

Board of Education Approved Budget at \$170 Million

The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) has approved the 2010-2011 District budget. The approved budget necessitated reducing expenses by \$1.4 million. These reductions were aimed at limiting the impact on our students.

Board Chairman Tom Ferris said “the amount of the reductions required this year was reduced by the amount of savings accumulated from difficult decisions in the current and previous years.”

The Board had anticipated this year’s budget problems and took steps to create savings, such as hiring freezes and expense reductions, plus utilized one-time carry forward funds for a total of \$8 million to offset the \$9.4 million operating deficit.

Future budgetary pressures will continue to grow as enrolment declines and the provincial per student grant fails to keep pace with all of the additional educational costs.

“The Board of Education continues to advocate for additional funding to provide more resources for our children” said Board Vice-Chairman Dave Pitre.

The annual budget will now be available in schools and the community. Budget details can be found on the website at www.sd61.bc.ca.

- 30 -

For information, please contact:
Tom Ferris, Chairman, Board of Education
Telephone: (250) 889-0689
tferris@sd61.bc.ca