

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

January 15th, 2019

5:00 PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
L. Kearns, Chair P. Michell, Alternate J. Williams (ex officio)	C. van der Mark, Superintendent D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent
Regrets: J. Krauskopf	

The meeting was conducted from 5:09 - 5:46 pm.

Welcome: *Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are gathered here today on the home of the Wit'suwit'en Nation, traditional territory of the Gidmt'en - Bear Wolf Clan."*

REPORT

1. Draft 2018-2019 Amended Budget

Update: Mr. Margerm updated the committee on the progress of the amended budget. The amended budget is complete, but the District is still waiting on a Ministry recalculation concerning the Supplemental Salary Differential funding which may place SD54 back into funding protection. Given that there was minimal change to revenues or expenditures, there are minimal changes to the preliminary budget. Mr. Margerm will provide a more comprehensive analysis at the February 19, 2019 Board meetings once funding amounts have been confirmed.

Motion: *The committee recommends "That the Board proceed with the first two readings of the Draft 2018-2019 Amended Budget Bylaw."*

2. Provincial Funding Model Review

Update: Mr. Margerm and Mr. van der Mark provided an update on the funding model review. The Provincial panel produced a report on the provincial funding model with specific recommendations. The Minister will now proceed with a consultation process and modelling how the recommendations will affect the school district and learning. The Minister of Education also announced that there would be no changes to the funding model for the 2019-2020 year for school districts.

3. Accumulated Surplus Management

Update: Mr. Margerm provided a current analysis of the District's accumulated surplus and restrictions. The committee reviewed the options for assigning the balance of restricted surplus in the amount of \$777,140, to targeted projects or an injection of funding for the 2019-2020 year.

Motion: *The committee recommends "That the Board proceed with authorizing the following project allocations from accumulated surplus:*

School District 54 (Bulkley Valley)

1. <i>authorized board-initiated funding increases to Walnut Park project (extra 100 m² multi-purpose room) (restriction)</i>	<i>\$200,000</i>
2. <i>Athletics- SSS Track (expenditure)</i>	<i>\$175,000</i>
3. <i>Technology Upgrades and Initiatives (expenditure)</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>
4. <i>HSS complex expansion/upgrade (restriction)</i>	<i>\$300,000"</i>

4. Opportunity for Chinese delegation in Smithers

Update: Mr. Margerm updated the committee on a proposal from the Gaoming School District to send a delegation in May 2019 to visit the Bulkley Valley as part of initiating a Memorandum of Understanding agreement (MOU). Gaoming would send a delegation of district staff to sign the MOU agreement and a group of students as part of a 7-10 day international camp program. Senior staff responded that this would be a good opportunity for both districts, and that SD54 would be in favour of this proposal.

5. Unist'ot'en camp, Gitdumden checkpoint

Update: The committee discussed the developments at the Unist'ot'en camp. The committee is aware that this is a very complex and sensitive issue across families and the community. School administrators have stressed to their staff that our buildings are neutral on this issue. Moreover, it is unlikely we have the most accurate reliable information regarding the complexities of the hereditary and elected government structures.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: February 5th, 2019 @ 5:00pm.