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**Qualicum School District
Finance & Operations Committee of the Whole Report
Tuesday, May 20, 2025
Via Video Conferencing
10:30 a.m.**

Facilitator: Trustee Carol Kellogg

We would like to give thanks and acknowledge that the lands on which we work and learn are on the shared traditional territory of the Qualicum and Snaw-Naw-As (Nanoose) First Nations People.

Mandate: *To discuss and make recommendations to the board on financial, facilities, maintenance, technology and transportation matters with a view to environmental sustainability.*

1. PRESENTATIONS (10 MINUTES) - None

2. PROJECT UPDATES

a. Oceanside Community Track

Phil Munro, Director of Operations, reported out the track is in the final stages for completion. The top coat of the rubberized surface is scheduled to be applied for late May, weather permitting. Once the track itself is complete the interior field can be seeded and irrigated so that the field will be available in late Fall or early Spring, once the new grass takes hold. Rudy Terpstra, Director of Instruction, shared the planning going into a formal event to recognize the contributors and the official opening of the new track. There was support to hold off the event until the Fall so that a more public event could be planned when the field and track would be fully operational.

b. False Bay School Replacement Community Engagement

Director of Operations Munro shared what the next steps would be now that the School District have received funding approval to the False Bay project. It was reported that the project is in its very early stages of planning and community engagement and that the project has a four-year planning and construction cycle with a planned opening for Fall 2028. There is an initial meeting planned for May 29th on Lasqueti Island to introduce the project manager to the site and the school and community members to begin the engagement work of listening and responding to questions. It was shared the external project manager was the former Director of Operations of the Comox School District who has a deep understanding of school construction and, having recently rebuilt the Hornby Island school, has a great deal of experience with constructing on an isolated Island.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. Special Budget Board Meeting

Secretary Treasurer Amos shared that there will be a meeting later the same evening and all are invited to attend. The agenda is shared on the website and the meeting will include some background information on enrolments and financial implications to addresses the anticipated 25/26 budget deficit.

b. Transportation Fees

Brant Prunkl, Manager of Operations – Safety and Transportation, presented the proposed transportation fee increases that would go into effect for the 2025/26 year. Some data was shared on current registrations and how the new approach

to the fees is increasing the applications coming forward for early registration. It was shared that this earlier information will allow the Transportation Department to better plan for routes and ridership going into the new year.

The proposed 2025/26 transportation fees are as follows:

Proposed Busing Fee Summary Table

	ELIGIBLE RIDER FEES	COURTESY RIDER FEES
Early - between April - June 30th	Free	\$175.00*
Late - between July 1st - July 31st	\$25.00*	\$225.00*
Late - after August 1st	\$50.00*	\$275.00*

These fees were supported by the Committee and are being recommended for approval by the Board at its May 27th Regular Board Meeting.

4. INFORMATION ITEM(S)

a. Annual Facility Grant (AFG) Spending Plan

Director of Operations Munro spoke to the planning the goes into the development of the spending plan. Discussions with Operations staff and facility administrators create the list of projects which are then prioritized in order of costs and timing associated with each. It was shared that with the Track project going on at Ballenas Secondary School, some funds have been set aside to support additional work for the field. The 2025/26 spending plan was supported to go forward for approval by the Board at its May 27th Regular Board Meeting.

b. Climate Change Accountability Report (CCAR)

Secretary Treasurer Amos presented the CCAR report for receipt and recommendation for approval by the Board at the May Regular Board meeting and gave a brief presentation highlighting the recent trend in energy savings which directly translates to reduced GHG emissions. He indicated that although this is good news it will need a couple years to see if this continues. The data indicates that there are decreases for all measures; however, building emissions which have declined the last two years have the most impact. It was shared that there are likely a few contributing factors to this decreased energy usage in the facilities such as changes in how the HVAC units are managing the air flow, District awareness on the energy impact of open doors and windows, solar arrays are now fully operational at all their locations, and there is better management of the DDC controls.

5. ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

a. Annual Facility Grant (AFG) Spending Plan

b. Climate Change Accountability Report (CCAR)

c. Transportation fees for 2025/26

6. FUTURE TOPICS

a. Cyber Security

b. Feeding Futures Funding/National School Food Program

7. NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, June 16, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. via video conferencing