



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Special Board Budget Meeting, Wednesday, April 22, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
Tolmie Boardroom, 556 Boleskine Road**

AGENDA

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

A1. Approval of the Agenda (p 01-02)

B. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS ON THE 2015/2016 BUDGET (5 minutes per presentation)

- a) Rene Swartz, GVTA, Teachers Professional Development Funding
- b) Jeff Weaver, GVTA, Teachers' Professional Development Funding
- c) Ilda Turcotte, GVTA, Teachers' Professional Development Funding

C. 2015/2016 ANNUAL BUDGET

C1. 2015/2016 Annual Budget Debate (p 03-05)

a) Recommended Motions:

i) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves carrying forward the \$8,300,000 to the 2015-2016 school year to be applied against the deficit.

ii) That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) approves the list of proposed budget options including eliminating the ELL Administrative Assistant and reducing the administrative supplies budget for a total of \$66,501 for the 2015-2016 school year.

b) New Business

i) Trustee Nohr - Teachers' Professional Development Fund

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) create a line item in the 2015-2016 budget bringing teachers' professional development funding to \$150 per full time FTE; costs to be covered from current district professional development funds for teachers.

C2. 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw

(p 06)

a) Recommended Motions:

- i)

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) agrees to give all three readings of the 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw at the meeting of April 22, 2015. Motion to be Carried Unanimously
--

- ii)

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$206,361,204 be: Read a first time the 22 nd day of April, 2015; Read a second time the 22 nd day of April 2015; Read a third time, passed and adopted the 22 nd day of April, 2015; And that the Chairperson and the Secretary Treasurer be authorized to sign, seal and execute this Bylaw on behalf of the Board.
--

D. NEEDS BUDGET LETTER

(p 07-08)

E. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

E1. Trustee Whiteaker - Parent Education Fund

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) create a Parent Education Fund as part of the 2015/2016 budget item - Parent Advisory Council Grant in the amount of \$7,000.00. And further, that the Board of Education create guidelines and a process to access this Parent Education Fund.
--

F. ADJOURNMENT



OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY-TREASURER

556 BOLESKINE ROAD, VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA V8Z 1E8
PHONE (250) 475-4106 FAX (250) 475-4110

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Debra Laser
Secretary-Treasurer

DATE: April 22, 2015

RE: **2015/2016 ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW**

The 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw has been prepared using Public Sector Accounting Standards which requires the budget to include the operating, special purpose and capital funds. The budget bylaw amount of \$206,361,204 includes the total budgeted expenses in the operating, special purpose and capital funds as follows:

Operating Budget Total Expense	\$180,504,040
Special Purpose Funds Total Expense	16,554,540
Capital Fund Total Expense	9,302,624
Total 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw	<u>\$206,361,204</u>

The special purpose funds include the Annual Facilities Grant (\$0.9M), Provincial Resource Programs (\$1.4M), Learning Improvement Fund (\$3.3M), CommunityLINK (\$3.8M), Strong Start Centres (\$0.2M), Ready Set Learn (\$0.1M), Attendance Support and Wellness (\$0.01M), French Grant (\$0.4M), School Generated Funds (\$6.2M), and Scholarship/Charitable Funds (\$0.2M). The special purpose funds are funds received for specific purposes and must be used for those purposes.

The capital fund expense includes the amortization of tangible capital assets and the maintenance portion of the annual facilities grant bylaw allocation.

Although the annual budget bylaw amount includes expenses for all funds, the Board's budget deliberations are in respect to the operating budget only. The 2015/2016 operating budget is in a deficit position of \$8,425,521 before applying the projected 2014/2015 carry forward funding of \$8,300,000. The decision has been made to restructure the Human Resource Services department which has resulted in a budget reduction of \$59,020. Therefore, to balance the budget, the board needs to deliberate on budget reductions totaling \$66,501. See the attached summary of proposed budget options.

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 approves carrying forward the \$8,300,000 to the 2015/2016 school year to be applied against the deficit.

Upon completion of the operating budget deliberations, in order to pass the 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw at one meeting, the Board must unanimously agree to give the bylaw all three readings at one sitting. The following motions are therefore recommended:

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 agrees to give all three readings of the 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw at the meeting of April 22, 2015.

Motion to be Carried Unanimously

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2015/2016 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$206,361,204 be:

Read a first time the 22nd day of April, 2015;

Read a second time the 22nd day of April, 2015;

Read a third time, passed and adopted the 22nd day of April, 2015;

And that the Chairperson and the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign, seal and execute this Bylaw on behalf of the Board.

Attachments

2015/2016 Proposed Budget Options

Eliminate ELL Administrative Assistant	1.0 FTE	\$52,986
---	----------------	-----------------

The administrative support services for ELL will be reorganized. Ongoing support will be provided by the Associate Superintendent's office.

