

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 78 (FRASER-CASCADE)**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BUDGET ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING
May 1, 2017**

PRESENT:

Board - Committee Members:

Tom Hendrickson	Chair
John Koopman	Trustee

Representatives:

Shannon Perna	Teacher	FCTA	
Lori Izawa		Parent	PAC
Darlene Smith		Payroll	CMAWBC

Staff:

Karen Nelson	Superintendent
Natalie Lowe	Secretary-Treasurer
Kevin Bird	Assistant Superintendent

Recording Secretary:

Laurie Borge	Accounting/Data/Human Resources
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Regrets:

Cindy Ferguson	Trustee	
Karl Koslowsky	Vice Principal	DISTRICT
Tina Wenman	Representative	AEC
Wayne Bobb	Representative	AEC
Mark Classen	Principal	FCPVPA
Wendy Clark	Parent	DPAC
Bruce Becker	Principal	FCPVPA
Brad Bourel	Maintenance	CMAWBC
Jon Polishak	Teacher	FCTA

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the District Education Office in Hope, B.C.

2. Approval of Agenda

IZAWA/PERNA

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Approval of Minutes – April 10, 2017**IZAWA/KOOPMAN**

THAT the Minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee meeting held on January 16, 2017 be approved.

Carried

4. Preliminary Budget 2017-2018

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the preliminary budget in the format required by the Ministry. Overall revenue and expenses are shown as an amalgamation of not just operating dollars but all special purpose funds and capital funds. The total revenue for 2017/18 is projected at \$22.8 million compared to \$21.9 for 2016/17. Budget numbers are very close in terms of overall funding. The 2017/18 budget includes a major change relating to the classroom enhancement funding, where the difference in MOE dollars jumps from \$17,652,892 to \$18,403,767. The vast majority of this money is to support the implementation of the old classroom language.

Expenses increase is due primarily from increased staffing according to the old classroom language implementation. The district is still using some of the surplus to balance the budget. 2016/17 is coming in on target.

There are no teacher layoffs this year. Postings will go out shortly for next year's teaching staff as to get ahead of the hiring from other districts. The Secretary-Treasurer consulted with all district schools for input as to how many more teachers they would require to adhere to the implementation of the former class size language. The district received \$851,500 from the ministry to support the implementation of the old language. Nine extra teachers were incorporated into the budget, however, the district feels it needs another seven. The Secretary-Treasurer calculates that another \$887,000 is required, almost double what Ministry is providing.

5. Staffing – Retirements/Layoffs

The Secretary-Treasurer discussed the process for layoffs of Special Education Assistants which is done annually. Each year it's not known where the special education students will land, so there is some movement. More SEAs were hired permanently in 2016/17, therefore, more layoffs were required. The reduction in support staff is quite significant this year and the way it was done, there will be no bumping.

The Secretary-Treasurer reported on the meeting with Ministry financial representatives at the recent BCSTA conference. The Attorney General recommendations to boards at this point is only a suggestion. They recognize that all districts operate differently and have stepped back to evaluate their recommendations. Our district, due to its size, has had a hands-on approach which lends to flexibility in how the implementation will happen. The Secretary-Treasurer recommended that the board wait and see what recommendations will come from the Ministry of Education regarding the Auditor General's recommendations.

The committee discussed how conscientious the district's financial team have been in ensuring fiscal responsibility. The Secretary-Treasurer gave credit to all district team members as well as administrators for being diligent in budget management.

The Chair requested that the district go back to having the board review each expenditure. The Superintendent suggested that is a discussion for the board meeting.

IZAWA/PERNA

THAT the 2017/2018 Preliminary Budget be presented to the Board for 1st Reading.

Carried

6. Questions

Nil

Adjournment

IZAWA/PERNA

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Carried

Notice of Next Meeting:

Fall 2017