

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

January 12th, 2021

5:00 PM

School Board Office

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

The meeting was conducted from 5:10-6:31 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. Mr. Margerm presented the December recalculation of funding as part of draft 2020-2021 Amended Budget. The December recalculation provides a decrease to funding of \$245,637 due to a decrease of 11 student FTE and a decrease to special education funding. The final amended budget, including expenses, will be discussed at the February meetings.
Motion: *It is recommended that the Board proceed with the first two readings of the 2020-2021 Draft Amended Budget Bylaw.*

2. Houston School Reconfiguration Update

Mr. Monkman provided a verbal update on proposed plans for the reconfiguration of Silverthorne and Twain Sullivan Elementary Schools. Given the current COVID environment and restrictions on assemblies, it was decided not to proceed with a public meeting to gather input from public stakeholders. Alternatively, public input will be accepted on-line and presentations will be provided on the District webpage. A draft schedule for transition to a primary/early learning school and an intermediate school has been created. This includes meetings for staff input and appointment and transition of resources and necessary renovations by maintenance department.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

3. COVID Update

Mr. Monkman provided an update on the COVID environment within the school system. Currently it remains much the same as Dr. Bonnie Henry and the Ministry have made no discernable changes to the current policy. The first two weeks have shown lower attendance at schools. There has been an increase in exposures within the Houston community over the holidays. Parents choosing not to send their children to school after the holiday break will not be provided an educational program from teachers unless they suffer from an illness.

4. Draft 2021-2022 District Calendar

Mr. Monkman updated the committee on issues pertaining to the draft 2021-2022 District Calendar and provided several scenarios for discussion. Mr. Monkman provided a “days of instruction” narrative to support calendar discussions (eg. 181 days of instruction annually would derive calendar). The Board would deliberate on the number of instructional days per year to set the calendar. Other factors discussed:

- planning calendar for just next year
- average days in session comparison to other districts
- last days in June and length of summer holiday
- time in session for vulnerable or indigenous students
- loss of past school time due to COVID
- union discussions RE: instructional days in August

Motion: It is resolved that the one-week calendar option recommended by senior management be distributed for public consultation.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: February 9th, 2021.