

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Committee Report to the Board, May 30, 2022

The Chairperson of the Committee called the meeting to order and acknowledged we are unlearning and relearning on the traditional and unceded lands of the x̣ẉməθḳẉəỵəm (Musqueam), Sḳẉx̣ẉú7mesh (Squamish) and səliwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations and reviewed meeting decorum. This meeting was live-streamed and the audio and visual recording is also available to the public for viewing after the meeting. The footage of the meeting may be viewed inside and outside of Canada.

A master PowerPoint presentation detailing the flow of the agenda was provided throughout the meeting, a copy of which is on file with the meeting agenda.

The Chairperson informed everyone the order of the agenda had changed, with item 3.1, Budget 2022-2023 for approval, being presented first. A roundtable roll call was conducted.

1. Budget 2022-2023 for approval

The Secretary Treasurer and Assistant Secretary Treasurer presented a report dated May 18, 2022 entitled ***Budget 2022-2023 for approval***. The report includes the draft Annual Budget and draft Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$665,556,574, with a recommendation to adopt the Annual Budget Bylaw. It also contains 8 budget proposals from trustees and 1 proposal from management. The amount in the Annual Budget Bylaw would not change with any proposals, as a balanced budget approach is required. Additional information was provided in the PowerPoint.

In order to achieve a balanced budget as required by legislation and to be in accordance with Policy 19 – Accumulated Operating Surplus, the Secretary Treasurer reported a board motion is required for appropriation of surplus funds in the amount of \$10,611,799. The remaining actual unrestricted operating surplus would then be \$496,707.

It was noted by the Secretary Treasurer that slide 19 (2022-2023 Annual Budget Expenses) was incorrect as it contained the same information as slide 18 (2022-2023 Annual Budget Revenue). The PowerPoint was corrected after the meeting and is available on the website.

The red text in slide 28 (Assumptions 2022-23 Budget) indicates the latest changes that were made since the start of the 2022-2023 Operating Fund Budget process. The presented draft Operating Fund budget includes changes made from April 12-May 18, 2022. The Secretary Treasurer explained the Board needs to take action to address the structural deficit and advised that the continued use of prior years' surpluses to balance the budget is not sustainable.

The Chairperson then asked if there were any questions from stakeholders or trustees on the information presented so far.

Committee members, trustees and stakeholder representatives provided feedback and staff answered questions and provided clarification on various points.

The Secretary Treasurer then proceeded to present the budget proposal included in the agenda.

The Health and Safety Manager proposal was discussed and staff responded to questions.

Following discussion, the Chairperson asked committee members if they support the proposal. A vote was taken and there were two members in support and two members opposed to recommending this proposal for approval.

The Chairperson informed everyone that, with 50% support, the following proposal will be forwarded to the Board for further consideration without a Committee recommendation:

1. THAT the Vancouver Board of Education approve the addition of a permanent 1.0 FTE Health & Safety Manager position and for the Senior Management Team to commit financially and operationally to seek a Certificate of Recognition with WorkSafe BC to produce an annual rebate from Workers' Compensation Board Assessments.

The Secretary Treasurer read the 6 proposals from Trustee Parrott. Trustee Parrott provided the comment that the way they are presented is incorrect and that she didn't mean the funding to support the proposals would come from eliminating Education Center staff. It would come from the total Education Center budget.

The Chairperson asked the stakeholders and committee members for comments/questions. Committee members, trustees and stakeholder representatives provided feedback and staff answered questions and provided clarification on various points.

Following discussion, the Chairperson asked Committee members if they support the 6 proposals from Trustee Parrott. Committee members requested more information regarding where the funding would come from and how they align with work already done by the District before the proposals could be considered further. Comments were expressed whether these proposals could be related to current District initiatives like the Education Plan, Music Review, Anti-Racism and Non-Discrimination Plan and the Food Working Group.

The Anti-Racism proposal as included in the report and PowerPoint was read by the Secretary Treasurer. During discussion he reported that a one-day training for Anti-racism would be approximately \$2 million. Trustee Reddy provided the following new wording for her proposal:

THAT the 2022-2023 budget and subsequent budgets include sufficient funds to adequately continue engaging independent experts to design and deliver anti-racism education for all employee groups with a focus on ongoing anti-Black, anti-Indigenous and anti-Asian racism, race-based data collection, racist history of BC, and race-based incident reporting as it impacts children and youth.

