



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
Special Board Budget Meeting
AGENDA**

**Thursday, April 11, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Broadcasted via YouTube
<https://bit.ly/3czx8bA>**

A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

This meeting is being audio and video recorded. The video can be viewed on the District website.

A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

A.2. Approval of the Agenda

Recommended Motion:

That the April 11, 2024 Special Board Budget agenda be approved.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

B.1. Public Correspondence – Received from April 5 to 10, 2024

C. 2024-2025 ANNUAL BUDGET

C.1. 2024-2025 Annual Budget Memo – April 11, 2024

C.1.1. 2024-2025 Annual Budget Memo – April 9, 2024

C.1.2. 2024-2025 Budget Balancing Recommendation Worksheet

C.1.3. Draft 2024-2025 Annual Budget Ministry Template

C.1.4. Draft Multi-Year Financial Forecast Memo and Worksheet

C.2. Budget Bylaw Readings: 2nd and 3rd Readings

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2024-2025 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$318,006,345 be:

Read a second time the 11th day of April, 2024.

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2024-2025 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$318,006,345 be:

Read a third time the 11th day of April, 2024;

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

D. NEW BUSINESS

D.1. Motions for Consideration

District K-12 Literacy Grant

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to reallocate an additional 0.074 FTE (or \$10,000) of the District K-12 Literacy Grant funding to support literacy collaboration at the 10 priority elementary schools.

Hiring Freeze

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to implement a District based staff hiring freeze (excluding school-based staff) for the balance of the 2023-24 financial year; AND FURTHER bring any urgent hiring requests to the Board of Education for consideration.

Crossing Guard Services Funding

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Board Chair to write to the District of Saanich Mayor and Council imploring them to fully fund crossing guards on municipal roads in Saanich in line with the full funding for these services received by all other municipalities in Greater Victoria as well as in line with their obligations of ensuring road safety under the BC Motor Vehicle Act.

Elementary Strings Hub Model

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to prepare a plan for how an Elementary Strings HUB model will be equitably delivered including locations, time of day, and schools allocated to each HUB by June 2024; AND FURTHER provide a list of recommendations on how Grade 5 students, who won't have a Strings program at their own school, will safely travel to the HUB.

Music Equity Ad Hoc Committee

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to prepare a draft elementary strings and middle school music equity ad hoc committee terms of reference and present it to the Education Policy and Directions Standing Committee Meeting in June 2024.

Collaboration Time at Elementary Schools

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to undertake a cost benefit analysis including assessing the impacts of implementing a short school day once per month at elementary schools to support school based collaboration, and provide a recommendation(s) to the Board of Education by December 2024.

Ministry Funding Allocations

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Superintendent to notify the Board of Education of receipt of any new funds from the Ministry of Education and Child Care received during the school year, and make recommendations regarding the allocation of the funds for the Board's consideration.

Board Advocacy

That the Board of Education of School District No.61 (Greater Victoria) direct the Board Chair to write to the Minister of Education and Child Care and Premier advocating for additional K-12 funding.

E. QUESTION PERIOD

F. ADJOURNMENT

Recommended Motion:

That the meeting be adjourned.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Trustees](#)
Subject: Music programs in our schools
Date: Friday, April 5, 2024 6:49:39 PM

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Good evening,

I am sorely disappointed to learn that the board is once again considering cutting our music programs in SD61. As a parent of 3 students in this district, at [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], I can say without a doubt, the music programs are the part of school my children love the best. They keep them motivated and engaged and are often the only reason they want to go to school. Concert nights give them the chance to perform and feel proud of having made something truly wonderful. It is such a special gift, and an integral part of their education.

I also have a PhD in music education from McGill University and can say that these programs in our schools are extraordinary. We have something special happening in our schools in the music room, and to cut the budget even a little would be a huge mistake. It reduces the number of kids who will benefit and makes the teaching jobs less desirable, pushing away the expert teachers. I would actually like to see Lansdowne have 2 full time teachers so that they can reinstate the amazing choir program. (It breaks my heart that these kids have no where to sing together from grade 6-8).

I implore you to find other ways to reduce your budget. Please don't cut any from music.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Khoury
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Trustees](#)
Subject: Proposed cuts to Music Programs in School District 61
Date: Sunday, April 7, 2024 6:50:52 PM

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Trustees and District 61 staff,

I am an SD 61 parent of children at both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

It is unthinkable that every year, music educators and we parents have to fight the same battle to save the incredible music programs in our district. I can't begin to articulate how disappointed and angry parents are that these programs find themselves on the chopping block every single spring.

There is SO much evidence to show that music education is good for kids. It's good for kids brains and their development. It's good for kids mental health. It builds a sense of pride, teamwork, accomplishment, and confidence. Music programs build community within our schools and are a safe place for so many youth who don't feel at home at school. Music keeps some youth from leaving school altogether.

MUSIC IS NOT AN EXTRA. It is critical for our kids development and well being.

You are letting kids and parents down if you continue to strip away something that is one of the most positive aspects of school life, and I believe it will impact you all at election time.

There must be other ways to find the dollars needed to keep these programs running - look at admin, for example, which continues to grow, 11% since 2021.

I urge you to think again.

Sincerely,

Gina Cuthbert

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Trustees](#)
Subject: Stop cuts to SD61 Music programs
Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 11:19:33 AM

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To SD61 trustees,

I was very disappointed to hear that music programs in the district are under the threat of budget cuts. This on-going issue is exhausting to fight year after year. The fact that it's still considered an 'extra', something that can be tossed away is an embarrassment to the district.

Strings and Band programs are the heart and soul of [REDACTED] Middle school. Please do not proceed with budget cuts to these essential programs. Music brings joy, has numerous mental health benefits to our pre-teens and teens and without middle school music, there will be NO high school strings and band which will be a huge loss for our students and the entire community of Victoria.

The music teachers we've experienced during our 10 years as SD61 parents are the BEST. They deserve more respect from their employer.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Trustees](#)
Subject: Please don't cut music
Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 3:02:52 PM

Dear trustees please do not cut music.
It means a lot to me because when my grandfather was a kid he never had the opportunity to play music. Now that I can play in a band it means a lot that I have a chance to play the saxophone so please try not to cut band/music

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Trustees](#)
Subject: [REDACTED] Middle School Music Program
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 8:09:59 AM

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Hi SD61 school district trustees,

I am hearing that SD61 is, once again, proposing significant cuts to middle school music program budgets.

I have written previously what a mistake this would be. I have also stood on the street, with many other parents, with signs, in support of maintaining a reasonably funded music program for elementary and middle schools in SD61.

I am a parent of a student at [REDACTED] Middle School that is in Grade 8 this year. As our child is moving on to Grade 9 next year, they would not be impacted by cuts to middle school programs. However, I think it important to make our view known based on our experience of the positive outcomes and benefit to our child and speak in support of those that follow.

Our child has been in strings and more recently band. Our child has participated not only in the regular school strings and band program but has participated in extracurricular band offerings as well, requiring her to commit (willingly) to get to school an hour earlier and stay after regular school hours a few times each week.

As a parent, we are enthusiastic and supportive of our child to take up an instrument. Her participation in the music program has greatly enhanced her growth and development. Having had music as part of my elementary and high school curriculum I understand the value it brings not just in development of understanding of music but that it is complimentary, promotes and translates into supporting practice (literally) in other areas of academic development and achievement. Being involved with the music programs engenders the context of teamwork, as well as development of life skills beyond proficiency in reading music and playing an instrument. It is more than “just” music that students are getting from the music program.

Having participated in [REDACTED] Band activities (chaperoning for local performances and attending many concerts), I have been impressed by the instruction, currently [REDACTED] and his obvious repour with the students. As an observer, it is quite apparent that he is a great teacher, that the students hold in high regard. This is observable, not only in the progression of proficiency, but in the visible enthusiasm of students at performances and demonstrated by the obvious effort that has been exerted by students to be as good as they are. Another observation is how broad the level of participation is in the extracurricular music offerings (Firebirds (tour band), strings, etc)) participating

outside of regular school hours.

I don't know of any other extracurricular middle school activities, demanding and receiving such commitment (of time and fundings) from so many students and their families. The level of participation is demonstrative of the benefit and rewards that parents and students receive through their involvement in the music programs.

With so much value and spinoff benefits, in consideration of the level of participation and commitment by students, continuing to consider music and band on the "cutting block" every year is just disappointing, frustrating and quite frankly just dumb! We are at a loss to understand why such a successful and positive area of education would even be considered for cuts.

Hoping that you recognize the benefits exceed the costs by a large margin and do not cut funding of the music program.

██████████

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Trustees](#)
Subject: Question about low enrolling trade class
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 10:22:31 PM

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Hello Trustees,

Thank you for your hard work on this year's budget.

I have a few questions about the low enrolling trade class that is recommended as a cut in this year's budget: What is the low enrolling trade class that is earmarked as a reduction in next year's budget? How many students will this affect and what school will be affected by this decision? Why will this be an ongoing cut rather than a cut just for this year? (I hate to see permanent cuts to student programs, and the trade classes are so valuable for so many students in our district who will not be attending college or university.)

All the best,

Paula Marchese

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Paula Marchese
Editor. Writer. Content Creator. Project Manager.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Trustees](#)
Subject: Question and feedback about the hub model
Date: Wednesday, April 10, 2024 8:02:08 AM

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Hello Trustees,

I am saddened after having spent so much time and effort advocating and fundraising for the Strings program over the past three years to see it earmarked for further cuts in our district. I recognize the difficulty of balancing this year's budget, but I do not agree with cuts that will directly impact student learning.

