SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 69 (QUALICUM)



REGULAR BOARD MEETING ADDENDUM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2016 7:00 PM THE FORUM PARKSVILLE CIVIC & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

13. INFORMATION ITEMS

b. ADDENDUM TO: Transportation Funding

Recommendations:

(Ron Amos)

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THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) eliminate the charging of fees to eligible riders effective immediately, with refunds of any fees paid by eligible riders for the 2016/17 school year; and, **THAT** the Board request staff continue to monitor the District's Transportation levels, and provide a report to the Board at the October Regular Board meeting as to any further action that may be required.

SD69 QUALICUM

Ron Amos, Secretary-Treasurer

Memo

Date: August 30, 2016

To: Board of Education

cc: Rollie Koop, Superintendent

From: Ron Amos, Secretary Treasurer

Re: Transportation Funding Announcement

Background/Rationale:

On August 10, the Ministry of Education announced new funding to "make transportation more affordable and accessible for B.C. families".

The ongoing funding is intended for improving services, improving access, boosting student safety, funding of existing transportation services and investing the saving in enhanced student services.

A plan will be submitted to the Ministry by September 30. In the submission, staff will include information about the District's current services, including 2015/16 data (number of routes, numbers of riders, breakdown of types, walk limits) and some narrative on possible issues and furthers plans.

After the reconfiguration process, the Board has continued to support the transportation of students in our district by maintaining the existing routes as well as the budget levels, including staffing and expenses. In the 16/17 budget deliberations the Board has also added funds for off-site curricular experiences.

It is anticipated that, if the Board eliminates the fees for eligible riders, and in order to organize routes and ridership, the District would continue to register and issue bus passes to both eligible and courtesy riders. The fees received to date for eligible riders for the 16/17 year would be refunded.

There will also be a need to continue to monitor the District's service levels, keeping in mind a potential increase in demand in light of this announcement.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 69 (Qualicum) eliminate the charging of fees to eligible riders effective immediately, with refunds of any fees paid by eligible riders for the 2016/17 school year; and,

THAT the Board request staff continue to monitor the District's Transportation levels, and provide a report to the Board at the October Regular Board meeting as to any further action that may be required.