

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

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BUDGET ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
January 16, 2017**

**PRESENT:**

**Board - Committee Members:**

Tom Hendrickson	Chair
John Koopman	Trustee
Cindy Ferguson	Trustee

**Representatives:**

Lori Izawa	Parent	PAC
Darlene Smith	Payroll	CMAWBC
Bruce Becker	Principal	FCPVPA
Brad Bourel	Maintenance	CMAWBC

**Staff:**

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

**Recording Secretary:**

Laurie Bjorge	Accounting/Data/Human Resources
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**Regrets:**

Shannon Perna	Teacher	FCTA
Jon Polishak	Teacher	FCTA
Karl Koslowsky	Vice Principal	DISTRICT
Tina Wenman	Representative AEC	
Wayne Bobb	Representative AEC	
Mark Classen	Principal	FCPVPA
Wendy Clark	Parent	DPAC

**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/KOOPMAN**

THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.

**Carried**

**3. Approval of Minutes – November 28, 2016****SMITH /IZAWA**

THAT the Minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee meeting held on November 28, 2016 be approved.

**Carried**

**4. Powerpoint Presentation – Final Budget 2016-2017**

The Secretary-Treasurer presented the amended final 2016-2017 budget. A comparison was presented of enrolment numbers from 2010-2017. From 2010 – 2015 there was a decrease of 358 student FTEs. From 2015 to date there has been an increase of 96 student FTEs. As predicted, the district is experiencing a slight upswing in enrolment, and because of increasing enrolment, the district is now out of funding protection.

The Secretary-Treasurer reiterated the importance of the Auditor General's report. This reports takes an in depth look at education spending and whether or not dollars are being spent appropriately and effectively. The Auditor General wants to ensure that boards have the best information to make effective financial decisions. A self- assessment checklist for boards ensures they are setting a clear direction, realistic budgets, and able to monitor spending. The Secretary-Treasurer does this by providing quarterly reports to the board noting unusual expenditures, and showing that budgeted and actual figures match. The district has been very good at keeping the budget in line and not over spending.

Information was provided as to how education money is allocated provincially, based on the uniqueness of students and districts. Operating grants were explained and compared to previous years. The Supplement for the Education Plan is the funding the Ministry gave to districts to assist with the implementation of the new 21<sup>st</sup> century learning initiative which moves us from the old style of education to seeing each student as a separate learner. Teacher collaboration is a large component of this initiative.

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed existing programs and noted that district is able to continue these programs due to grant funding continuation, and proper budget management. The Trades and Technology program will receive funding to assist with the growth and changes within this program.

Cost pressures were discussed including compensation increases, benefit premiums, and utility increases. A big concern is the implementation of the Supreme Court decision regarding class size contract language. Reinstating the old contract language will be difficult as there has been so much change in the last fifteen years. The district received \$193,636 to implement the first part of the change. The Superintendent explained the consultation process which is similar to the LIF consultation process where she will consult principals and then meet with the union president to come to an agreement.

The district is closely watching the enrolment growth especially in the Kent/Agassiz area. Kent Elementary is feeling the pressure the most. The district has submitted a project evaluation report and a plan for expansion to the Ministry. There is some local capital money that can be used to entice the Ministry to help fund the addition.

**5. Amended Annual Budget**

The Secretary-Treasurer presented the amended annual budget to the committee and answered questions in regards to line items.

**MOTION:**

**IZAWA/KOOPMAN**

THAT the Budget Advisory Committee recommend that the 2016/2017 Amended Annual Budget be sent to the Board of Education for first and second reading.

Carried

**6. Questions**

No further questions.

The Superintendent thanked the Secretary-Treasurer for the presentation and for being so responsible with the district's finances.

**Adjournment**

**IZAWA/FERGUSON**

THAT the meeting be adjourned. 5:40 p.m.

Carried

**Notice of Next Meeting:**

April 10, 2017

4:30 p.m.

District Education Office