If the current budget is passed and Strings is restructured as a hub program, I echo the concerns of many parents and community members in our district who have already expressed concerns about how the Hub program will incorporate equity. Currently, around half of the schools who offer Strings programs in our district do not offer Strings in their schools' timetables. There are many students who cannot attend before or after school programming due to caregivers' job obligations, caring for siblings, after school club enrollment, etc. How will equity be addressed in a Hub structure so that **all** Grade 5 students can access this learning opportunity?

Cheers,

Paula Marchese

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Paula Marchese
Editor. Writer. Content Creator. Project Manager.

[REDACTED]

TO: The Board of Education
FROM: Katrina Stride, Secretary-Treasurer
DATE: April 11, 2024
RE: **2024-2025 Annual Budget**

Background

At the Special Open Board Budget Meeting held on April 9, 2024 the Board carried the following motion:

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2024-2025 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$318,006,345 be:

READ A FIRST TIME THE 9th day of April, 2024.

The 2024-2025 Annual Budget memo and supporting documents from the April 9, 2024 meeting are attached.

Response to Questions

The following information is being provided in response to questions asked by Trustees and members of the public during the April 9, 2024 meeting:

Student Device Ratio

The following question was asked during Question Period:

How was the decision made to set the ratio of devices at secondary schools at 3-1? My own child's experience at secondary school was that many students brought their own devices. I was just wondering why a ratio isn't set for each school. I would expect that some schools in the district have a more pronounced need for devices than other schools?

The schools' preferred ratio for most effective use of technology in the classroom is currently 2:1 (every two students have access to one device). The proposal to set the funding ratio at secondary schools at 3:1 is an acknowledgement that the current budget does not allow for funding at 2:1.

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

The utilization and demand for student devices is consistent across all secondary schools. Student personal devices brought from home tend to be cellphones and do not replace the more pedagogically aligned class sets of Chromebooks.

Elementary Strings

The following table responds to the questions asked about student participation numbers for Elementary Strings and if the program is offered outside of the timetable:

23/24 Elementary Strings

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	# of students participating	Total Number of Grade 5's Sept 30th	Program offered outside of timetable	Notes
Braefoot Elementary	19	42		
Campus View Elementary *	16	77	Before school	
Cloverdale Traditional	25	68	Before school	
Craigflower Elementary	n/a	26		Did not offer
Doncaster Elementary *	49	67	After School	
Eagle View Elementary	0	44		Unable to hire
Frank Hobbs Elementary	21	49	Before school	
George Jay Elementary *	40	75	After and during school	
Hillcrest Elementary	32	62	Before school	
James Bay Elementary	25	34		
Lake Hill Elementary	22	37	After School	
Macaulay Elementary *	30	85		
Margaret Jenkins Elementary *	58	87		
Marigold Elementary *	30	58		
McKenzie Elementary	0	36		Unable to hire
Northridge Elementary	20	49		
Oaklands Elementary	48	90	Before school	
Quadra Elementary *	32	90	After School	
Rogers Elementary	12	43	Before school	
Sir James Douglas Elementary *	64	78		
South Park Elementary	29	34		
Strawberry Vale Elementary	15	43	After School	
Sundance	n/a	n/a		No grade 5's
Tillicum Elementary	n/a	70		Did not offer
Torquay Elementary	25	58		
Victoria West Elementary	24	48		
View Royal Elementary	25	39		
Willows Elementary *	45	98	Before and after school	

* French Immersion

Enrolment Projections

The following is in response to questions around the enrolment projections for 2024-2025:

The 2024-2025 Annual Budget is built on enrolment projections of 20,605 school-aged students, an increase of 186 compared to the current school year. It is not expected that we will see the increase in enrolment in 2024-2025 that we saw in the current school year. The main source of enrolment growth in the current school year was due to an increase in Ministry-funded international students arriving on work and/or study permits. However, the number of families arriving on study permits is expected to decrease in 2024 by at least 35% compared to 2023. In October 2023 and January 2024, the Government of Canada put measures in place to stabilize the number of international students in Canada and strengthen Canada's International Student Program. Additionally, the Province as a whole, including Victoria, is seeing families move out of the province to more affordable provinces.

As of yesterday, we are seeing a decrease of 13 students in Elementary and an increase of 36 students in Middle relative to the 2024-2025 projections (Secondary data not yet available). At this time last year, we saw growth in Elementary and Middle of almost 200 FTE. Therefore, we aren't seeing the same growth compared to the prior year, which is consistent with our projections. These numbers will fluctuate between now and September 30th. In some years we lose students between this enrolment snapshot and the September 30th final, and other years we see growth. Therefore, it is prudent that the preliminary enrolment projections are not adjusted.

For further details on the enrolment projections for 2024-2025, please refer to the memo included in the February 12, 2024 Operations Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda package located [here](#) on the District website.

Budget Bylaw – Unbalanced

The Budget Bylaw below encompasses all funds and does not include any of the budget balancing initiatives.

	2024-2025 Annual Budget	2023-2024 Annual Budget
Operating – Total Expense	\$260,024,122	\$241,962,245
Operating – Total Capital Assets Purchased	2,912,115	2,018,250
Special Purpose Funds – Total Expense	40,171,692	38,374,180
Special Purpose Funds – Total Capital Assets Purchased	100,000	100,000
Capital Fund – Total Expense	18,741,313	15,875,941
Capital Fund – Total Capital Assets Purchased from Local Capital	-	2,397,594
Total Budget Bylaw Amount	\$321,949,242	\$300,728,210

Budget Bylaw - Balanced

If the budget balancing initiatives are implemented as presented, the Operating – Total Expense amount of \$260,024,122 will be reduced by \$3,342,253 to a balance of \$256,681,869 and the Operating – Total Capital Assets Purchased amount of \$2,912,115 will be reduced by \$600,644 to a balance of \$2,311,471. The Total Budget Bylaw Amount will be reduced to \$318,006,345.

The difference between the deficit of \$5,983,312 and the \$3,942,897 adjusted to Operating – Total Expenses and Operating – Total Capital Assets Purchased is \$2,040,415, of which \$142,823 relates to revenue additions and \$1,897,592 relates to additions to the Budgeted Prior Year Surplus Appropriation.

	2024-2025	2023-2024
	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
Operating – Total Expense	\$256,681,869	\$241,962,245
Operating – Total Capital Assets Purchased	2,311,471	2,018,250
Special Purpose Funds – Total Expense	40,171,692	38,374,180
Special Purpose Funds – Total Capital Assets Purchased	100,000	100,000
Capital Fund – Total Expense	18,741,313	15,875,941
Capital Fund – Total Capital Assets Purchased from Local Capital	-	2,397,594
Total Budget Bylaw Amount	\$318,006,345	\$300,728,210

Recommended Motions

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2024-2025 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$318,006,345 be:

READ A SECOND TIME THE 11th day of April, 2024.

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2024-2025 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$318,006,345 be:

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED, THE 11th day of April, 2024.

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

Appendices

2024-2025 Annual Budget memo and supporting documents - April 9, 2024 Special Board Budget Meeting

TO: The Board of Education
FROM: Katrina Stride, Secretary-Treasurer
DATE: April 9, 2024
RE: **2024-2025 Annual Budget**

OPERATING BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2024-2025 Annual Operating Budget is \$262.9 million, which is \$18.9 million higher than the 2023-2024 Annual Operating Budget of \$244.0 million.

Budget Assumptions

The following are some of the assumptions made when building the 2024-2025 Annual Budget:

- Ministry of Education and Child Care (“Ministry”) funded enrolment is based on the 2024-2025 projected enrolment submission to the Ministry in February 2024.
- Ministry per-student amount is based on the Ministry’s funding rates announced in March 2024.
- Miscellaneous revenue will remain stable and will include all known revenues.
- Community rental of facilities will remain stable.
- Interest rates earned on the funds held in the Central Deposit Program (“CDP”) are based on the current interest rate of 5.2%, and projected decreases have been incorporated as follows: a decrease of 0.25% July 1, 2024 and a further decrease of 0.25% January 1, 2025.
- Labour settlement funding for cost-of-living adjustments (“COLA”) and salary grid increases for administrators in leadership roles have not yet been announced; therefore, these have not yet been included in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget.
- Employee Benefits are based on the prior year average benefit rates per employee group and are adjusted for known and projected rate increases.
- Services and supplies expenses are status quo (no inflationary increases except for software renewals, service contracts and custodial supplies), except for reallocations within expense categories and expenses with offsetting revenues.
- Utilities budget is based on current level of usage with known and projected rate increases.
- A \$1.8 million appropriation of accumulated operating surplus from 2023-2024 has been applied against the deficit.

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Enrolment Changes

The District anticipates an increase in the Ministry Operating Grant funded full-time equivalent (“FTE”) of 584.817 for the 2024-2025 Annual Budget compared to the 2023-2024 Annual Budget, and an increase of 186.108 FTE compared to September 30, 2023 actual enrolment, bringing the 2024-2025 Annual Budget student FTE to 20,644.110.

The table below shows projected enrolment numbers for the 2024-2025 Annual Budget compared to the actual enrolment numbers for 2023-2024 and the projected numbers for the 2023-2024 Annual Budget.