Reduce Administrative Supplies Budget	\$13,515
--	-----------------

Supplies budgets in Facilities Services, Financial Services, Human Resource Services, Information Technology, Secretary-Treasurer, and Superintendent Departments will be reduced by an additional 1.5%. This reduction will mean less flexibility to purchase office supplies and equipment.

<u>Summary</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Eliminate ELL Administrative Assistant	1.00	\$ 52,986
Reduce Administrative Supplies Budget		13,515
	<u>1.00</u>	<u>\$ 66,501</u>
REVISED BUDGET SHORTFALL		(\$ 66,501)
Difference		\$ 0

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 approves the list of proposed budget options including eliminating the ELL Administrative Assistant and reducing the administrative supplies budget for a total of \$66,501 for the 2015-2016 school year.

ANNUAL BUDGET BYLAW

A Bylaw of THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61 (GREATER VICTORIA) (called the "Board") to adopt the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2015/2016 pursuant to section 113 of the *School Act*, R.S.B.C., 1996, c. 412 as amended from time to time (called the "Act").

1. The Board has complied with the provisions of the Act respecting the Annual Budget adopted by this bylaw.
2. This bylaw may be cited as School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Annual Budget Bylaw for fiscal year 2015/2016.
3. The attached "Statement 2" showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2015/2016 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$206,361,204 for the 2015/2016 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the Act.
4. Statement 2, Statement 4 and Schedules 2 to 4 are adopted as the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2015/2016.

READ A FIRST TIME THE 22nd DAY OF APRIL, 2015;

READ A SECOND TIME THE 22nd DAY OF APRIL, 2015;

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 22nd DAY OF APRIL, 2015.

(Corporate Seal)

Chairperson of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer

I HEREBY CERTIFY this to be a true original of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Annual Budget Bylaw 2015/2016, adopted by the Board the 22nd day of April, 2015.

Secretary-Treasurer



BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Chair: Edith Loring-Kuhanga Vice-Chair: Diane McNally
Trustees: Tom Ferris, Elaine Leonard, Deborah Nohr, Peg Orcherton
Rob Paynter, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker*

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61 (GREATER VICTORIA)
556 BOLESKINE ROAD, VICTORIA, BC V8Z 1E8
PHONE (250) 475-4106 FAX (250) 475-4112**

April 22, 2015

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender:

RE: School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) Needs Budget

Each year School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) engages in a broad based consultative process requesting input from our educational partner groups, school planning councils and the public. Each year through our process the groups involved reach the same conclusion: the Ministry of Education is not providing the level of funding required to meet the educational needs of our students.

The district spends its funds efficiently and effectively but the gap continues to grow each year between what the district receives in provincial government funding and what is required to provide the necessary programming and supports to ensure continued student success. In past years, the Greater Victoria Board of Education has made numerous challenging budget decisions that included closing eight schools, eliminating administrative positions and supplies, reducing facilities supplies budgets and relocating educational programs. The school district has been on the leading edge of participating in shared service initiatives in order to realize cost savings. Every effort has been made to maintain a focus on the best possible outcome for students.

As part of the process to allocate the Learning Improvement/Teacher Education Fund, principals, teachers and support staff engaged in a collaborative approach to identify the additional services needed to adequately meet the needs of their students. After allocating the Learning Improvement/Teacher Education Fund of \$3.0 million for teacher and educational assistant time to schools, **the unmet need identified by the schools to support students was 49 full time equivalent teachers and 118 hours of educational assistant time for a total cost of \$4.97 million** in the following areas:

- Special Education: teachers for learning support, special education and English Language Learning and educational assistants
- Extra teachers including an instructional focus on literacy, numeracy and technology
- Counselling and Teacher-Librarians

School Planning Councils and Education Partner Groups were asked the following question: "What areas should be given priority to support student achievement and district goals?" The input received indicated the most need for additional support in:

- Special education
- Extra teachers to reduce class size
- Technology integration into classrooms
- Counsellors

The recommendations made by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services (2015) for the K-12 Public Education Sector included “*Provide stable, predictable and adequate funding to enable school districts to fulfill their responsibility to provide continued equitable access to quality public education and to meet required repair and maintenance costs*” and “*Provide resources to identify and address the growing number of students with special needs and those with minimal English language skills*” which are consistent with the needs identified by our school community.

Without appropriate funding, it is extremely difficult to create innovative programs, provide the technological and skills training, and personalized learning opportunities that keep students engaged and best prepares them for a world beyond the classroom. We urge the Government to embrace their obligation to fully fund public education to ensure that the diverse learning needs of our students are met.

Sincerely,

Edith Loring-Kuhanga
Board Chair

cc: Board of Education
All BC School Boards, c/o BCSTA
GVSD Unions and Associations
Local Media
Sherri Bell, Superintendent of Schools
Debra Laser, Secretary-Treasurer