



MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
PUBLIC MEETING
April 19, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES: Ravi Parmar, Board Chair Bob Beckett, Vice-Chair (virtual)
Bob Phillips Margot Swinburnson
Allison Watson Dianna Seaton
Wendy Hobbs

STAFF: Scott Stinson, Superintendent
Harold Cull, Secretary-Treasurer
Stephanie Hedley-Smith, Associate Superintendent
Dave Strange, Associate Superintendent
Paul Block, Associate Superintendent
Dan Haley, Executive Director, HR
Farzaan Nusserwanji, Executive Director, IT
Steve Tonnesen, Manager IT Operations
Sue Grundy, Manager Operations
Kristen McGillivray, Manager, Strategic Communications
David Lee Bonar, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

REGRETS:

SECRETARY: Kristina Ross

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by the Board Chair. Ravi Parmar acknowledged the traditional territories of the First Nations. The Board Chair acknowledged stakeholders and members of the public participating in the meeting, and reminded media to direct their questions to the Manager of Communications.

2. AGENDA

3. MINUTES

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

5.1 22/23 Budget Plan – Harold Cull

Harold Cull provided an overview of the 22/23 budget development process, the recommended budget plan, and the risks associated for the Board of Education to review and consider at their upcoming Public Board Meeting on April 26.

Furthermore, the budget of \$171, 508, 906 m, includes a \$3.085 m shortfall. The shortfall consists mainly of operating costs needed to open Pexsisen Elementary and Centre Mountain Lellum Middle School, and unfunded inflation.

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Standing Delegations (STA, CUPE, PVP, SPEAC)

The partner groups focused on a number of areas in the budget they; included potential cuts to the District Band Program, changes to the Middle School timetable (including ADST), additional classroom supports and early learning intervention, counselling services, class size violations, an increase in childcare spaces and staff and student health and wellness.

7. FINANCE, FACILITIES AND SERVICES

7.1 22/23 Budget Plan Discussion – Harold Cull

The Committee discussed the budget presentation and the challenges of ensuring the budget priorities. The District Band Program will continue to be offered to all middle school students, counselling services will continue to be staffed at 7 FTE over the provincial average, and the District is planning an additional 6-8 new classrooms (6-7 in the Colwood/Langford zone and 1 in the Milnes Landing zone) to handle the estimated growth beyond September 2022. Transportation services will remain constant, additional revenue streams, aging infrastructure, and communication with our municipal partners were points of discussion.

Student voice and choice were discussed in relation to the Band Program, in addition to the financial costs to families. Student program access and equity is supported by the Board of Education, as no student will be denied educational opportunities due to financial hardship.

Staff provided details on the shift of the current Reading Recovery program. Presently, Reading Recovery is in each of the elementary schools as a literacy intervention; however, the number of students who need supplementary literacy intervention exceeds present availability. Literacy support will soon be available K-12 and to a wider student population.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Certified Correct:



Chairperson of the Board



Secretary-Treasurer