

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

**April 30, 2019, 3:30 pm
District Education Office, 33046 4th Avenue, Mission, BC**

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

Staff Present: Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson
Assistant Superintendent, Larry Jepsen
Secretary Treasurer, Corien Becker
Assistant Secretary Treasurer, Derek Welsh
Director of Student Services, Carolyn Schmor
Executive Assistant, Aleksandra Zwierzchowska (Recorder)

Others Present: Principal Linda Ziefflie (PVPA), Kathy McMillian Dyslexia
Canada, Dionne Hairsine (DPAC), Candace Koch, Chantelle
Morvay- Adams DPAC Co-Chair, MTU President Janise
Nikolic, Principal Jim Pearce and District Inclusion Mentor
Shannon Bowsfield.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by the 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

MOVED and Seconded that the Agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

One addition: Item 4.2 Student Consultation

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Candace Koch distributed a report and provided a presentation on literacy programs for diverse learners. The presentation included information about early screening for dyslexia in Kindergarten.

The School District has invested in Joyful Literacy which focuses on early intervention and strategies that assist with closing gaps for students who have difficulty with alphabetic principles. Data is collected via assessment tools and a Blitz strategy is offered to students who require additional assistance with literacy skills. The goal is that by the end of Kindergarten, students know all of their letters sounds.

4. STAFF REPORTS

4.1 2019/2020 Preliminary Budget

MOVED and Seconded that the draft preliminary budget information for the 2019-2020 school year be discussed and returned to the May 14, 2019 Special Committee of the Whole for further consideration.

CARRIED

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer provided an overview of the 2019/20 Preliminary Budget and advised that the attachment does not include the Special Purpose Funds or Operating Capital. The budget is in a draft format and some revisions will be made. The revenue for Rentals & Leases will increase slightly due to the child care centre opening at Stave Falls Elementary School.

An overview was provided for the Operating Expense Changes. Clarification was provided about the information outlined under the "Supplies" line. If we remove the "Schools - prior year carry-over of \$346,086", staff explained that the cost of supplies increased by \$35,000.

The Assistant Secretary Treasurer advised that there are pending adjustments that include collective agreement changes, utility expenses, AB ED (offsets for increased funding and wage increases) and potential FTE changes. It was noted that the School District needs to monitor expense categories like Substitute, Teacher, and Support which will impact next year's budget.

A question was asked about the furniture project. The inventory for asbestos containing furniture is complete. The School District disposes of some asbestos containing furniture each year. Last year extra funding was set aside for this initiative, but it has been since moved back into the budget.

It was noted that each school experienced a 15% budget decrease. Heritage Park Middle School was budgeting for an outdoor park/ fitness area for the school. With a decrease in the budget, the school is unable to proceed with this plan.

Next year, Mission Secondary will offer approximately 20 new courses related to the redesigned curriculum. There will be a significant cost to purchase and prepare resources.

A discussion ensued regarding reductions to school budgets and how this is impacting the students. The Board requested the following information be presented at the next budget meeting:

- That Staff work with schools to determine the decrease to each school's budget.
- How will each school be impacted by this change?
- How can items be rolled into a wish list?
- What are the cost of the resources that schools cannot afford?
- YTD actuals
- Information about donations and if the School District receives substantial monetary donations, how will the Ministry react to such donations?

4.2 Student Consultation

The Superintendent provided a summary on budget priorities provided by Middle School and Secondary students. The Committee requested a copy of the list. Staff advised that the list will be included on the next agenda.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed by Tracy Loffler

Chair, Board of Education

Original Signed by Corien Becker

Secretary Treasurer