	2024-2025 Annual Budget	2023-2024 Actual Sep 30	2023-2024 Annual Budget
School-Aged			
Elementary, Middle and Secondary	20,389	20,206	19,793
Alternative	165	161	188
Continuing Education*	27	30	30
Distributed Learning*	24	22	27
Total School-Aged	20,605	20,419	20,038
Non-Graduated Adult Students*	39	39	21
Unique Student Needs			
Students with Special Needs - Level 1	17	21	21
Students with Special Needs - Level 2	990	991	905
Students with Special Needs - Level 3	455	448	400
English Language Learners	2,378	2,379	2,202
Indigenous Education	1,519	1,518	1,489
International Students (Regular)**	890	967	925
<i>*Includes February and May 2025 estimates</i>			
<i>**International Student enrolment does not include estimated refunds of approximately 5%</i>			

Ministry Operating Grant

The funding levels per FTE for 2024-2025 have increased from the funding levels in 2023-2024. The increase is directly related to labour settlement funding that has been confirmed by the Public Sector Employers’ Council Secretariat prior to March 2024, which includes wage increases for teachers, support staff and non-educator exempt positions. It also includes labour settlement funding that was allocated as a special grant in 2023-2024, which includes COLA for teachers and support staff.

	2024-2025 Funding Levels per FTE	2023-2024 Funding Levels per FTE	Increase \$	Increase %
Basic Allocation (Standard & Alternative)	\$8,915	\$8,625	\$290	3.4%
Basic Allocation (Continuing Education)	8,915	8,625	290	3.4%
Basic Allocation (Distributed Learning)	7,200	6,960	240	3.4%
Students with Special Needs – Level 1	50,730	49,070	1,660	3.4%
Students with Special Needs – Level 2	24,070	23,280	790	3.4%
Students with Special Needs – Level 3	12,160	11,760	400	3.4%
Indigenous Education	1,770	1,710	60	3.5%
English Language Learners	1,795	1,735	60	3.5%
Non-Graduated Adult Education	5,690	5,505	185	3.4%

Operating Revenue

	2024-2025 Annual Budget	2023-2024 Annual Budget	Increase (Decrease)
Provincial Grants: Ministry of Education and Child Care	\$233,113,195	\$217,393,311	\$15,719,884
Provincial Grants: Other	283,750	274,039	9,711
Tuition	15,676,233	15,680,739	(4,506)
Other Revenue	2,876,989	1,817,162	1,059,827
Rentals and Leases	3,206,690	3,007,985	198,705
Investment Income	1,796,068	1,465,200	330,868
Total Operating Revenue	\$256,952,925	\$239,638,436	\$17,314,489

The following explains the larger variances in operating revenue:

- Provincial Grants: The District is expecting to receive \$15.9 million more in Operating Grant funding in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget compared to the 2023-2024 Annual Budget. This has been partially offset by a \$0.2 million increase in the Local Education Agreement funding deducted from the Operating Grant. The \$15.9 million increase is made up of \$5.0 million enrolment increase, \$6.0 million per student funding increase, \$0.4 million English / French Language Learners increase, \$0.1 million Indigenous Education increase, \$3.4 million Inclusive Learning increase, \$45K Equity of Opportunity grant increase, \$4K Continuing Education enrolment increase, \$9K Continuing Education funding increase, (\$42K) Distributed Learning enrolment decrease, \$4K Distributed Learning funding increase, (\$5K) Summer Learning decrease, \$0.6 million teacher salary differential increase, \$0.2 million supplement for unique geographic factors increase, \$3K Curriculum and Learning Support grant increase and \$69K in new funding for Indigenous Education Councils.
- Tuition revenue is expected to decrease by \$5K due to a decrease in international student enrolment. Some of the decrease in enrolment has been offset by an increase in international student full year tuition fees of \$500 per FTE for 2024-2025 and a further \$500 for new 2024-2025 applications received after March 31, 2024.
- Other revenue is expected to increase by \$1.1 million due to a \$0.2 million increase in Local Education Agreement funding and increased revenue from fee forfeitures, homestay fees and activity fees in international education.
- Rentals and Leases are expected to increase by \$0.2 million due to a projected consumer price index ("CPI") increase added to the license to occupy fees charged to out-of-school care service providers.
- Investment income is expected to increase by \$0.3 million due to more funds expected to be held in the CDP in 2024-2025 compared to 2023-2024, partially offset by a projected decrease in interest rates. The interest rate applied to funds held in the CDP was 5.20% at the time the 2023-2024 Annual Budget was prepared. The interest rate in March 2024 is currently 5.20% and a projected decrease of 0.25% July 1, 2024, and a further decrease of 0.25% January 1, 2025, have been built into the 2024-2025 Annual Budget.

Operating Expense

	2024-2025 Annual Budget	2023-2024 Annual Budget	Increase
Salaries	\$191,020,555	\$180,379,335	\$10,641,220
Employee Benefits	47,525,222	43,076,847	4,448,375
Services and Supplies	21,478,345	18,506,063	2,972,282
Total Operating Expense	\$260,024,122	\$241,962,245	\$18,061,877

Approximately 92% of the District's operating expense is related to staffing. The remaining 8% is spent on services and supplies.

Salaries

The following wage increases, effective July 1, 2024, have been included in the annual budget:

- Greater Victoria Teachers' Association (GVTA): 2.0% increase, 0.11% increase to the top step and regular step increases.
- CUPE 947: 2.0% increase
- CUPE 382: 2.0% increase
- Exempt:
 - Administrators in leadership roles: regular step increases
 - Non-educator exempt: 2.0% increase and regular step increases
- Trustees: 3.17% inflationary increase, effective January 1, 2025, has been estimated for Trustee stipends

Labour settlement funding for the 2.0% increase for teachers, support staff and non-educator exempt positions and support staff local table allocations has been allocated through the Operating Grant rates. The 2023-2024 labour settlement funding that was allocated as a special grant in 2023-2024, including the COLA for teachers and support staff, has also been rolled into the 2024-2025 Operating Grant rates.

Labour settlement funding for administrators in leadership roles will be allocated as a special grant pending direction from Public Sector Employers' Council (PSEC) Secretariat; therefore, no general wage increase has been included in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget.

On March 19, 2024, a 1.0% COLA was announced by the Ministry of Finance. This increase will apply to all Teachers and Support Staff salary grids effective July 1, 2024. As the Ministry funding for the increases will not be announced until after the 2024-2025 Annual Budget is approved, the expenditures and revenue have not yet been included. The revenue and expenditures related to the COLA will be adjusted in the 2024-2025 Amended Annual Budget once the funding has been confirmed.

Employee Benefits

Employee Benefits have a component that is wage-sensitive, so benefits will increase along with the wage increases noted above. Contribution limits for Canada Pension Plan have increased due to new rules that came into effect January 1, 2024. There have also been increases in Extended Health Care, Dental, Employment Insurance and WorkSafeBC rates.

Services and Supplies

The \$3.0 million increase in services and supplies can be explained by the variances in the following expense categories:

Services have increased by \$1.8 million and 27.3%.

- Legal fees have increased by \$0.2 million to reflect historical spending and an increase in Coordinated Legal & Arbitration Support Services ("CLASS") fees. CLASS is a shared service that conducts grievance arbitrations and labour litigation on behalf of the K-12 public sector. CLASS is moving to a usage-based factor to the fee calculation, which will increase our fees in 2024-2025.
- Software maintenance has increased by \$0.3 million in 2024-2025, reflecting vendor fee increases.
- The Digital Services Recovery ("DSR") is a shared service to reduce costs associated with administration and reporting for the digital services provided to schools and districts. These fees are projected to increase by 0.1 million in 2024-2025 relative to the 2023-2024 Annual Budget.

- Agent fees have increased by \$0.9 million relative to the 2023-2024 Annual Budget. Sufficient budget was not provided for international education agent fees in the 2023-2024 Annual Budget as the department expenditures were reduced during budget deliberations. Until the department had a chance to perform a review of expenditures to identify specific reductions, the entire reduction was applied against agent fees.
- In the 2023-2024 Annual Budget, the portable move budget was reduced. As this was a one-time reduction, \$60K has been added back in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget.
- Bank service charges have increased by \$81K reflecting an increase in SchoolCash Online fees.

Student Transportation has increased by \$0.1 million and 14.9% to reflect actual historical spending in the short-term international education program.

Dues and Fees increased by \$80K and 163.8%. In April 2023, the Board passed a motion to end its membership with the British Columbia School Trustees Association for the 2023-2024 school year. This resulted in a reduction of \$60K in the 2023-2024 Annual Budget. However, the motion was rescinded after the approval of the budget. This has been adjusted in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget.

Insurance expense has increased by \$0.1 million and 24.8% due to an increase in the annual cost of insurance through the School Protection Program.

Supplies have increased by \$0.6 million and 11.3%.

- Custodial supplies increased by \$0.1 million due to cost escalations in chemicals and paper products.
- Food increased by \$75K reflecting an increase in cafeteria revenue.
- Instructional supplies increased by \$0.3 million reflecting an increase in school supply allocations due to enrolment growth and an increase in Pathways and Partnerships consumables.

Utilities have increased by \$0.3 million and 5.8% reflecting an increase in utility provider rates.

