

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54
(Bulkley Valley)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Regular

March 3th, 2015

5:00PM

School Board Office

Voting Members	Administration
L. Collingwood, Chair P. Michell, Alternate J. Williams F. Farrell (ex officio)	D. Margerm, Secretary Treasurer M. McDiarmid, Assistant Superintendent E. Hildebrandt, Director, Facilities and Maintenance
Regrets: L. Kearns	C. van der Mark, Superintendent

Meeting called to order 5:05 – 6:00 pm

REPORT

1. Provincial Budget update

Mr. Margerm provided an update on the recent provincial budget announcements and the impact on the Ministry of Education and school districts. Significant announcements include: (1) Government will fund BCTF and Support Staff increases for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 year; (2) Government will require school districts to organize \$29 million in administration reductions (approx. \$110,000 for SD54) for 2015-2016 year and another \$25 million in following year. (3) The Government also acknowledged common unfunded cost pressures across school districts in the amount of \$37.5 million (approx. \$140,000 for SD54) for New Generation Network, BC Hydro increases, MSP, CPP & EI increases and General inflation. (4) Other non-funded costs pressures include possible excluded staff raises, teacher salary increments and student information system (MyEdBC) implementation. Our School District will have to budget for an expected \$300,000 in unfunded costs next year due to the Provincial Budget.

2. Trustee Stipend adjustment

The Committee discussed the option of a 1% raise to the trustee stipend (based on the December 2014 Consumer Price Index). The Committee acknowledged that the stipend has not had an increase since 2009 and 2001. They also acknowledged that the BCTF and Support staff had settled on increases recently. The Committee recommends that the Board approve a ***motion to allow a 1% raise to the Trustee stipend effective July 1, 2015 as per Policy 1.170.***

3. Calendar update

As per legislation, the district is in process of concluding the process of annual consultation with stakeholders in regards to the 2015/16 school year calendar. The Board approved calendar is due in to Ministry by March 31st, 2015. The committee reviewed input from

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several stakeholders' and found support for both version 1 and version 2 of the Draft 2015-2016 Calendar. The Committee recommends the motion that '**Version 2 option of draft 2015-2016 Calendar be adopted as the official 2015-2016 Calendar.**' This is the version where the September non-instructional day occurs on September 8th, 2015.

4. Utilities Costing

Mr. Margerm outlined recent data involving hydro and natural gas costing analysis since 2007. The data indicates savings of approximately \$77,430 in hydro and natural gas due to Mr. Hildebrandt's diligent work around energy saving projects. The costing analysis also shows and overall decrease in hydro consumption by 24% and natural gas consumption of 22% since 2007.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: March 24th, 2015 @ 5:00pm
