



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

CENTRAL OKANAGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS - BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

Planning and Facilities Committee Public Meeting

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 6:00 pm
School Board Office
1040 Hollywood Road S
Kelowna, BC**

- Board of Education: Trustee C. Desrosiers, Chairperson
Trustee J. Fraser, Committee Member
Trustee L. Tiede, Committee Member
Trustee M. Baxter
Trustee W. Broughton
- Staff: Mitch Van Aller, Director of Operations
Delta Carmichael, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO (*arrived at 6:18 pm*)
Terry Beaudry, Deputy Superintendent of Schools (*arrived at 6:18 pm*)
Stuart Kamstra, Assistant Director of Operations
David Widdis, Planning Manager
Gail Prokopchuk, Transportation Manager
Michelle DesRochers, Executive Assistant (recorder)
- Partner Groups: Susan Bauhart, COTA President (*left at 6:55 pm*)
Teri Wishlow, CUPE Vice-President
Nicola Baker, COPAC Vice-President
Ryan Ward, COPVPA Middle School Representative
Zach Johnson, DSC - Grade 11 at KSS

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

AGENDA

Move: Agenda Item 3. Public Question/Comment Period after Agenda Item 5. Discussion/Information Items.

May 4, 2022 Committee Agenda - approved as amended.

6:18 pm: The Superintendent of Schools/CEO and the Deputy Superintendent of Schools joined the meeting.

REPORTS/MATTERS ARISING

Planning and Facilities Committee Public Meeting Report - April 6, 2022

April 6, 2022 Committee Report - received as distributed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS QUERIES/COMMENTS

There were no queries/comments from Committee members.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Overview of the Transportation Department Services

The Director of Operations provided an overview of the services provided by the Transportation Department. Currently, the Transportation Department provides service to 4,549 students, of which 3,610 are eligible and 743 are courtesy riders. The District operates 70 bus routes, including 11 special needs routes. The 2022-2023 application period for school bus transportation is open and approximately 4,143 applications have been received to date with the expectation that an additional 1,000 - 1,500 applications will be received prior to the closing date of May 31, 2022. An additional 1,000 - 1,500 applications are anticipated to be received over the summer months.

The Director of Operations shared that the District has experienced severe school bus driver shortages this year due to retirements and resignations. This has resulted in frequent school bus route cancellations. Various other staff members, who have the appropriate driver's license, have assisted in getting students to/from school and bus routes in three separate areas of the District were amalgamated to minimize the impact to students. The Transportation Department continues to recruit, hire, and train new bus drivers and anticipates having adequate staffing levels for the startup of the 2022-2023 school year.

The Director of Operations and the Transportation Manager responded to questions.

The Transportation Department staff were commended for their hard work during a challenging time.

The Secretary-Treasurer/CFO shared that the school bus transportation service is partially funded by the Ministry of Education and Child Care and school bus fees by families; however, there is a shortfall of approximately \$3.3 million that is covered using the District's operating budget.

Draft 2023-2024 Five Year Capital Plan

The Director of Operations outlined the draft 2023-2024 Five Year Capital Plan that is required to be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Child Care by the end of June each year. The School Enhancement Program (SEP) has a number of roofing projects as the District had to defer \$11 million in roofing projects due the inadequate provincial Annual Facility Grant funding. Roofing projects have been bundled to maximize funding opportunities. The 2023-2024 Capital Plan Submission will come forward to the June 1, 2022 Public Planning and Facilities Committee meeting.

6:55 pm: *The COTA President left the meeting.*

The Director of Operations responded to Committee member queries/comments.

PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT PERIOD

Jason Roget expressed concerns with being notified of cancelled bus routes and the District's ability to plan for staff shortages.

The Director of Operations shared that the District does not have a large spare bus driver list; therefore, doesn't have resources to respond to school bus driver illness. He also stated that the District did not foresee the number of bus driver retirements/resignations that occurred this year.

The Superintendent of Schools/CEO stated that the Human Resources Department has ongoing recruitment but did not anticipate a pandemic and how it would affect the District's work force.

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIAL MENTION

The Board Chair and the Superintendent of Schools/CEO recognized the Director of Operations for his years of service, his efforts in responding to emergencies, his persistence in advocating for capital projects, and wished him luck in his retirement.

The Director of Operations thanked everyone for their kind words and support over the years.

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

Public Board Meeting - May 25, 2022

- Overview of the Transportation Department Services (*Information*)

ITEMS FOR FUTURE PLANNING AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- School Bus Safety Including: Seat Belts

June

- Energy & Sustainability Presentation
- 2023-2024 Five Year Capital Plan Submission

FUTURE PLANNING AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings start at 6:00 pm unless otherwise noted.

June 1, 2022

September 7, 2022, October 5, 2022, November 2, 2022

MEDIA QUESTIONS

There were no media questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Questions - Please Contact:

Trustee Desrosiers, Chair at 250-718-6303 or Chantelle.Desrosiers@sd23.bc.ca

Mitch Van Aller, Director of Operations at 250-870-5150 or Mitch.Vanaller@sd23.bc.ca

Chantelle Desrosiers, Chair