

Proposed School Board Budget Aims to Maintain Educational Programs

After adding \$5 million to its budget last year, The Greater Victoria School Board has unveiled its proposed 2006 - 2007 budget which maintains all educational services at existing levels.

“This budget maintains the significant advances made last year” said Board Chairman Michael McEvoy, “We have worked hard to prudently manage our finances so that we can maintain much needed stability in our educational programs”.

This marks the second year in a row trustees have not had to contemplate budget cuts.

Projected lower enrolment will reduce government grants to the district causing a \$1.5 million shortfall in revenue. District administration has recommended that budget savings from previous years of \$3.3 million be used to balance next years books.

Last year, trustees approved several budget increases including measures to lower class size, an increase to the number of teacher-librarians and more textbook purchases.

This proposed budget will now be circulated to schools and the community for feedback. Budget details can be found on the Board’s web page at www.sd61.bc.ca . Public consultation meetings will be held on Tuesday April 4th and Wednesday April 5th in the auditorium at S.J. Willis School, 923 Topaz Avenue, Victoria.

The Board of Trustees will debate the Budget on Tuesday April 11th, 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Boardroom at 556 Boleskine Road, Victoria.

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