

Finance & Operations Committee of the Whole Report Monday, September 20, 2021 VIA ZOOM 10:30 a.m.

Mandate: To discuss and make recommendations to the board on financial matters and matters pertaining to facilities, maintenance, technology and transportation.

1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

2. Presentation:

3. Project Updates:

a. Oceanside Community Track (at Ballenas) Project Update

Trustee Young provided an update on the project, highlighting fundraising initiatives and meetings that have been held through the summer. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on September 22nd.

b. Arrowview Elementary Child Care Space

The General Manager of Operations, Chris Dempster, shared with the Committee some recent milestones, including recent issuance of occupancy permit which will support the final process of having the licensing walk though later this week. Once the license is issued then the Daycare will begin operations.

c. Craig Street Commons Update

The General Manager of Operations, Chris Dempster, brought the committee up to date on the planning and operationalizing that has gone on to start the Primary Learning Community Program and after-school care program. The project to revitalize the 8 classroom wing of the facility had to be deferred when tenders came back well over budget. The resultant move of the program into an alternate room allowed the program to begin relatively easily with only minor costs to set up. The licensing for the afterschool care came through last week, so that part of the program can now begin.

4. Items for Discussion

a. 2021-2022 Funding & Enrolment Update

Secretary Treasurer Amos shared with the committee a summary of the enrolments as of September 14. It was recognized that the school numbers continue to change slightly as school staff update and review the data in anticipation of the September 29th count date. Associate Superintendent Wilson shared that Springwood Elementary is feeling some enrolment pressures but is able to meet it by using the multi-purpose room as a classroom this year.

Oceanside Elementary on the other hand is seeing some smaller numbers within its regular program. Some discussion on, at what point a school is considered to be "at capacity" but it was felt that this and many other questions would be addressed within the context of the facility and land review to be pursued by the Board in the Fall.

5. Information Items

a. Update-Green House Gas Emissions Study by Prism Engineering

The General Manager of Operations, Chris Dempster, provided an update on the work that Prism Engineering is doing on the district's behalf with BC Hydro to have 5 schools studied and funded for small projects to reduce their energy consumption. The schools included in the study are BSS, QC, OES, SES and QBES.

b. 2022-2023 Capital Plan – Major/Minor Projects

Secretary Treasurer Amos introduced the topic with a background to the new timelines for the submission of the Capital Plans. AFG spending plan is now submitted by June 30, Major Capital by August 31 and Minor Capital by September 30. The provided summary was walked through by General Manager of Operations, Chris Dempster, as he highlighted some rationale for the projects and their timelines based on priorities and if they are multi year.

Discussion continued on the BUS program and whether we would be able to continue to invest in electric buses. It was shared that the Ministry sets the schedule of bus replacement based on age and mileage of the vehicle; however, it was a local decision on the energy source, i.e. gas, diesel or electric.

General discussion to support a letter to the Ministry regarding continued and additional funding to support the higher cost of electric buses.

c. 2020-2021 Audited Financial Statements

- Summary Secretary Treasurer Amos provided highlights to the financial summary information that are the based on the Audited Financial Statements that are being prepared and will be presented to the Board next week. He drew attention to the annual surplus of \$507,912 that will be added to the District's operating fund surplus, noting that \$1.46 million is appropriated for School and District purposes and the remaining \$1.04 million will remain unrestricted.
- Also highlighted were the Special Purpose, Local Capital and other Provincial funds which remain within the Boards statements as special reserve funds.
- Financial Statement Discussion & Analysis Secretary Treasurer Amos briefly spoke to the FSDA report as a now new requirement from the Ministry in order to provide additional information about the Districts planning and programs that wouldn't otherwise be included in the financial statements or the notes to the financial statements.

d. Moilliet and Despard intersection

Follow up discussion on the work from last year that was pursued by the City in order to increase safety at the intersection in light of the increased traffic and construction activity. Chair Flynn indicated she would reach out to Mayor Mayne to find out if there was more input required and what else the City was looking into.

e. Recommendations to the Board of Education

i. District Flu Vaccinations

General discussion on the annual motion from the Board on the Flu shot support and the consideration for making the motion as an "until further notice", so that it wasn't necessary for annual discussion.

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) approve flu vaccinations to be made available each year free of charge to employees in School District 69 (Qualicum) until further notice.

ii. Funding for Electric Buses

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) write a letter to the Ministry of Education to request that, going forward, the level of funding for bus replacement be set at the cost of the purchase price for electric buses.

iii. 2022-2023 Capital Plan Submission

THAT the Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) support the 2022-2023 Capital Plan submission as presented.

f. Future Topics

- **a.** Land and Facilities Review this topic will be brought forward for future meetings after the Board has determined the scope and process to the review.
- b. Exploration of Community Schools Concept
- c. Zonar Bus Pass Update

g. Next Meeting Date/Location:

Monday, October 18, 2021 at 10:30 – Via Zoom Until Further Notice