

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 78 (FRASER-CASCADE)
MINUTES OF THE BUDGET ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING
January 14, 2019**

PRESENT:

Board - Committee Members:

John Koopman	Trustee
Heather Stewin	Trustee
Linda Kerr	Trustee

Representatives:

Shannon Perna	Teacher	FCTA
Aaron Dodd	Teacher	FCTA
Darlene Smith	Payroll	CMAWBC
Bruce Becker	Principal	FCPVPA
Greg Lawley	Vice Principal	FVPVPA

Staff:

Karen Nelson	Superintendent
Natalie Lowe	Secretary-Treasurer

Recording Secretary:

Laurie Bjorge	Accounting/Data/Human Resources
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Regrets:

Tom Hendrickson	Chair	
Kevin Bird	Assistant Superintendent	
Tammy McLaren	Payroll	CMAWBC
Wayne Bobb	Representative	AEC
Wendy Clark	Parent	DPAC
Karl Koslowsky	Vice Principal	DISTRICT
Cheryl Davidson	Representative	AEC
Cathy Speth	Representative	AEC
Amy Smith	President	FCTA

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Agenda – January 14, 2019

STEWIN/DODD

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

3. Approval of Minutes – November 26, 2018**SMITH/STEWIN**

THAT the Minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee meeting held on November 26, 2018 be approved.

Carried

4. Amended Annual Budget

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the amended annual budget. The Secretary-Treasurer received the final financial funding formula at the end of December and developed the amended annual budget which has to be approved by the board and submitted to the Ministry by February 28th.

Enrolment has increased from 1667 FTE September 2017 to 1740 FTE September 2018. Eleven students are included in this increase from the new school that is run by SD#48. After a few years of decline in the past, we now are experiencing a rise in enrolment and anticipate further increases based on population increases in the valley.

In the 2017 budget the MOE allocated \$740 million which included the additional funding for enrolment, rural education, student transportation, compensation costs, and to address the MOE with the BCTF. It is good to see an increase in our overall funding to reflect the increase in staffing costs. 86% of the budget is staff costs.

New government money of \$325,571 is used for classroom enhancement as a result of the 2002 contract language reinstatement. This has helped with the increased needs for class size and composition as we are discovering more composition concerns. The district received the same overhead funding as last year, which includes additional supplies, custodial, transportation costs that accompany the hiring of additional staff.

The new funding formula has been postponed to next year and will be announced for the 2020/21 school year – the project was bigger than anticipated. A working group will be looking at transparency, more accountability, and going beyond the funding formula.

Extra cost pressures outside of regular budget items are part time trades coordinator, MyEducation BC and other educational programs implementation, block release for Mountain school, increase in the outdoor program, Innovative Practices, and additional staffing for Special Education. A new unfunded cost pressure now will be the employers health tax which is greater than anticipated - more than \$63,000 this year. As well, the anticipated small school grant for the new school, Q'aLaTKu7eM School – had been submitted too late for grant, and will cost the district approximately \$180,000.

The schools in the district as well as the Aboriginal Education program are very conservative in spending and have been extremely fiscally responsible. The reserve is used to balance the budget each year. The new Surplus Policy is currently under review.

The Secretary-Treasurer put forward the following motion:

STEWIN/KERR

THAT the Budget Advisory Committee approve the Draft 2018/19 amended budget as presented and further that the committee recommend it for approval to the Board of Education.

Carried

The Secretary-Treasurer gave an overview of the amended budget that will be presented to the Board. A small deficit of \$444,367 which as the Secretary-Treasurer explained is an accounting deficit due to how capital revenue is amortized according to accounting principles. The Secretary-Treasurer went through the line items reiterating what had been discussed at the previous meeting, explaining further the grants, and little change in expenditures.

5. Funding Model Review

The Secretary-Treasurer referred to the link that was included in the agenda package and gave a brief summary of the review.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/resource-management/k12funding/funding-model-review/independent_review_panel-final_report_2018.pdf

There are 22 recommendations in three different areas – equity, accountability, and financial management. The Advisory committee decided there was too much in the review to figure out how to take all recommendations and make it work, so a new working group will be formed in January and the group will report back to the Ministry in Fall 2019 for a model for the following year. The committee discussed the fact the report went further past the mandate of financial scope, mentioning goals and outcomes, and tracking outcomes.

Adjournment

/KERR

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Carried

Notice of Next Meeting:

April 8, 2019

4:30 p.m.

District Education Office