And that this education be at least the equivalent of one full day of in-service training, that it reference child rights, VSB policies and procedures on discrimination, hate, racism, SOGI, and incident reporting and response.

And that this education be mandatory for all employee groups (teachers, support staff, principals, senior staff, trustees) in the 2022-2023 school year with opportunities for continued feedback that will guide any necessary changes.

Committee members, trustees and stakeholder representatives provided feedback and staff answered questions and provided clarification on various points.

During discussion, the Superintendent reported that the Anti-Racism and Non-Discrimination Plan is coming to the Board in June 2022. Work on the plan is ongoing and should be considered long term as needs are continually changing in the consultation process, to be in alignment with the Education Plan.

The Chairperson asked committee members if they support this proposal. Committee members could not support the proposal without more information regarding where the funding would come from and how it aligns with the Anti-Racism and Non-Discrimination Plan.

The Secretary Treasurer read Trustee Wong's proposal. Trustee Wong spoke to the proposal and reported it ties in with the Education Plan and the Anti-Racism and Non-Discrimination Plan.

Following discussion, the Chairperson asked committee members if they support the proposal. A vote was taken and there were three members in support and one opposed to recommend this proposal to the Board.

The Chairperson informed everyone that, with 75% support, the following proposal will be recommended to the Board:

2. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Vancouver Board of Education approve a one-time increase of \$50,000 in allocation for library resources to schools in their flex budgets for 2022-2023, by reducing District consulting budgets.

The Secretary Treasurer continued the PowerPoint presentation and reviewed the Budget Bylaw. The Chairperson informed trustees that the amount of the Budget Bylaw would not change with any of the proposals. Considering this, the Chairperson asked committee members if they were in support of the Budget Bylaw recommendation.

A vote was taken and there was unanimous consent to forward the following recommendations to the Board:

3. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) restricts \$10,611,799 of Unrestricted Operating Surplus (Contingency) to balance the Operating Fund in the 2022-2023 Annual Budget as per Board Policy 19 (Accumulated Operating Surplus).
4. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2022/2023 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$665,556,574 be read a first time on the 30th day of May 2022.
5. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2022/2023 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$665,556,574 be read a second time on the 30th day of May 2022.
6. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Education adopts the 2022-2023 Annual Budget Bylaw for School District No. 39 (Vancouver) at the May 30, 2022 public board meeting by having all three readings of the bylaw at that meeting.
7. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver) 2022/2023 Annual Budget Bylaw in the amount of \$665,556,574 be read a third time, passed and adopted on the 30th day of May 2022.

2. **Business Development Update**

The Manager of Business Development presented a report dated May 18, 2022 entitled ***Business Development Update***. The report includes information on a funding summary including pending grants, previously pending grants, newly acquired sponsors, and gift-in-kind donations acquired from June 2021 – May 2022.

Committee members, trustees and stakeholder representatives provided feedback and staff answered questions and provided clarification on various points.

This was provided for information only.

3. **Financial Update to March 31, 2022 (Operating Fund)**

Due to time constraints, the Chairperson referred everyone to the report in the agenda package dated May 18, 2022 entitled ***Financial Update to March 31, 2022 (Operating Fund)*** and asked for questions to be submitted to the Assistant Secretary Treasurer or Secretary Treasurer.

4. **Information Item Requests:** None

5. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for September 2022 (date TBC).
Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Oliver Hanson, Chairperson

Committee members present in the room:	Oliver Hanson, Fraser Ballantyne, Lois Chan-Pedley, Estrellita Gonzalez
Other trustees present in the room:	Janet Fraser, Barb Parrott, Allan Wong
Other trustees present in Teams:	Jennifer Reddy
Senior Management present in the room:	Pedro da Silva, David Green, Jody Langlois, Helen McGregor, David Nelson, Pete Nuij, Rob Schindel, Shehzad Somji
Association representatives present in the room:	Brent Boyd CUPE 407 Gord Lau, DPAC Rachel Goossen, PASA Vicky Qui, VDSC Joel Levine VEPVPA Allison Jambor, VESTA Terry Stanway, VSTA
Other staff present in Teams:	Will Hsu
Other staff present in the room	Matt Redkwich Helen Yee