

# SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

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## OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

*Regular*

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**5:00 PM**

School Board Office

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

The meeting was conducted from 5:02 pm - 6:07 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. Strategic Budgeting

Mr. McDiarmid updated the committee on the current 2023-2024 strategic budget plan relating to the Board Strategic Plan. Senior administration has met to discuss the budget and supporting the strategic plan. These recommended priority expenditures are based on district strategic plan goals and outcomes and will be supported from discretionary spending. The budget will try to provide support for:

- Indigenous and vulnerable supports;
- capital projects upgrading flexible learning spaces;
- environmental responsibility;
- funding for furniture, outdoor equipment and spaces;
- trades & technology ;
- district media and communication;
- recruitment and retention;
- mentorship and leadership initiatives;
- totem pole.

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## 2. 2023 Trustee Stipend

Mr. Margerm updated the committee on the annual board evaluation of trustee stipends. If the board does not pass a resolution to change the policy rate based on the CPI, Trustees will receive a 6.9% increase as of July 1, 2023. Alternatively, the board may also resolve to revise the % increase to a different stipend amount. The committee discussed the option of allowing for an increase given that employees have received compensation increases this year and based on inflationary factors. The committee also noted that if stipends are not increased on a regular basis, the board may be faced with significant stipend increases at a later date.

***The Committee recommends that Mr. Margerm provide synopsis of provincial trustee stipends to the Board for discussion at the board meeting.***

## 3. 2023-2024 Capital Plan Update

As per the 2023-2024 Capital Plan Response letter, The District needs approval for the 2023-2024 Capital Bylaw that registers Ministry capital funding of \$1,789,298 for the following:

Facility Name	Program Project Description	Amount Funded
Telkwa	Building Envelope Upgrade	\$900,000
Telkwa	SEP- HVAC Upgrade	\$520,000
District	BUS - 2 Buses	\$369,298

***Motion: Given unanimous consent of all trustees, the Committee recommends proceeding all three readings for the 2023-2024 Capital Bylaw No. 23/24-CP-SD54-01 that registers Ministry capital funding of \$1,789,298.***

## 4. Amended 2022-2023 Capital Plan – Additional Funding

The approved school enhancement project (SEP) of \$850k for Silverthorne’s HVAC system has not been spent during the 2022-2023 capital year due to lack of contractors. The District has now engaged a contractor to complete the project. The projected cost to complete the HVAC project at this project has increased by \$350,000. The District will contribute \$150k, and the Ministry has approved an additional \$200,000 from Ministry capital funding. The Ministry requires approval from the Board to support the spending of the additional \$200k.

***Motion: Given unanimous consent of all trustees, the Committee recommends proceeding all three readings for the 2022-2023 Capital Bylaw No. 22/23-CP-SD54-01- Amended that registers Ministry capital funding of \$200,000 and internal District funding of \$150,000.***

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## 5. Calendar – Board meetings

District staff reviewed the upcoming board meeting dates and have made a suggested revision for next board and committee meetings.

***Motion: Committee recommends that Board approve the movement of the May Board meeting from May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 to May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.***

## 6. Official Community Plan Amendment

The committee discussed a notice to owner letter from the Town of Smithers regarding a Bylaw 1951 – Parks and Open Spaces. The letter asks for feedback on the proposal to allow temporary overnight shelters in parks and other acceptable public lands. Feedback is due prior to March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

The committee recommends that the district send a letter to the Town Meeting exempting Heritage Park site (#2) and Dogwood Park site (#5) as these locations are within proximity to schools.

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**Date & Time of Next Meeting: May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @5:00pm**