2024-2025 Budget Deficit

A \$6.0 million deficit has been projected in the 2024-2025 Annual Operating Budget. However, a \$1.8 million appropriation of accumulated operating surplus from 2023-2024 has been identified and applied against the deficit, which reduces it to \$4.1 million. The \$4.1 million deficit equals approximately 1.6% of the 2024-2025 budgeted operating expenses.

Budget Deficit Comparison

Prior to implementing any balancing strategies, the projected deficit for 2023-2024 was \$3.8 million, compared to \$4.1 million projected for 2024-2025.

	2024-2025 Projected Deficit	2023-2024 Projected Deficit
Total Revenue	\$256,952,925	\$239,638,436
Total Expense	260,024,122	244,706,630
Net Revenue (Expense)	(3,071,197)	(5,068,194)
Budgeted Prior Year Surplus Appropriation	1,847,592	2,203,057
Net Transfers (to) from other funds:		
Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	(2,912,115)	(980,000)
Budgeted Surplus (Deficit), for the year	(\$4,135,720)	(\$3,845,137)

Change in Financial Circumstances

Accumulated Operating Surplus

The accumulated operating surplus at the end of 2023-2024 is projected to be \$5.1 million, compared to \$6.8 million in 2022-2023 and \$8.2 million in 2021-2022.

	2023-2024 Projected	2022-2023 Actual	2021-2022 Actual
Project Budgets	\$1,282,474	\$2,261,658	\$1,719,483
School Level Funds	1,000,000	997,230	1,424,319
Purchase Order Commitments	400,000	826,655	1,273,565
Planned Surplus to Balance Budget	1,847,592	2,139,002	2,300,000
Unrestricted Operating Surplus - Contingency	617,113	617,113	1,172,813
Unrestricted International Surplus - Contingency			328,441
Accumulated Operating Surplus, end of year	\$5,147,179	\$6,841,658	\$8,218,621

Planned Surplus to Balance Budget

There is a projected surplus of \$1.8 million for 2023-2024 that can be used to help balance the 2024-2025 Annual Budget. This has been included in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget.

Unrestricted Operating Surplus – Contingency

As per District Policy 3170 - Operating Surplus, the unrestricted operating surplus should be maintained at between 2% and 4% of the previous year's operating expense; this amounts to between \$4.59 million and \$9.18 million. The current balance of \$0.6 million equates to 0.27% of the previous year's operating expense. There are many unpredictable events that can happen during the year, including unexpected increases in expenses and/or decreases in revenues, emergent operating issues, unrealized enrolment projections and unexpected grievances/arbitrations. A reasonable contingency should be maintained to support effective planning, mitigate financial risk and support consistent service to all students in the District.

Local Capital Reserve

The balance in the Local Capital Reserve at the end of 2022-2023 was \$0.6 million. These funds were approved to be used in the 2023-2024 budget to fund amenities for Victoria High School.

The Local Capital Reserve received no new funding in 2023-2024. There is no funding available in Local Capital Reserve to balance the 2024-2025 Annual Budget.

Budget Balancing Strategy

The budget balancing strategy in prior years has included using accumulated operating surplus and Local Capital Reserves to offset the budget deficit. The projected 2023-2024 accumulated operating surplus has been used to help balance the 2024-2025 Annual Budget. However, there are no Local Capital Reserves available.

2024-2025 Budget Balancing Recommendation

Incorporating the feedback received through the budget development process and from the Board, budget balancing initiatives are detailed below and are also included in a worksheet format in the Appendices.

Reductions: Ongoing (\$2,741,624)

- Replace student devices at a ratio of 3:1 instead of 2:1 at Middle & Secondary and a ratio of 4:1 instead of 2:1 at Elementary which means less class sets of devices in schools. Elementary allocations will be based on creating parity among schools. This will result in savings of \$0.6 million.
- A \$19K reduction in Pathways & Partnerships for historic support of a low enrolling trades class (one block) at a Secondary School.
- A \$77K reduction to Inclusive Learning Contingency which can come from enrolment growth and/or holding back funds until September 30 enrolment has been confirmed. This contingency has historically not been used.
- A \$0.2 million reduction to School and District-Based Inclusive Learning by reducing 1.6 FTE non-enrolling teachers across schools and district which will bring the teacher FTE closer to the contractual ratio. Historically, the ratio has been in excess of 5 FTE compared to what is required in the GVTA Collective Agreement. Reductions will not be made in priority schools.
- A \$0.3 million reduction to School and District-Based Inclusive Learning by reducing the number of Educational Assistant positions that we have not been able to fill.
- Move to a Value Based Pricing model for KEV SchoolCash Online. Transaction fees will be included in the cost of the item and be paid by parents at time of purchase. This will save the district \$0.2 million in software, bank, and point of sale service charges.
- A \$0.1 million reduction in the interest provided to schools on their non-public account balances from the District interest revenue account.
- A \$0.2 million Counselling reduction which includes a 1.0 FTE District position that is vacant and will not be filled and a 0.1 FTE reduction at 4 Elementary schools (0.4 FTE) which will bring the teacher FTE closer to the contractual ratio. Historically, the ratio has been in excess of approximately 10 FTE compared to what is required in the GVTA Collective Agreement.
- A \$40K reduction to The Link which is currently operating at a deficit. Will explore the potential to transfer funding from the students' home schools to support them while at the Link.
- A \$25K reduction to the Emergency Preparedness budget by centralizing purchases, rather than providing funds directly to schools.
- A \$25K reduction in the funds provided to GVTA for Professional Development. GVTA has received additional professional development funds through the collective agreement in 2024-2025.
- An \$8K reduction to the TTOC support for Indigenous Education. Will be moving from district-funded TTOC replacement to Indigenous Education Department-funded TTOC replacement.
- A \$13K reduction in Indigenous-Focused Grad course support (half of 2023-2024 funding). In 2023-2024, \$25K was provided to support the first year of implementation for the Indigenous-Focused Grad Requirement. The course was supported in 2023-2024 and we now have two Provincially trained trainers who can support schools in 2024-2025.
- Information Technology Managed Print Strategy (MPS) Cost Reduction Initiative to provide savings of \$50K which means less printing and an increased number of service years for print devices.
- Change in Tolmie building mail services by moving to BC Mail Plus and a reduction in postage will save \$3K.
- The vacant Manager, Labour Relations position is being reduced for a savings of \$0.2 million.
- A reduction in school supply allocations will result in savings of \$0.6 million.
- An 18% reduction in International Education supply budgets will result in savings of \$0.1 million.
- A 63% reduction in Trustee supply budgets will result in \$12K savings.

- A 20% reduction in Deputy/Associate Superintendent, Facilities Services, Financial Services, Human Resource Services, Information Technology for Learning, Superintendent, Purchasing and Secretary-Treasurer supply budgets will result in a \$30K savings.
- A 20% reduction in Psychologists, Inclusive Learning, Levelled Support and Pathways & Partnerships supply budgets will result in savings of \$22K.
- A \$2K reduction in the district-wide sewing machine repair budget. This budget has not been used in the last few years, as schools have been paying for their own repairs.

Reductions: One-Time (\$547,130)

- Due to a teacher retirement, the Aviation Program will not be offered in 2024-2025 which will result in \$45K one-time savings.
- Facilities Services has been able to identify one-time savings in 2024-2025 totaling \$0.5 million. One-time savings include no annual window cleaning, fewer vehicle leases, 1.0 FTE Tech II position and 0.5 FTE Paint Foreperson position moved to capital, 2.0 FTE painter retirements not filled for 2024-2025, and 2% of painting and carpentry supplies charged to the Annual Facility Grant (AFG).
- A temporary savings of \$46K due to a position not being backfilled when employee on a partial temporary leave of absence.

Shifts in Practice: Ongoing (\$466,970)

- Moving 0.5 FTE Deputy/Associate Superintendents Senior Management Assistant position to be paid from Feeding Futures, resulting in a savings of \$37K.
- Moving Cafeteria Assistants to be paid from Feeding Futures Funding instead of Operating, resulting in a savings of \$86K.
- A \$0.3 million reduction in CommunityLINK expenses will allow for other operating expenses to be moved into CommunityLINK. Some of the programs or services that would no longer be a part of CommunityLINK are Behavior Interventionist to be paid for from School-Based Inclusive Learning, a reduction in Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA), PISE Physical Literacy Support, COMPASS/Stabilization, Social Emotional Learning (SEL)/Mental Health (MH) Support and TTOC Support to 2 Elementary Schools.
- Reduce the Critical Incidence Response Team budget by \$5K; this will be paid from CommunityLINK.
- Move 0.20 FTE District Principal into the ELL budget for a reduction of \$39K.
- An \$11K reduction in duplicate staffing at Oak Bay High School for District Ukulele. There is no overall reduction in FTE. The school that hosts the Ukulele program generates some staffing for this already. That portion of FTE will come from the school's staffing budget.

Shifts in Practice: One-Time (\$120,000)

- It is projected that there will be a \$0.1 million surplus in CommunityLINK that can be carried forward to next year in order for some eligible operating expenses to be shifted from Operating for one year.

Shifts in Practice: Reallocation (\$137,173)

- Moving elementary strings to a hub model with 14 hubs offering 45-minute classes twice a week will provide a net savings of \$0.1 million.

Additions: Ongoing \$70,000

- An increase of \$35K to pilot a guaranteed EA relief position at one priority school for half a year.
- An increase of \$35K for additional EA Mentorship FTE to assist with EA skills development and support for EAs in Middle Schools.

