

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

**May 31, 2022, 3:30 pm  
Zoom Meeting**

- Members Present:** Board Chair, Tracy Loffler  
Vice-Chair, Randy Cairns  
Trustee, Shelley Carter  
Trustee, Julia Renkema  
Trustee, Rick McKamey
- Staff Present:** Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson  
Secretary-Treasurer, Corien Becker  
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez  
Director of Finance, Derek Welsh  
Director of Operations, Dana MacLean  
Director of Student Services Carolynn Schmor  
District Principal of Student Services – Beth-Anne Cullen  
Executive Assistant, Ilona Schmidt (Recorder)
- Staff Absent:** District Principal of Indigenous Education, Vivian Searwar  
District Principal of International Education, Collen Hannah
- Others Present:** CUPE President, Nansy Gibson, MTU President Ryan McCarty,  
MTU Vice-President, Shannon Bowsfield

**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 the traditional, ancestral, unceded and shared lands of the Stó:lo people, which include Sq'éwlets, Leq'á:mel, Sema:th, Matheqwí, and Qwó:ltl'el First Nations.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOVED and Seconded THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.  
CARRIED**

**3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**4. CURRICULUM**

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**5.1 2022-2023 Budget Update**

Staff prioritized the most urgent items and added support to align with the Strategic Plan. MSS Career prep EA has not yet been withdrawn. Summer psychologists are to help with reducing the backlog. 0.1 FTE added over the Summer is the minimum, but for September, we will be fully staffed. One psychologist will work one month over the Summer, and possibly one more - likely not more than .2 FTE. Note: To change the amount to \$23,000

Admin at all the schools are spending so much time teaching, so they are not able to do other work. Recommend increasing admin time at the schools, and share a VP between Cherry Hill/West Heights for next year. Based on challenges through the pandemic, this seems to be a good solution. 0.2 bump-ups are added to admin for the elementary time to help alleviate problems in the system. Teachers/Staff are struggling with Principals not being available as support.

MTU agrees with adding admin support - especially to help with violent incidents.

Literacy Mentor Teacher - has been influencing the conversation about how literacy is taught at K-9 (and at MSS).

Speech and language pathologist: Throughout the pandemic, a lot of children did not get the speech and language therapy normally provided, causing a growing need.

EA mentor, MTU member, will provide support to the 180 EAs in the system. All have their training, but some need help creating visuals (to help eliminate violent incidents)

MSS YCW – MSS had half the counselling staff (one exists now, shared by MSS, Summit, and Riverside). One extra staff helps students directly.

EA, YCW - vacancy at elementary.

Physical Therapist - we contract out service from FV Child Development Centre – for mobility issues, safety in class, change tables, students coming back from surgery. We may not have staff until January. The Director of Student Services has reached out and would like to have the budget ready when a person becomes available.

HPMS Leadership blocks: we have significant challenges at the middle schools. There are 2 teachers who would like to re-implement the leadership program. It is proactive, not constantly reacting to crisis. At HPMS, Leadership became a block that VPs took on, and they currently do not have the capacity. Leadership is connected to positive experiences at school. HPMS - anyone can sign up for leadership. HMS - there is an application process, VPs encourage the kids who would be good leaders (students are selected).

A comment was made that we should have also some Indigenous leader students to give them confidence in the general school population.

Additional support with increased hours for the transportation secretary is needed as the bus ridership has been increasing.

Support a second FT position at MSS in the kitchen.

We may also need to add some more blocks at the middle school level.

Siwal Si'wes van: some students cannot make it to school. ILWs have been transporting students in their own vehicles.

We requested funds from the Ministry to purchase a van (not a bus). We may need to hire a bus driver. Using a paid EA as a driver has proven a challenge. The problem arises when EA is away. It is also taking employees from their other duties. We have a student who requires special ed busing (paid bus driver, the student gets up an hour early). If students miss the 7:15 am/7:30 am bus, there is no way to get them to school. Another aspect - when safety, legalities are

considered, if there is an accident (protecting union members). We have liability coverage and training for employees other than bus drivers transporting students.

**Prioritized for considering with the Amended budget:**

- Dust collector at Ferndale - School resources budget - most schools are using the funding they have quite well. Curriculum support.
- Riverside expansion
- IT analyst
- Bus predictor arms
- Request to increase Summit teaching for Gr 8, 9
- Settlement worker/navigator - support for families

**For future consideration:** Childcare. We will need to have a conversation in the future.

Adjustments can be made and the draft Bylaw can be drafted for Board's consideration.

A question was asked about ELL support for international students - should the amount be increased? Transfer from International program - we are close to balanced. No extras are needed.

Out of the additional \$1,065,000 over \$700,000 go directly into supports for students.

**6. STAFF REPORTS**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

8.1 Special Committee of the Whole RE: 2022-23 Budget Minutes, May 10, 2022

**MOVED and Seconded that the Special Committee of the Whole RE: 2022-23 Budget minutes dated May 10, 2022, be approved.**

**CARRIED**

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 pm.

Original signed by T. Loffler

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Chair, Board of Education

Original signed by C. Becker

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Secretary-Treasurer

The minutes were approved on June 14, 2022 at the Special Committee of the Whole meeting.