

SCHOOL DISTRICT 54

(Bulkley Valley)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

April 14th, 2026

Regular
3:30 PM

School Board Office

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

The meeting was conducted from 3:30 pm – 4:05 pm.

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

REPORT

1. Draft 2026-2027 District Budget

Mr. Margerm provided the initial Draft 2026-2027 Budget and Bylaw to committee. Budget revenues, expenses, and general highlights were presented to the committee. The Draft 2026-2027 Budget and public stakeholder consultation opportunities will be provided in May. Currently, the budget stands at an operating deficit of \$254,527 with an appropriation from surplus of \$326,898 inclusive of net capital transfers.

Motion: *Committee recommends Mr. Margerm proceed with reducing the deficit that results in a balanced budget.*

Motion: *Committee recommends proceeding with the first two readings of the Draft 2026-2027 Budget Bylaw submitted at the April Committee meeting.*

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2. Bylaw Approval for 2026-2027 Capital Plan Response Letter

The district needs approval for the 2026-2027 Capital Bylaw that registers Ministry capital funding of \$1,572,500 for the following:

Facility Name	Program Project Description	Amount Funded
Silverthorne	SEP – Roofing Upgrade	\$600,000
Silverthorne	SEP – Electrical Upgrade	\$320,000
Muheim	CNCP – Exterior Walls Upgrade	\$550,000
Telkwa	FIP – Kitchen Equipment and Infrastructure	\$102,500
District	3 Buses	TBD

Motion: Given unanimous consent of all trustees, the Committee recommends proceeding all three readings for the 2026-2027 Capital Bylaw No. 2026/27-CP-SD54-01 that registers Ministry capital funding of \$1,572,500 and the three buses with a value to be determined.

3. Telkwa Public Notice – Cannabis Store

Mr. Margerm advised the committee of a public notice from the Village of Telkwa concerning an application for a cannabis store to be located in Telkwa. The proposed cannabis store would reside 250 meters from Telkwa Elementary School. The Board has historically had no issue with this distance from a school, as was the case in a similar application in Smithers. The Committee has recommended that there be no objection to the submission.

4. Compliance Audit Update

Mr. McDiarmid updated the committee that the inclusive education audit is currently being conducted. Ms. Dufresne has been working hard over the past two weeks to prepare for the audit. The scope of the audit encompasses 180 students. The auditors are reviewing student files to validate the correct categorization, and there is evidence to support enrollment claim. At this point, the audit seems to be proceeding with no serious issues; though, it is likely there will be recommendations from the audit committee.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: May 12th 2026 at 3:30 pm