Increase Revenue: Ongoing (\$142,823)

- Limiting when schools can block off rental space for the Spring will allow for the generation of additional rental revenue of \$15K.
- Add \$128K miscellaneous revenue for Crossing Guard Services representing the funding shortfall from the District of Saanich.

Increase 2023-2024 Operating Surplus (Carryforward): One-Time (\$50,000)

- In the 2022-2023 school year, carry forward limits for schools were temporarily reduced for one year. Maintaining the school carry forward limit reduction of \$40,000 to \$25,000 for Elementary & Middle and \$80,000 to \$50,000 for Secondary at June 30, 2024 is projected to save \$50K.

Budget Bylaw

The Budget Bylaw below encompasses all funds and does not include any of the budget balancing initiatives.

	2024-2025 Annual Budget	2023-2024 Annual Budget
Operating – Total Expense	\$260,024,122	\$241,962,245
Operating – Total Capital Assets Purchased	2,912,115	2,018,250
Special Purpose Funds – Total Expense	40,171,692	38,374,180
Special Purpose Funds – Total Capital Assets Purchased	100,000	100,000
Capital Fund – Total Expense	18,741,313	15,875,941
Capital Fund – Total Capital Assets Purchased from Local Capital	-	2,397,594
Total Budget Bylaw Amount	\$321,949,242	\$300,728,210

If the budget balancing initiatives are implemented as presented, the Operating – Total Expense amount of \$260,024,122 will be reduced by \$3,342,253 to a balance of \$256,681,869 and the Operating – Total Capital Assets Purchased amount of \$2,912,115 will be reduced by \$600,644 to a balance of \$2,311,471. The Total Budget Bylaw Amount will be reduced to \$318,006,345.

The difference between the deficit of \$5,983,312 and the \$3,942,897 adjusted to Operating – Total Expenses and Operating – Total Capital Assets Purchased is \$2,040,415, of which \$142,823 relates to revenue additions and \$1,897,592 relates to additions to the Budgeted Prior Year Surplus Appropriation.

Recommended Motion

That the Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria) 2024-2025 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$318,006,345 be:

READ A FIRST TIME THE 9th day of April, 2024;
READ A SECOND TIME THE 9th day of April, 2024.

Appendices

2024-2025 Budget Balancing Recommendation Worksheet

Draft 2024-2025 Annual Budget Ministry Template

Draft Multi-Year Financial Forecast Memo and Worksheet

Greater Victoria School District		
2024-2025 Budget Balancing Recommendation Worksheet		
Projected 2024-2025 Deficit		\$ 5,983,312
	Current Budget \$	Proposed Change \$
Budget Balancing Initiatives		
Reductions: Ongoing		
Student device ratio reduced from 2:1 to 3:1 at Middle & Secondary and from 2:1 to 4:1 at Elementary; Elementary allocations will be based on creating parity among schools	1,438,115	(600,644)
Historic support for low-enrolling trades class (one block) at Secondary School	2,345,569	(19,345)
School and District-Based Inclusive Learning - Remove contingency; historically not used, can come from enrolment growth and/or holdback of funds to schools until enrolment realized	43,451,824	(77,156)
School and District-Based Inclusive Learning - Reduce 1.6 FTE Non-Enrolling Teachers (not Priority Schools) which would bring teacher FTE closer to contractual ratio	43,451,824	(206,381)
School and District-Based Inclusive Learning - Reduce number of EA positions that already do not fill	43,451,824	(250,460)
KEV School Cash Online - Move to Value-Based Pricing (parents pay transaction fee built into price)	341,662	(215,935)
Reduction of interest earned by schools on Non-Public Funds; funds reallocated to the district	265,627	(133,000)
Counselling reduction of unfilled District 1.0 FTE and 0.10 FTE at 4 Elementary Schools (1.4 FTE total)	5,259,216	(189,391)
The Link - Currently operating at a deficit; look to Home Schools that receive enrolment funding to provide necessary funding to support their students at the Link	354,050	(40,000)
Emergency Preparedness - Centralize purchases and reduce spending	50,000	(25,000)
GVTA Professional Development (52.6% increase in pro-d funding through new collective agreement)	25,000	(25,000)
Indigenous Education Support - TTOC costs historically paid for by the District (moving from district-funded TTOC replacement to Indigenous Education Department-funded TTOC replacement)	435,764	(8,201)
Indigenous Grad Focused Course - This course was supported in 2023-2024; now have 2 Provincially-trained trainers who can support schools in 2024-2025	25,000	(12,500)
Information Technology - Managed Print Strategy Cost Reduction Initiative, resulting in less printing and an increased number of service years for print devices	243,040	(50,000)
Tolmie Building Mail Services - New mail service and reduction in postage	15,000	(3,000)
Human Resource Services - Elimination of Manager, Labour Relations position (currently vacant)	151,346	(151,346)
Schools - Supplies reduction (all levels)	2,764,708	(552,942)

Greater Victoria School District		
2024-2025 Budget Balancing Recommendation Worksheet		
International Education - 18% Supplies reduction	651,919	(115,184)
Trustees - 63% Supplies reduction	19,156	(12,156)
Superintendent's Office - 20% Supplies reduction	12,817	(2,563)
Deputy/Associate Superintendents - 20% Supplies reduction	16,842	(3,369)
Purchasing - 20% Supplies reduction	4,214	(842)
Secretary-Treasurer's Office - 20% Supplies reduction	6,850	(1,370)
Facilities Services - 20% Supplies reduction	27,500	(5,500)
Financial Services - 20% Services and supplies reduction	25,121	(5,024)
Human Resource Services - 20% Supplies reduction	30,247	(6,049)
Information Technology - 20% Supplies reduction	26,279	(5,256)
Psychologists - 20% Supplies reduction	46,065	(9,213)
Inclusive Learning Administration - 20% Supplies reduction	17,293	(3,459)
Inclusive Learning Itinerant - 20% Supplies reduction	6,689	(1,338)
Levelled Support - 20% Supplies reduction	20,000	(4,000)
Pathways & Partnerships - 20% Supplies reduction	20,000	(4,000)
Sewing Machine Repair - Budget not used in last few years; schools already paying for their own repairs	2,000	(2,000)
Reductions: One-Time		
Aviation Program - Teacher retired; paused for one year	2,345,569	(44,850)
Facilities Services - Maintenance painters (2.0 FTE) retired; positions unfilled for one year	1,083,383	(190,152)
Facilities Services - No annual window cleaning for one year (1/3 schools usually cleaned each year)	9,152	(9,152)
Facilities Services - Portion of vehicle leases	109,851	(46,000)
Facilities Services - Tech II position (1.0 FTE); moved to capital projects for one year	756,525	(99,631)
Facilities Services - Paint Foreperson (.50 FTE); moved to capital projects for one year	1,083,383	(51,746)
Facilities Services - Paint supplies; moved to AFG for one year (2% reduction in Operating)	1,083,383	(18,626)
Facilities Services - Carpentry supplies; moved to AFG for one year (2% reduction in Operating)	1,669,601	(40,600)
Staff partial temporary Leave of Absence not filled for one year	46,373	(46,373)
Shifts in Practice: Ongoing		
Deputy/Associate Superintendents - Senior Management Assistant; partial reallocation to Feeding Futures	74,616	(37,308)
Pathways & Partnerships - Reallocate Cafeteria Assistants in Operating to Feeding Futures	2,345,569	(85,750)

Greater Victoria School District		
2024-2025 Budget Balancing Recommendation Worksheet		
CommunityLINK - Reallocate Behaviour Interventionist to SBIL; move operating expenses to CL	139,207	(139,207)
CommunityLINK - Reduce Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA); move operating expenses to CL	19,000	(9,000)
CommunityLINK - Reduce PISE Physical Literacy; move operating expenses to CL	60,000	(60,000)
CommunityLINK - Reduce COMPASS/Stabilization; move operating expenses to CL	15,000	(15,000)
CommunityLINK - Reduce Social Emotional Learning (SEL)/Mental Health (MH) support; move operating expenses to CL	10,000	(5,000)
CommunityLINK - Reallocate cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for YFC (to come from school's CL funding); move operating expenses to CL	15,839	(15,839)
CommunityLINK - Reduce TTOC Support to 2 Elementary Schools; move operating expenses to CL	10,994	(10,994)
CommunityLINK - Reduce enrolment contingency; move operating expenses to CL	76,228	(34,610)
Critical Incidence Report Team - Reallocate from Operating to CommunityLINK	4,500	(4,500)
District Principal, Multi-Language Learners - Reallocate .20 FTE to English Language Learners (ELL) budget	194,830	(38,966)
District Ukulele - Remove duplicate staffing at Oak Bay; no overall reduction in FTE	19,345	(10,796)
Shifts in Practice: One-Time		
Move operating expenses to CommunityLINK; Surplus Carryforward from 2023-2024	120,000	(120,000)
Shifts in Practice: Reallocation		
Move Elementary Strings to a Hub Model - Full reduction; see addition below	272,452	(272,452)
Implement Elementary Strings Hub Model (14 hubs, 2 x 45 min classes per week)	-	135,279
Additions: Ongoing		
Guaranteed EA Relief Position; pilot at one priority school for half a year	-	35,000
Additional EA Mentorship FTE to assist with EA skills development and support for EAs in Middle Schools	-	35,000
Additions: Revenues		
School Spring rental revenue increase (limit when schools can block off rental space)	3,206,690	(15,000)
Crossing Guard Revenue - add funding shortfall from District of Saanich	235,138	(127,823)

Greater Victoria School District		
2024-2025 Budget Balancing Recommendation Worksheet		
Increase 2023-2024 Operating Surplus (Carryforward): One-Time		
2023-2024 Operating Surplus Available to Balance Budget	1,847,592	(1,847,592)
Maintain June 30, 2023 School Carry Forward Limits	-	(50,000)
Balance Budget to \$0		-

Annual Budget

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

June 30, 2025

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

June 30, 2025

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*NOTE - Statement 1, Statement 3, Statement 5, Schedule 1 and Schedules 4A - 4D are used for Financial Statement reporting only.

