

# Budget Advisory Committee MINUTES Tuesday, February 22, 2022

## In Attendance:

Board of Education:

Trustees Duncan (Committee Chair), Tom Ferris, Angie Hentze, Elaine Leonard, Jordan Watters, Ann Whiteaker

#### Staff:

Deb Whitten, Interim Superintendent Kim Morris, Secretary-Treasurer Colin Roberts, Interim Deputy Superintendent Harold Caldwell, Associate Superintendent Katrina Stride, Associate Secretary-Treasurer Chuck Morris, Director of Facilities Shelly Niemi, Director, Indigenous Education Julie Lutner, Director of Finance – Budgets and Financial Reporting Connor McCoy, President, Greater Victoria Principals Vice-Principals Association Brenna O'Connor, Vice-President, Greater Victoria Principals Vice-Principals Association

Songhees Nation:

**Esquimalt Nation:** 

Metis Nation Greater Victoria:

Stakeholders:

Regrets: Trustees Painter

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm

#### Acknowledgement

Chair Duncan recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations on whose traditional territories we live, we learn, and we do our work.

# Agenda

By consensus, the Committee approved the agenda of February 22, 2022 with the following amendments:

- a) Addition of VCPAC Representative February 22, 2022 Emailed Statement which Committee Chair Duncan read aloud.
- b) Addition of Vice-Principal Admin Time

# Minutes

By consensus, the Committee approved the minutes of February 8, 2022.

## Work Plan:

a) Music

The Committee received the presentation from the music teachers included in the agenda packup highlighting the importance of maintaining music at middle schools.

b) Staffing

2021-2022 Education, CUPE 382 and Exempt Staffing data was provided to build understanding about staffing levels and funding sources, demonstrate the unique ways schools are supported and provide transparency.

c) Revenue Generation

The Committee reviewed a conservative model of employee giving as a way to fundraise and provide employees with charitable donation receipts.

d) Other

District allocations to schools and historical carry forwards were reviewed and lead to a discussion about the possibility of trending carry forwards in schools being used in part be toward the structural deficit to help balance the budget.

Connor McCoy, President of VPVPA, expanded on February 8's discussion on restoring VP admin time in the budget that was reduced in the 2021-2022 budget year Connor reminded the Committee that VP's work with children with disabilities and exceptional needs on a regular basis and that without admin time, focus on strategic plan and school growth plans, mentorship, aspirational work, ability to meet the needs of complex learners are impacted negatively.

# **Fully Funded Collective Agreements**

The Committee discussed the memo attached to the agenda packup to understand the provincial funding model and the local spending model as they relate to collective agreements in SD61.

## Balancing the Budget: Next Steps

Updated three-year projections were provided and reviewed by the Committee. Savings and asks, including some items from the 2021-2022 process as well as new items were discussed. It was relayed that the lists are not exhaustive, not final and that the Committee would need to provide ideas for both savings to balance the budget and asks to reinvest in the budget.

Options for discussion purposes were presented to provide a framework for balancing using the information gathered to date: Deficit, carry forward, savings, asks, risk and reserve target. The framework was discussed as a way to workshop at the March 10 public meeting so that the public

could weigh in on their ideas for balancing the budget.

#### March 10, 2022 Public Town Hall

The Committee discussed the March 10 format which could include starting with a presentation on the budget and then workshopping activities to balance budget and co-create options.

#### **Take Away**

• Nil due to time.

Next Meeting: March 8, 2022 5 pm Zoom

# Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at pm.