

**School District #75 (Mission)
Special Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

**May 26, 2020, 3:30 pm
Zoom Meeting**

Members Present: Board Chair, Tracy Loffler
Vice Chair, Randy Cairns
Trustee, Shelley Carter
Trustee, Rick McKamey
Trustee, Julia Renkema

Staff Present: Superintendent of Schools Angus Wilson
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez
Secretary-Treasurer, Corien Becker
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Derek Welsh
District Principal of International Education, Collen Hannah
District Principal of Indigenous Education, Vivian Searwar
Director of Student Services, Carolynn Schmor
Executive Assistant, Aleksandra Crescenzo (Recorder)

Others Present: School Principal/ PVPA Representative – Linda Ziefflie,
CUPE President – Faye Howell, MTU President – Janise
Nikolic, DPAC Representatives Dionne Hairsine.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by the Chairperson. The Chair acknowledged that Mission Public Schools is 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

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. STAFF REPORTS

3.1 2020 / 2021 Preliminary Budget

The Secretary-Treasurer noted that the budget has become exceptionally tight over the past few years. Most recently, the changes to the

international program and the anticipated loss of students has also affected the budget.

An overview was provided of the items that are impacting the budget including the risks and opportunities that may affect the budgets moving forward.

The Assistant Superintendent discussed the option of adding a teacher at Silverdale Elementary to address the multi-age classroom. Adding a teacher leaves 19 available spots in the school. Due to Silverdale's location, the school would not work as an overflow school. There are other schools in the School District with multi-age classes.

The Assistant Superintendent acknowledged the work that is being completed by Teacher-Librarians and the opportunities that have resulted in the additional time provided to the Teacher-Librarians (.1 at each elementary school).

An overview was provided on the number of Mentor Teacher Positions and their roles in the School District.

The Secretary-Treasurer noted that enrolment projections are on the conservative side. There will be some additional revenue related to enrolment but nothing too significant.

The Director of Student Services provided an overview of the process for determining needs for Education Assistant (EA) supports. The School District has a certain number of EAs (160) and EA time is allocated based on the needs of each school. The SD is doing a fairly good job matching the support needs for each school.

The Director of the International Program discussed staffing levels for ELL. One notable change is testing students at the Kindergarten level at the start of the year. This will allow the School District to collect funding if needs are determined early on in the year.

Clarity was requested regarding the blocks being offered at MSS. If we restricted the blocks at MSS, the SD is unable to accommodate additional international students at the school. At this time, we are estimating 30 more international students who are finalizing their paperwork.

There is approximately \$400,000 in lost revenue related to the international program. Staff can determine if the program is covering its fixed costs.

What is the possibility of international students starting in the Distance Learning (DL) program? Staff have reviewed these options. Another consideration is to have students stay in Canada over the summer. The challenge with DL is that students need to reside in the country.

A question was asked about international medical fees. International Students pay a combined fee of tuition and medical fees.

A question was asked regarding computer leases. The computer leases are up on January 1, 2023.

Clarification was provided that the CUPE Learning Enhancement Fund and the Boot Allowance are bargained items that are funded.

Was there an increase in the garbage/recycling/organics costs? The figure is an estimated amount.

A question was asked if the SD is aware of any impacts for funding related to DL students. Staff have not received any information regarding this piece of information. Superintendent will investigate further.

Trustee Carter left the meeting at 5:05 pm.

Another Special Committee of the Whole meeting to be scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2020.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

4.1 Special Committee of the Whole meeting minutes dated May 12, 2020

The minutes were not approved at this meeting. They will be included with the next special agenda for review and approval.

5. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 pm.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Chair, Board of Education

Secretary Treasurer

The minutes were approved on June 9, 2020 at the Sp. Committee of the Whole meeting.