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 2024/2025 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*, Ministerial Orders, and Ministry of Education and Child Care Policies 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 2024/2025.
3. The attached Statement 2 showing the estimated revenue and expense for the 2024/2025 fiscal year and the total budget bylaw amount of \$321,949,242 for the 2024/2025 fiscal year was prepared in accordance with the *Act*.
4. Statement 2, 4 and Schedules 2 to 4 are adopted as the Annual Budget of the Board for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

READ A FIRST TIME THE 9th DAY OF APRIL, 2024;

READ A SECOND TIME THE 9th DAY OF APRIL, 2024;

READ A THIRD TIME, PASSED AND ADOPTED THE 11th DAY OF APRIL, 2024;

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 2024/2025, adopted by the Board the 11th DAY OF APRIL, 2024.

Secretary Treasurer

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Statement 2

Annual Budget - Revenue and Expense

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025 Annual Budget	2024 Annual Budget
Ministry Operating Grant Funded FTE's		
School-Age	20,604,798	20,038,544
Adult	39,313	20,750
Total Ministry Operating Grant Funded FTE's	20,644,111	20,059,294
Revenues	\$	\$
Provincial Grants		
Ministry of Education and Child Care	269,153,333	251,588,931
Other	283,750	274,039
Tuition	15,676,233	15,680,739
Other Revenue	9,781,216	8,317,162
Rentals and Leases	3,206,690	3,007,985
Investment Income	2,207,195	1,812,760
Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets	3,808,000	3,808,000
Amortization of Deferred Capital Revenue	11,154,340	9,549,670
Total Revenue	315,270,757	294,039,286
Expenses		
Instruction	261,259,991	244,398,802
District Administration	7,416,636	6,648,975
Operations and Maintenance	48,635,421	43,565,556
Transportation and Housing	1,625,079	1,599,033
Total Expense	318,937,127	296,212,366
Net Revenue (Expense)	(3,666,370)	(2,173,080)
Budgeted Allocation (Retirement) of Surplus (Deficit)	1,847,592	4,342,059
Budgeted Surplus (Deficit), for the year	(1,818,778)	2,168,979
Budgeted Surplus (Deficit), for the year comprised of:		
Operating Fund Surplus (Deficit)	(4,135,720)	
Special Purpose Fund Surplus (Deficit)		
Capital Fund Surplus (Deficit)	2,316,942	2,168,979
Budgeted Surplus (Deficit), for the year	(1,818,778)	2,168,979

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Revenue and Expense
 Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025 Annual Budget	2024 Annual Budget
Budget Bylaw Amount		
Operating - Total Expense	260,024,122	241,962,245
Operating - Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	2,912,115	2,018,250
Special Purpose Funds - Total Expense	40,171,692	38,374,180
Special Purpose Funds - Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	100,000	100,000
Capital Fund - Total Expense	18,741,313	15,875,941
Capital Fund - Tangible Capital Assets Purchased from Local Capital		2,397,594
Total Budget Bylaw Amount	321,949,242	300,728,210

Approved by the Board

Signature	DRAFT	Date
Signature of Superintendent	DRAFT	Date
Signature of Secretary/Treasurer	DRAFT	Date

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Changes in Net Financial Assets (Debt)

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024
	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
	\$	\$
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	<u>(3,666,370)</u>	<u>(2,173,080)</u>
Effect of change in Tangible Capital Assets		
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets		
From Operating and Special Purpose Funds	(3,012,115)	(2,118,250)
From Local Capital		(2,397,594)
From Deferred Capital Revenue	<u>(41,945,121)</u>	<u>(44,751,506)</u>
Total Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets	<u>(44,957,236)</u>	<u>(49,267,350)</u>
Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	<u>15,741,313</u>	<u>13,375,941</u>
Total Effect of change in Tangible Capital Assets	<u>(29,215,923)</u>	<u>(35,891,409)</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
(Increase) Decrease in Net Financial Assets (Debt)	<u><u>(32,882,293)</u></u>	<u><u>(38,064,489)</u></u>

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Schedule 2

Annual Budget - Operating Revenue and Expense

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024
	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
	\$	\$
Revenues		
Provincial Grants		
Ministry of Education and Child Care	233,113,195	217,393,311
Other	283,750	274,039
Tuition	15,676,233	15,680,739
Other Revenue	2,876,989	1,817,162
Rentals and Leases	3,206,690	3,007,985
Investment Income	1,796,068	1,465,200
Total Revenue	<u>256,952,925</u>	<u>239,638,436</u>
Expenses		
Instruction	221,916,930	206,855,153
District Administration	7,416,636	6,648,975
Operations and Maintenance	29,065,477	26,859,084
Transportation and Housing	1,625,079	1,599,033
Total Expense	<u>260,024,122</u>	<u>241,962,245</u>
Net Revenue (Expense)	<u>(3,071,197)</u>	<u>(2,323,809)</u>
Budgeted Prior Year Surplus Appropriation	<u>1,847,592</u>	<u>4,342,059</u>
Net Transfers (to) from other funds		
Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	(2,912,115)	(2,018,250)
Total Net Transfers	<u>(2,912,115)</u>	<u>(2,018,250)</u>
Budgeted Surplus (Deficit), for the year	<u>(4,135,720)</u>	<u>-</u>

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Schedule 2A

Annual Budget - Schedule of Operating Revenue by Source
Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025 Annual Budget \$	2024 Annual Budget \$
Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care		
Operating Grant, Ministry of Education and Child Care	230,854,057	214,957,633
ISC/LEA Recovery	(940,239)	(757,317)
Other Ministry of Education and Child Care Grants		
Pay Equity	2,896,617	2,896,617
Funding for Graduated Adults	58,679	52,297
Student Transportation Fund	20,027	20,027
Support Staff Benefits Grant	204,814	204,814
FSA Scorer Grant	19,240	19,240
Total Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care	233,113,195	217,393,311
Provincial Grants - Other	283,750	274,039
Tuition		
Continuing Education	3,500	5,000
International and Out of Province Students	15,667,733	15,670,739
Distributed Learning	5,000	5,000
Total Tuition	15,676,233	15,680,739
Other Revenues		
Other School District/Education Authorities	2,700	2,700
Funding from First Nations	940,239	757,317
Miscellaneous		
Cafeteria Revenue	200,000	125,000
International Education Revenues	1,285,439	564,000
ArtStarts Grant	17,600	17,600
Crossing Guard Revenue	235,138	217,011
Miscellaneous	135,873	88,534
BC Hydro Commercial Energy Manager Program	60,000	45,000
Total Other Revenue	2,876,989	1,817,162
Rentals and Leases	3,206,690	3,007,985
Investment Income	1,796,068	1,465,200
Total Operating Revenue	256,952,925	239,638,436

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Schedule 2B

Annual Budget - Schedule of Operating Expense by Object
Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024
	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
	\$	\$
Salaries		
Teachers	112,162,267	107,167,700
Principals and Vice Principals	14,773,538	13,862,405
Educational Assistants	24,070,957	22,947,651
Support Staff	22,002,818	21,046,809
Other Professionals	5,561,019	4,956,475
Substitutes	12,449,956	10,398,295
Total Salaries	191,020,555	180,379,335
Employee Benefits	47,525,222	43,076,847
Total Salaries and Benefits	238,545,777	223,456,182
Services and Supplies		
Services	8,196,593	6,440,743
Student Transportation	1,071,434	932,286
Professional Development and Travel	691,543	676,572
Rentals and Leases	108,851	109,851
Dues and Fees	131,133	49,700
Insurance	599,177	479,973
Supplies	5,980,864	5,374,738
Utilities	4,698,750	4,442,200
Total Services and Supplies	21,478,345	18,506,063
Total Operating Expense	260,024,122	241,962,245

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Operating Expense by Function, Program and Object

