schools will be present at the June 2024 Public Board Meeting:

- Jackson Elementary School:** The Grade 5 Social Studies curriculum in BC explores topics around Canadian Issues and Governance. One of the Big Ideas is "Immigration and multiculturalism continue to shape Canadian society and identity". This year, Division 1 began their study of this topic with an Immigration Project where they were asked to interview a family member, relative, or teacher about their Immigration Story - - the journey of how they chose to make Canada their home. They explored push & pull factors, as well as challenges and hardships that may have been faced. Students took the '5Ws' of these stories to create a timeline and map of the trends from our class, which they reflected upon together. Principal Debbie Chenier and teacher Nadia Lee will accompany the students.
- Sandy Hill Elementary School:** Paws 4 Stories is the Therapy Dog Community Service that promotes improvement in children's reading skills. Grade 1 students have welcomed the St. John's Ambulance PAWS 4 Stories initiative into their classroom for the last three years. Jackie Lepp and her therapy dog Kona volunteer with St. John's Ambulance, and they visit the class weekly for reading time. During this special time, Kona (and Jackie) chills and listens to the students reading. Sometimes, Kona checks on the students around the class, and everyone benefits. Teacher Jill Roberts also includes some special needs students from other classes so they can visit with Kona as well. Kona's weekly visits are greatly anticipated. Principal Cathy Erickson, Vice-Principal Sharon Phillips, teacher Jill Roberts, Jackie Lepp (St. John's ambulance volunteer), and Kona, the therapy dog, will accompany four of the students from the grade 1 class.