

Committee of the Whole Meeting

May 16, 2017 1:00 pm

District Education Office, 33046 – 4th Avenue, Mission, BC

Members Present:

Acting Chair Tracy Loffler
Board Chair Rick McKamey
Trustee Randy Cairns
Trustee Shelley Carter
Trustee Jim Taylor

Staff Present:

Superintendent Angus Wilson
Secretary Treasurer Corien Becker
Assistant Superintendent Larry Jepsen
Assistant Secretary Treasurer Derek Welsh
Director, Student Services,Carolynn Schmor
Director, Technology and Innovation, Colleen Hannah
District Principal, Joe Heslip (part)
Executive Assistant Tracy Orobko

Partner Groups Present:

CUPE: George Forsythe, Faye Howell
DPAC: Cyndi Polovina, Laura Wilson
MTU: Amber Chung, Anna Heavenor

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by the Acting Chairperson. The Chair acknowledged the meeting was being held on Stó:lō Territory. There are four First Nation Bands within the boundaries of the Mission School District: Leq:a'mel, Sq'èwlets, Kwantlen, and Matsqui First Nations.

2. Adoption of Agenda

One Additional Item:

8.1 Information Item: Superintendent: Award Summit Learning

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. Delegations/Presentations

4. Unfinished Business

5. Staff Reports

5.1 2017-2018 Preliminary Budget

The Secretary Treasurer introduced the School Based Staffing Summary. There may still be a few revisions resulting from upcoming meetings with CUPE and principals.

The reduction of clerical support at Riverside from two to one is ongoing and the budget may return reflecting it as remaining as two as it requires a larger review of workload issues. More information will be provided for further conversation at the May 30th committee meeting.

A summary of non-school based staffing enrolment was provided.

Staff has undertaken a review of district-related and other support positions; the spreadsheets are presented for information.

The Board will be receiving comparison data at a public Board meeting when the budget is presented.

It was pointed out that page two of the spreadsheets should be revised to read, “non-school based FTE...”.

A question was asked regarding Fraserview/Riverside/Summit enrolments and funding. Fraserview students are fully funded. The numbers represented are placeholders. The monthly enrolment for summit is much higher. The spreadsheets represent ‘guestimates’ as Fraserview and Summit students arrive throughout the year. These numbers are only FTEs, not headcount; clerical supports are based on headcount.

Trustee Cairns joined the meeting at 1:15 pm.

It was suggested that the decision regarding staffing at Riverside be determined as soon as possible to sustain services there mitigating risk in losing clerical support to other postings; continuity factor.

A question was asked regarding the District Principal, Aboriginal Education, to which it was confirmed the role is listed under “Other Management”.

Concerns raised:

- Budget process and trends: The Board entered the School District in a high debt/deficit situation and drastic cuts were made. Now, it is seeing an upswing in non-student contact positions. The District is growing as a result of how drastic cuts were made before; a stated fear of accumulating debt. was expressed and the existing trend;
- Increase in school administrative time; perception is it has been conducted without philosophical discussion with Trustees;
- District level: When you add positions, you are adding “in perpetuity” (ie: I.T. Manager) – *counter statement whereby there has been a reduction to a district principal position*;
- At some point, the returns become diminished and growth is no longer warranted;
- Caution warned on monies being spent on technology.

Staff confirmed they will be gathering more data and will be providing the Board with statistics comparing prior years. Right now, it is simply data to use as a starting point.

A question was asked relating to LST and student services. Discussion ensued. Any increases have been made due to a need at a particular school. Some categories of required support were clarified.

Concerns were raised regarding principals and workloads.

Clarification was made regarding “Total Admin”, “Total Student/Classroom Staffing” columns. All equate to the “Total School Based Staffing” column.

It was indicated that today’s presentation is what staff anticipates recommending.

A question was asked regarding staffing levels for elementary schools: knowing there will be an increase of 22 and knowing the district will be in violation of teaching in September, is it going to be reflected at some point? (*The bucket of funding for remedies*).

Response: These numbers reflect people, not dollars.

Discussion ensued:

- Student input: The Supt. will be meeting with MSS to discuss student involvement; a proposal was made that aboriginal student leadership be included too;
- Annual Facilities Grant, local capital, solar arrays;
- Local capital vs. Annual Facilities Grant;
- Funding for an ITA approved facility;
- Moving of engineering dept. to facilities – is out of local capital and has been budgeted. The Asst. Secretary Treasurer offered to obtain an update on tendering.

6. New Business

7. Minutes of Previous Meetings

A concern was raised regarding the format of summary minute taking from the last meeting and clarification sought.

Response: Defining of summary minutes only; salient points. It was clarified that some conversations do not actually give direction and the purpose is to give direction stemming from the meetings.

MOVED and Seconded that the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes dated May 9, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8. Information Items

8.1 Summit Learning Centre – Comic Strip Concept Contest - TELUS

A student who entered a contest on behalf of Summit, won a \$3,000 prize for the school and a personal \$500 prize; Summit is seeking a Trustee(s) to participate in a formal Telus presentation. Interested Trustee(s) were asked to contact Principal, Lynn Cummings, directly. Trustee Taylor is the liaison and agreed to participate.

Next Budget meetings:

Tuesday, May 23rd @ 1:00 pm

Tuesday, May 30th (1:00 – 6:00 pm) – bigger conversation on “what’s in what’s out”.

9. Adjournment

Moved and Seconded to adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Chairperson

Secretary Treasurer