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Teachers Salaries	Principals and Vice Principals Salaries	Educational Assistants Salaries	Support Staff Salaries	Other Professionals Salaries	Substitutes Salaries	Total Salaries
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1 Instruction							
1.02 Regular Instruction	85,323,887	4,864,338	2,576,082	245,863	219,552	9,641,865	102,871,587
1.03 Career Programs	818,572	141,477	374,606			38,089	1,372,744
1.07 Library Services	2,470,953			406,301		137,362	3,014,616
1.08 Counselling	2,973,980					159,640	3,133,620
1.10 Inclusive Education	12,310,390	443,246	19,690,014	254,766		1,070,001	33,768,417
1.20 Early Learning and Child Care			95,267				95,267
1.30 English Language Learning	2,956,467	96,771	40,687	1,599		174,354	3,269,878
1.31 Indigenous Education	676,883		952,887	88,718	184,129	25,968	1,928,585
1.41 School Administration		8,892,686		4,900,563		50,000	13,843,249
1.61 Continuing Education	172,107	32,257		66,910		9,200	280,474
1.62 International and Out of Province Students	4,400,214		5,757	824,274	872,055	328,112	6,430,412
1.64 Other							-
Total Function 1	112,103,453	14,470,775	23,735,300	6,788,994	1,275,736	11,634,591	170,008,849
4 District Administration							
4.11 Educational Administration		189,863		329,122	831,451	23,898	1,374,334
4.40 School District Governance					343,312		343,312
4.41 Business Administration		112,900		1,514,338	1,726,588	96,979	3,450,805
Total Function 4	-	302,763	-	1,843,460	2,901,351	120,877	5,168,451
5 Operations and Maintenance							
5.41 Operations and Maintenance Administration	58,814		58,158	370,364	1,098,347	22,539	1,608,222
5.50 Maintenance Operations				11,752,487	160,588	577,705	12,490,780
5.52 Maintenance of Grounds				1,139,017		83,290	1,222,307
5.56 Utilities							-
Total Function 5	58,814	-	58,158	13,261,868	1,258,935	683,534	15,321,309
7 Transportation and Housing							
7.41 Transportation and Housing Administration					124,997		124,997
7.70 Student Transportation			277,499	108,496		10,954	396,949
Total Function 7	-	-	277,499	108,496	124,997	10,954	521,946
9 Debt Services							
Total Function 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Functions 1 - 9	112,162,267	14,773,538	24,070,957	22,002,818	5,561,019	12,449,956	191,020,555

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Operating Expense by Function, Program and Object

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Total Salaries	Employee Benefits	Total Salaries and Benefits	Services and Supplies	2025 Annual Budget	2024 Annual Budget
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1 Instruction						
1.02 Regular Instruction	102,871,587	26,092,484	128,964,071	3,969,843	132,933,914	124,238,001
1.03 Career Programs	1,372,744	345,286	1,718,030	624,408	2,342,438	2,255,078
1.07 Library Services	3,014,616	767,026	3,781,642		3,781,642	3,619,191
1.08 Counselling	3,133,620	792,847	3,926,467		3,926,467	3,378,300
1.10 Inclusive Education	33,768,417	8,691,063	42,459,480	992,344	43,451,824	40,065,533
1.20 Early Learning and Child Care	95,267	25,150	120,417		120,417	300,724
1.30 English Language Learning	3,269,878	822,850	4,092,728	154,371	4,247,099	3,799,059
1.31 Indigenous Education	1,928,585	484,492	2,413,077	704,569	3,117,646	2,958,189
1.41 School Administration	13,843,249	3,165,616	17,008,865		17,008,865	15,759,760
1.61 Continuing Education	280,474	70,248	350,722	3,150	353,872	289,435
1.62 International and Out of Province Students	6,430,412	1,579,562	8,009,974	2,513,022	10,522,996	10,082,133
1.64 Other	-	-	-	109,750	109,750	109,750
Total Function 1	170,008,849	42,836,624	212,845,473	9,071,457	221,916,930	206,855,153
4 District Administration						
4.11 Educational Administration	1,374,334	291,536	1,665,870	98,694	1,764,564	1,556,581
4.40 School District Governance	343,312	37,400	380,712	142,248	522,960	415,833
4.41 Business Administration	3,450,805	785,788	4,236,593	892,519	5,129,112	4,676,561
Total Function 4	5,168,451	1,114,724	6,283,175	1,133,461	7,416,636	6,648,975
5 Operations and Maintenance						
5.41 Operations and Maintenance Administration	1,608,222	343,455	1,951,677	721,585	2,673,262	2,372,260
5.50 Maintenance Operations	12,490,780	2,832,813	15,323,593	3,521,848	18,845,441	17,357,995
5.52 Maintenance of Grounds	1,222,307	270,330	1,492,637	354,400	1,847,037	1,773,602
5.56 Utilities	-	-	-	5,699,737	5,699,737	5,355,227
Total Function 5	15,321,309	3,446,598	18,767,907	10,297,570	29,065,477	26,859,084
7 Transportation and Housing						
7.41 Transportation and Housing Administration	124,997	24,124	149,121	3,760	152,881	166,017
7.70 Student Transportation	396,949	103,152	500,101	972,097	1,472,198	1,433,016
Total Function 7	521,946	127,276	649,222	975,857	1,625,079	1,599,033
9 Debt Services						
Total Function 9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Functions 1 - 9	191,020,555	47,525,222	238,545,777	21,478,345	260,024,122	241,962,245

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Special Purpose Revenue and Expense
Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025	2024
	Annual Budget	Annual Budget
	\$	\$
Revenues		
Provincial Grants		
Ministry of Education and Child Care	33,040,138	31,695,620
Other Revenue	6,904,227	6,500,000
Investment Income	327,327	278,560
Total Revenue	<u>40,271,692</u>	<u>38,474,180</u>
Expenses		
Instruction	39,343,061	37,543,649
Operations and Maintenance	828,631	830,531
Total Expense	<u>40,171,692</u>	<u>38,374,180</u>
Net Revenue (Expense)	<u>100,000</u>	100,000
Net Transfers (to) from other funds		
Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	(100,000)	(100,000)
Total Net Transfers	<u>(100,000)</u>	<u>(100,000)</u>
Budgeted Surplus (Deficit), for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Changes in Special Purpose Funds

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Annual Facility Grant	Learning Improvement Fund	Scholarships and Bursaries	Special Education Technology	School Generated Funds	Strong Start	Ready, Set, Learn	OLEP	CommunityLINK
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Deferred Revenue, beginning of year	-	-	784,107	6,880	4,292,136	-	30,000	-	120,000
Add: Restricted Grants									
Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care	810,431	817,401		152,053		192,000	68,600	411,197	4,255,751
Other			10,000		6,992,378				
Investment Income	18,200		56,866		265,627				
	828,631	817,401	66,866	152,053	7,258,005	192,000	68,600	411,197	4,255,751
Less: Allocated to Revenue	828,631	817,401	29,000	152,053	7,169,854	192,000	98,600	411,197	4,375,751
Deferred Revenue, end of year	-	-	821,973	6,880	4,380,287	-	-	-	-
Revenues									
Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care	810,431	817,401		152,053		192,000	98,600	411,197	4,375,751
Other Revenue					6,904,227				
Investment Income	18,200		29,000		265,627				
	828,631	817,401	29,000	152,053	7,169,854	192,000	98,600	411,197	4,375,751
Expenses									
Salaries									
Teachers								77,645	1,088,414
Principals and Vice Principals				6,216				64,514	21,152
Educational Assistants		624,990		112,008	13,000	128,289			99,532
Support Staff									89,501
Substitutes		24,609			60,800	7,394		60,000	42,897
	-	649,599	-	118,224	73,800	135,683	-	202,159	1,341,496
Employee Benefits		167,802		29,855	16,054	34,708		46,178	340,264
Services and Supplies	828,631		29,000	3,974	6,980,000	21,609	98,600	162,860	2,693,991
	828,631	817,401	29,000	152,053	7,069,854	192,000	98,600	411,197	4,375,751
Net Revenue (Expense) before Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	100,000	-	-	-	-
Interfund Transfers									
Tangible Capital Assets Purchased					(100,000)				
	-	-	-	-	(100,000)	-	-	-	-
Net Revenue (Expense)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Expenses funded by, and reported in, the Operating Fund						68,282			

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Changes in Special Purpose Funds

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Classroom Enhancement Fund - Overhead	Classroom Enhancement Fund - Staffing	First Nation Student Transportation	Mental Health in Schools	Changing Results for Young Children	Student & Family Affordability	SEY2KT (Early Years to Kindergarten)	ECL Early Care & Learning	Feeding Futures Fund
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Deferred Revenue, beginning of year	-	-	-	-	-	400,000	30,000	-	200,000
Add: Restricted Grants									
Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care	784,187	20,692,223	109,834	48,000	11,250		19,000	175,000	2,264,368
Other									
Investment Income									
	784,187	20,692,223	109,834	48,000	11,250	-	19,000	175,000	2,264,368
Less: Allocated to Revenue	784,187	20,692,223	109,834	48,000	11,250	400,000	49,000	175,000	2,264,368
Deferred Revenue, end of year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000
Revenues									
Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care	784,187	20,692,223	109,834	48,000	11,250	400,000	49,000	175,000	2,264,368
Other Revenue									
Investment Income									
	784,187	20,692,223	109,834	48,000	11,250	400,000	49,000	175,000	2,264,368
Expenses									
Salaries									
Teachers		16,463,958							
Principals and Vice Principals								144,868	73,696
Educational Assistants									81,524
Support Staff	189,587		27,124						23,699
Substitutes	451,011				1,000		11,500		
	640,598	16,463,958	27,124	-	1,000	-	11,500	144,868	178,919
Employee Benefits	143,589	4,198,310	7,161		216		2,484	30,132	43,108
Services and Supplies		29,955	75,549	48,000	10,034	400,000	35,016		2,042,341
	784,187	20,692,223	109,834	48,000	11,250	400,000	49,000	175,000	2,264,368
Net Revenue (Expense) before Interfund Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interfund Transfers									
Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Revenue (Expense)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Expenses funded by, and reported in, the Operating Fund	770,158		12,000	48,000					

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Changes in Special Purpose Funds

