

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 – BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Finance and Legal Committee DATE: April 15, 2015
CHAIRPERSON: Trustee L. Mossman STAFF CONTACT: E. Sadlowski, Director of Finance

The Committee Chairperson acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the Traditional Territory of the Okanagan People.

Attendees:

Board of Education:	Staff:
Trustee L. Mossman (Chairperson)	E. Sadlowski, Director of Finance
Trustee R. Cacchioni (Committee Member)	L. Paul, Secretary-Treasurer
Trustee J. Fraser (Committee Member)	H. Gloster, Superintendent
Trustee M. Baxter	T. Beaudry, Assistant Superintendent
	B. Bertram, Executive Assistant (<i>Recorder</i>)

Partner Group Representation:

COTA	Susan Bauhart, President
COPAC	Vivian Evans, President
COPVPA	Vianne Kintzinger, Treasurer (<i>arrived at 6:32 pm</i>)
CUPE	Wendy Johnson, President
District Student Council	Mitch Asling, Grade 12 – Kelowna Secondary School

Agenda/Additions/Amendments/Deletions

The agenda order was amended with Information Item 7.1 “Provincial Joint Early Intervention Services Program” being moved to Presentation Item 3.1.

Add: New material was provided for Discussion/Action Item 6.2 “Trustee Indemnity for the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year”.

April 15, 2015 Agenda – approved as amended.

Reports/Matters Arising

April 1, 2015 Committee Report – received as presented.

Recognition/Presentations/Delegations

Rob Hewitt, CUPE National Servicing Representative, provided information on the Provincial Joint Early Intervention Services (JEIS) Program which is provided through the Public Education Benefits Trust (PEBT) for CUPE members. Information on the program is available online through www.pebt.ca. The JEIS Program provides early identification of the sick/injured member’s needs and active treatment of member health issues. Access is provided to specialists, medical resources and treatments in order to facilitate the member’s return to work. In order to qualify for sick benefits, e.g. Long-Term Disability, all members must participate in the JEIS Program. Funding for JEIS is provided by the provincial government and the program is jointly supported by the School District and the local CUPE Union.

The COTA President provided a handout outlining a similar program offered by the BCTF for their members.

Committee members discussed the Special Purpose Grant for Attendance Support and Wellness in the amount of \$137,973 which has been provided by the Ministry of Education as a one-time only grant to be used to implement or sustain local attendance support and wellness programing. The funds must be spent by the end of the 2017/2018 school year.

Discussion/Action Items

1. **Central Okanagan School District 2015/2016 Preliminary Budget Proposal – Superintendent’s Budget Recommendations**

The Superintendent provided a review of the annual budget development and timelines for Board approval. The budget bylaw must be approved by the Board of Education by June 30th of each year. Clear budget direction is required in advance of the May 1st requirement to move forward with teacher staffing notices/postings. The 2015/2016 budget pressures were reviewed. These amount to a funding shortfall of approximately \$1,370,000. Funding requests have also been received from various groups for an additional \$537,495 in total. The Superintendent is recommending that the Board support \$133,000 worth of additional expenditures based on these requests, which increases the total budget pressure to \$1,503,000. In order to address the budget pressures, the District must either increase revenue, decrease costs or improve efficiencies.

Committee members discussed the District’s additional surplus available. It was agreed that, in order to provide greater clarity on surplus funds, the Director of Finance would provide a handout at the April 22, 2015 Special Finance and Legal Committee outlining the changes to the District’s surplus over the previous year.

Following Committee discussion regarding the recommendation to reinstate the Aboriginal Mental Health Clinician position at a cost of \$60,000, the Superintendent provided information on the variety of infrastructures in place throughout the District to support youth mental health for all students. At the COPAC President’s request, the Finance and Legal Committee Chair will follow up on which committee would be the most appropriate for further discussion on addressing youth mental health for students K – 12.

The Superintendent reviewed the detailed descriptions for recommendations for budget adjustments. A list of additional options for budget reductions was provided for Committee review. A Special Finance and Legal Committee Meeting has been set for Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:00 pm. At that meeting, Committee members will either approve the budget recommendations or provide alternate options. The Committee recommendations will then be forwarded to the April 29th Public Meeting of the Board of Education for Board approval.

2. Trustee Indemnity for the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year

Trustee Baxter provided background information on the setting of the Trustee Indemnity in previous years.

Outcome

The Committee recommended that the Trustee Indemnity for the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year be set using the method of applying the average of similar-sized school districts.

OPPOSED: Trustee Cacchioni

Information Items

1. Historical Summary of Budget Adjustments

The Secretary-Treasurer provided information on the summary of the previous seven years of budget adjustments.

Recommendations/Referrals to the Board/Coordinating Committee/Other Committees

- Joint Use Agreements/Rentals (*Referred to the Coordinating Committee*)
- Trustee Indemnity for the 2015/2016 Fiscal Year (*April 29, 2015 Public Board Meeting*)

Meeting Schedule

April 22, 2015 at 6:00 pm SPECIAL MEETING
 May 20, 2015 at 1:00 pm June 17, 2015 at 6:30 pm
 September 16, 2015 at 1:00 pm October 21, 2015 at 6:30 pm November 18, 2015 at 1:00 pm

Items for Future Finance and Legal Committee Meetings

- District Surplus Information (*April 22, 2015 Special Finance and Legal Committee Meeting*)
- Central Okanagan School District 2015/2016 Preliminary Budget Proposal – Superintendent’s Budget Recommendations (*April 22, 2015 Special Finance and Legal Committee Meeting*)
- Update - Ministry of Education Deloitte Report
- Administrative Savings Completed Template

April 22 nd Special Meeting	May 20	June 17
- Central Okanagan School District Preliminary Budget Proposal – Superintendent’s Budget Recommendations	- Auditor’s Report to the Finance Committee – Initial Communication on Audit Planning for the Year - Annual CommunityLINK Allocations - Trustee Travel Expenses - Financial Update – International Education Program	- School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year

Questions – Please Contact:

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