



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**
Together We Learn

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Finance and Audit Committee Meeting

Public Meeting

Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 4:00 pm

School Board Office

1040 Hollywood Road S

Kelowna, BC

Board of Education: Trustee W. Broughton, Chair
Trustee V. Johnson, Committee Member
Trustee C. Desrosiers, Committee Member
Trustee A. Geistlinger
Trustee L. Guderyan
Trustee L. Tiede

Absent: Trustee J. Fraser

Staff: Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Kate Cumming, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Val Dougans, Finance Manager
Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO
Lise Bradshaw, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Absent: Terry Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Partner Groups: Susan Bauhart, COTA President
Nicola Baker, COPAC Vice-President
Kieran Fahy, CUPE Secretary-Treasurer
Scott Sieben, COPVPA President
Zachary Johnson, DSC Co-President

**The Central Okanagan Board of Education acknowledged that this meeting was being held
the unceded, Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People.**

AGENDA

April 5, 2023 Committee Agenda - approved as presented.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Finance and Audit Committee Public Meeting Report - February 15, 2023

February 15, 2023 Committee Report - received as distributed.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public questions/comments.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUERIES/COMMENTS

There were no questions/comments from the Committee.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Trustee Indemnity for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer stated that the Trustee Indemnity for the following fiscal year comes forward annually and is based on the BC Consumer Price Index.

The Committee discussed the difference in Trustee Indemnities for Boards of Education across the Province and recent salary increases for COTA and CUPE staff.

Outcome:

The Finance and Audit Committee recommended to the Board:

THAT: The Board of Education set the Trustee Indemnity, in accordance with the most recent BC Consumer Price Index of 7.0% for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 thereby setting the stipend at: Trustee - \$24,051, Vice Chair - \$25,401, Chair - \$27,453.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

2023/2024 Estimated Ministry of Education and Child Care Grant Funding

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer stated that each year in March the Ministry of Education and Child Care announces the expected Operating Grant funding for the following fiscal year. This past March, the Ministry announced that there will be a 9.4% increase to the per pupil operating rates for the 2023/2024 year which will cover the negotiated increases for teachers and support staff and help cover some of the District's inflationary costs and increased needs for next year.

The 2023/2024 estimated Operating Grants, based on the 2022/2023 enrolment plus growth, were outlined.

Central Okanagan Public Schools Superintendent of Schools/CEO 2023/2024 Budget Proposal Report

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO presented the Budget Proposal Report for the 2023/2024 year.

The District is satisfied with the recent Ministry of Education and Child Care Operating Grant announcements and will continue to efficiently staff schools while addressing growth, capacity challenges, classroom complexity and increased dysregulated students in schools. There continues to be some areas of concern for the District:

- Operating Grant funding did not fully address the inflationary cost increases the District is expecting for next year.
- Portable costs, to address enrolment increases and capacity restraints, continue to be funded by the District's Operating Grant funding. The District is currently at 106% capacity utilization district wide.

The District will continue to create safe learning environments for students and staff as society becomes more complex and will continue to add programs where there are clear gaps.

The District also anticipates the continued student growth will offset some of the ongoing budget pressures, however, the District anticipates a \$2.055M budget pressure for the 2023/2024 Annual Budget Bylaw. The District can meet this anticipated \$2.055M budget pressure by leveraging a one-time benefit holiday for both teachers and support staff in the fall of 2023, as well as shifting food costs, currently supported by CommunityLink funding, to the new Provincial "Feeding Futures" Program recently announced. This will then allow the District to redirect mental health costs from the Operating Fund to CommunityLink.

The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer and Superintendent of Schools/CEO answered queries from the Committee on the 2023/2024 budget proposal.

2023/2024 Public Budget Survey Results

The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer provided information on the budget survey sent out in early February to partner groups, parents, students and staff to gather feedback for the development of the 2023/2024 Annual Budget Bylaw. The committee discussed the results of the survey.

RECOMMENDATIONS/REFERRALS TO THE BOARD/COORDINATING COMMITTEE/OTHER COMMITTEES

Public Board Meeting - April 26, 2023

- Trustee Indemnity for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year (*Action Item*)

ITEMS FOR FUTURE FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

April (2nd Meeting)

- Central Okanagan School District Preliminary Budget Proposal – Superintendent’s Budget Recommendations
- Financial Report at March 31st
- 2023/2024 Preliminary Indigenous Education Budget

May

- Auditor’s Report to the Finance and Audit Committee – Initial Communication on Audit Planning for the Year
- Annual CommunityLINK Allocations
- Financial Update - International Education Program

June

- School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year
- 2022/2023 Accumulated Operating Surplus Review

FUTURE FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings start at 4:00 pm.

April 19, 2023

May 17, 2023

June 21, 2023

Main Board Room, 1040 Hollywood Rd. S., Kelowna

MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no questions from the media.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Broughton, Chair at 250-718-9219 or Wayne.Broughton@sd23.bc.ca

Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO at 250-860-8888 or Delta.Carmichael@sd23.bc.ca.

Wayne Broughton, Chair