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Health Career Dual Credit Expansion	Ledger School	Provincial Inclusion Outreach	Estate Trust	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Deferred Revenue, beginning of year	-	5,820	751	126,039	5,995,733
Add: Restricted Grants					
Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care	50,000	568,347	1,030,496		32,460,138
Other					7,002,378
Investment Income				10,526	351,219
	50,000	568,347	1,030,496	10,526	39,813,735
Less: Allocated to Revenue	50,000	568,347	1,030,496	14,500	40,271,692
Deferred Revenue, end of year	<u>-</u>	<u>5,820</u>	<u>751</u>	<u>122,065</u>	<u>5,537,776</u>
Revenues					
Provincial Grants - Ministry of Education and Child Care	50,000	568,347	1,030,496		33,040,138
Other Revenue					6,904,227
Investment Income				14,500	327,327
	50,000	568,347	1,030,496	14,500	40,271,692
Expenses					
Salaries					
Teachers		283,214	247,172		18,160,403
Principals and Vice Principals		17,285	42,126		369,857
Educational Assistants		101,334	189,423		1,350,100
Support Staff			34,764		364,675
Substitutes		10,452			669,663
	-	412,285	513,485	-	20,914,698
Employee Benefits		104,494	129,272	-	5,293,627
Services and Supplies	50,000	51,568	387,739	14,500	13,963,367
	50,000	568,347	1,030,496	14,500	40,171,692
Net Revenue (Expense) before Interfund Transfers	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,000</u>
Interfund Transfers					
Tangible Capital Assets Purchased					(100,000)
	-	-	-	-	(100,000)
Net Revenue (Expense)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Additional Expenses funded by, and reported in, the Operating Fund					898,440

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

Annual Budget - Capital Revenue and Expense
Year Ended June 30, 2025

	2025 Annual Budget			2024 Annual Budget
	Invested in Tangible Capital Assets	Local Capital	Fund Balance	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenues				
Provincial Grants				
Ministry of Education and Child Care	3,000,000		3,000,000	2,500,000
Other			-	-
Investment Income		83,800	83,800	69,000
Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Tangible Capital Assets	3,808,000		3,808,000	3,808,000
Amortization of Deferred Capital Revenue	11,154,340		11,154,340	9,549,670
Total Revenue	17,962,340	83,800	18,046,140	15,926,670
Expenses				
Operations and Maintenance	3,000,000		3,000,000	2,500,000
Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets				
Operations and Maintenance	15,741,313		15,741,313	13,375,941
Total Expense	18,741,313	-	18,741,313	15,875,941
Net Revenue (Expense)	(778,973)	83,800	(695,173)	50,729
Net Transfers (to) from other funds				
Tangible Capital Assets Purchased	3,012,115		3,012,115	2,118,250
Total Net Transfers	3,012,115	-	3,012,115	2,118,250
Other Adjustments to Fund Balances				
District Portion of Proceeds on Disposal	(3,808,000)	3,808,000	-	
Total Other Adjustments to Fund Balances	(3,808,000)	3,808,000	-	
Budgeted Surplus (Deficit), for the year	(1,574,858)	3,891,800	2,316,942	2,168,979

TO: The Board of Education

FROM: Katrina Stride, Secretary-Treasurer

DATE: April 9, 2024

RE: **Draft Multi-Year Financial Forecast**

The following worksheet provides a detailed financial forecast for the Operating Fund for the next three fiscal years. When developing the multi-year financial forecast, various budget assumptions were made. Budget assumptions are made based on historical knowledge, experience, and the unique circumstances surrounding our District. Projections become less certain further into the future due to unknown changes in Ministry funding, inflationary increases, and enrolment.

The multi-year financial forecast includes the following assumptions:

- On March 19, 2024, a 1.0% cost-of-living adjustment (“COLA”) was announced by the Ministry of Finance. As the Ministry of Education and Child Care (the “Ministry”) funding for the increase will not be announced until after the 2024-2025 Annual Budget is approved, the related expenditures and revenues have not been included in the draft budget. However, the increase has been included in the 2025-2026 Projected Annual Budget and it is assumed that it will be fully funded by the Ministry.
- Our District’s Collective Agreements expire on June 30, 2025. As we do not know what salary increases will be for July 1, 2025 and beyond, no salary increases or Ministry funding have been built into the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Projected Annual Budgets.
- The Ministry funding rates and projected expenditures have been held constant for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027; inflationary costs have not been included in the projections.
- International student enrolment is expected to decline over the next two years due to projected enrolment decreases at Oak Bay High School and Reynolds Secondary School as multi-year international students graduate and no further international students are placed in these schools. The January Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada announcement on study permit reductions will likely impact Canada’s reputation as an international education destination over the next two to three years. A reduction of 50 FTE has been included in the 2025-2026 Projected Annual Budget, and a further reduction of 50 FTE has been included in the 2026-2027 Projected Annual Budget.
- The full year tuition fee for international students has increased to \$16,500 for 2024-2025, and \$17,000 for new 2024-2025 applications received after March 31, 2024. No further fee increases have been built into 2025-2026 or 2026-2027.
- The 2024-2025 Draft Annual Budget includes \$2.1 million in technology purchases. This is based on a 2:1 student device ratio. Assuming this funding level will continue, our District will need to invest \$2.1 million in technology in 2025-2026 and a further \$1.4 million in 2026-2027. These amounts have been included in the financial forecast under Interfund Transfers, along with a \$0.8 million purchase of capital assets using operating funds.

The Greater Victoria School District wishes to recognize and acknowledge the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories, we live, we learn, and we do our work.

Excluding any inflationary impacts and holding all other revenues and expenses constant, it is projected that our District will be faced with a \$6.0 million deficit in 2024-2025, a \$6.0 million deficit in 2025-2026 and a \$5.5 million deficit in 2026-2027. The 2024-2025 Draft Annual Budget includes a projected \$1.8 million appropriation of accumulated operating surplus from 2023-2024, which reduces the deficit to \$4.1 million.

For 2024-2025, a summary of budget balancing recommendations has been provided. Once budget balancing items have been approved by the Board, the multi-year financial forecast can be updated, so that the impact of those decisions can be seen in the future years.

As there is no projected accumulated operating surplus to balance the deficits in future years, and some of the proposed 2024-2025 recommendations are one-time reductions in expenditures, it is expected that adjustments to service levels will be required to balance the budget in 2025-2026 and 2026-2027.

**Greater Victoria School District
2024-2027 Multi-Year Financial Forecast**

	Actual 2022-2023	Amended Annual Budget 2023-2024	DRAFT Annual Budget 2024-2025	Projected Annual Budget 2025-2026	Projected Annual Budget 2026-2027
Revenues					
Provincial Grants					
Ministry of Education and Child Care	207,997,634	227,615,364	233,113,195	236,523,914	236,886,202
Other	281,178	289,983	283,750	283,750	283,750
Tuition	14,648,427	16,386,862	15,676,233	15,208,733	14,358,733
Other Revenue	3,328,344	3,104,929	2,876,989	2,876,989	2,876,989
Rentals and Leases	2,744,288	2,949,578	3,206,690	3,206,690	3,206,690
Investment Income	1,795,194	2,141,451	1,796,068	1,796,068	1,796,068
Total Operating Revenue	230,795,065	252,488,167	256,952,925	259,896,144	259,408,432
Expenses					
Instruction	194,185,061	215,965,383	221,916,930	224,599,306	224,356,772
District Administration	7,397,587	7,041,816	7,416,636	7,485,523	7,485,523
Operations and Maintenance	26,319,145	27,004,687	29,065,477	29,253,156	29,253,156
Transportation and Housing	1,704,115	1,634,618	1,625,079	1,631,571	1,631,571
Total Operating Expenses	229,605,908	251,646,504	260,024,122	262,969,556	262,727,022
Net Revenue (Expense)	1,189,157	841,663	(3,071,197)	(3,073,412)	(3,318,590)
Transfers to (from) Other Funds					
Capital Assets Purchased	(2,566,120)	(2,536,142)	(2,912,115)	(2,892,200)	(2,228,200)
Local Capital	-	-	-	-	-
Total Net Transfers	(2,566,120)	(2,536,142)	(2,912,115)	(2,892,200)	(2,228,200)
Prior Year Surplus Allocation					
Appropriation of Accumulated Operating Surplus	1,376,963	1,694,479	1,847,592	-	-
Total Prior Year Surplus Appropriation	1,376,963	1,694,479	1,847,592	-	-
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year	-	-	(4,135,720)	(5,965,612)	(5,546,790)

**Greater Victoria School District
2024-2027 Multi-Year Financial Forecast**

	Actual 2022-2023	Amended Annual Budget 2023-2024	DRAFT Annual Budget 2024-2025	Projected Annual Budget 2025-2026	Projected Annual Budget 2026-2027
Accumulated Operating Surplus, Beginning of Year	8,218,621	6,841,658	5,147,179	3,299,587	3,299,587
Appropriation of Accumulated Operating Surplus	(1,376,963)	(1,694,479)	(1,847,592)	-	-
Accumulated Operating Surplus, End of Year	6,841,658	5,147,179	3,299,587	3,299,587	3,299,587
Breakdown of Accumulated Operating Surplus, End of Year					
Restricted Operating Surplus	6,224,545	4,530,066	2,682,474	2,682,474	2,682,474
Unrestricted Operating Surplus - Contingency	617,113	617,113	617,113	617,113	617,113
Accumulated Operating Surplus, End of Year	6,841,658	5,147,179	3,299,587	3,299,587	3,299,587