



Memorandum

vancouver school board

April 22, 2014

To: Plenary Education and Student Services and Finance and Legal Committee
(Committee III/V)

From: Senior Management Team

Subject: 2014/2015 Revised Preliminary Budget Proposals

On April 8, 2014, the 2014/2015 Preliminary Budget Proposals were presented to the Plenary Education and Student Services and Finance and Legal Committee (Committee III/V). The funding shortfall for 2014/2015 was projected to be \$12.34 million. In order to achieve a balanced budget for 2014/2015, the Preliminary Budget Proposals included proposed expenditure reductions and revenue increases of \$13.52 million, together with \$1.18 million in potential budget additions.

Consultation was undertaken with respect to the Preliminary Budget Proposals at the following meetings:

- April 14, 2014 – Stakeholder Consultation
- April 15, 2014 – Public Consultation through the Committee-of-the-Whole
- April 16, 2014 – Public Consultation through the Committee-of-the-Whole
- April 17, 2014 – Public Consultation through the Committee-of-the-Whole

In total, 80-100 speakers provided comments on the Preliminary Budget Proposals. In addition, written submissions were received and forwarded to Trustees.

Proposed Revisions to the Preliminary Budget Proposals

As a result of some recent events, the projected funding shortfall has now been reduced by \$695,000, from \$12.34 million to \$11.65 million. This reduction is due to the following:

- Additional provincial holdback funds for 2013/2014 released by the Ministry of Education on April 11, 2014 (\$585,000). This is as a result of provincial enrolment being lower than forecast. These additional funds will be received late in 2013/2014 and will be carried forward to help fund the projected funding shortfall for 2014/2015.
- As a result of completing preliminary enrolment projections for schools for 2014/2015, two less elementary vice-principals will be required. This will result in a reduction of 2.0 FTE school administrator positions and an increase of 1.6 FTE teaching positions (to offset the vice-principal teaching time) for a net savings of \$110,000.

Given the reduction in the projected funding shortfall for 2014/2015, a corresponding reduction of \$695,000 in the budget proposals could be made while still achieving a balanced budget. However, owing to the numerous comments received during the consultation process to date, and given that additional consultation is scheduled for April 28, 2014, the Senior Management Team proposes that any adjustments to the Preliminary Budget Proposals be made by Trustees at the April 30, 2014 meeting, after the consultation process has been completed.

This item is provided for information.