



Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway

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February 12, 2014

The Honourable Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
Box 9041, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC
V8W 9E1

The Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC
V8W 9E2

Dear Premier Clark and Minister Fassbender:

Last night the Vancouver School Board voted to send you an open letter requesting the following:

1. Government direct BCPSEA and its appointed negotiator to immediately begin genuine, good-faith bargaining with the BCTF.
2. Government assure all school boards that government will take full financial responsibility for any costs arising from grievances, arbitrations and legal actions against boards that are now not in compliance with their collective agreements with teachers due to the recent ruling of the BC Supreme Court.
3. Government provide adequate funding to districts to enable them to be in compliance with the collective agreements that are now back in effect.
4. Government restore education funding to a level that enables school districts to restore all service levels to the equivalent of those provided in 2002 (see the VBE's Restoration Budget that was submitted to government in 2013, attached), adjusted for enrolment and inflation.
5. Government make sincere efforts to bargain a resolution for any retroactive claims for board non-compliance with collective agreements due to Bill 28, 27 or 22.

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Board of School Trustees:

Patti Bacchus - Chairperson

Mike Lombardi - Vice-Chairperson

Fraser Ballantyne Ken Clement Ken Denike

Cherie Payne Allan Wong Sophia Woo

Rob Wynen

The Honourable Christy Clark, Premier of British Columbia
The Honourable Peter Fassbender, Minister of Education
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As you know, the decision of the BC Supreme Court against government has put most, if not all, BC school districts in some level of violation of their collective agreements with teaching staff. This is causing an extreme level of uncertainty in our district as we work through the process of getting into compliance with our agreements as quickly as possible.

We appreciate your prompt attention to these requests so we can return to focusing on supporting teaching and learning in our district and ensuring we are doing the very best to meet the needs of all students.

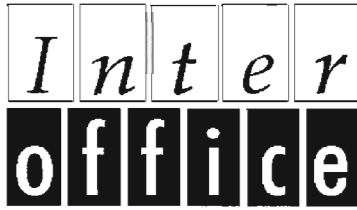
Sincerely,



Patti Bacchus
Chairperson

Att: VSB Restoration Budget

c: Vancouver MLAs
All BC School Boards, c/o BCSTA
VBE Trustees
Steve Cardwell, Superintendent of Schools
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer



Memorandum
vancouver school board



April 25, 2013

ITEM III-B1

TO: Trustees

FROM: Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer
Lisa Landry, Director of Finance

RE: Restoration Budget

At the April 15, 2013 meeting of the Board, Trustees passed a motion requesting staff to prepare a restoration or statement of needs with regard to the 2013/2014 operating budget.

The Vancouver Board of Education (VBE), like other school boards in the Province, has faced significant funding shortfalls over the past decade. As school districts receive more than 90% of their funding from the Province, these funding shortfalls are directly attributable to cost increases which have not been funded by the Province. As a result of these funding shortfalls, school districts have had to make reductions to the level of services they provide in order to achieve balanced budgets, as required by the *School Act*.

The purpose of the restoration budget is to identify the additional funding that would be required by the VBE in order to restore the same level of service that was in place a decade ago. For the purpose of this analysis, we have chosen the 2002/2003 base budget (i.e. before the budget cuts in that year) as the service level in which to restore. The 2002/2003 funding shortfall (\$25 million) resulted in significant budget and service level reductions. The VBE has faced funding shortfalls in every year since, with the exception of 2005/2006.

The VBE base operating budget for 2002/2003 was \$415 million. The intent of this analysis is to project what the VBE operating budget would be for 2013/2014 if the 2002/2003 service levels were maintained. In order to perform this analysis, the 2002/2003 base budget was adjusted to reflect the following factors over the last 11 years:

- Salary increments for teachers, administrators and excluded staff;
- Collective agreement increases;
- Changes to employee benefits;
- Employee turnover salary savings;
- Inflation on goods and services; and
- Changes in enrolment.

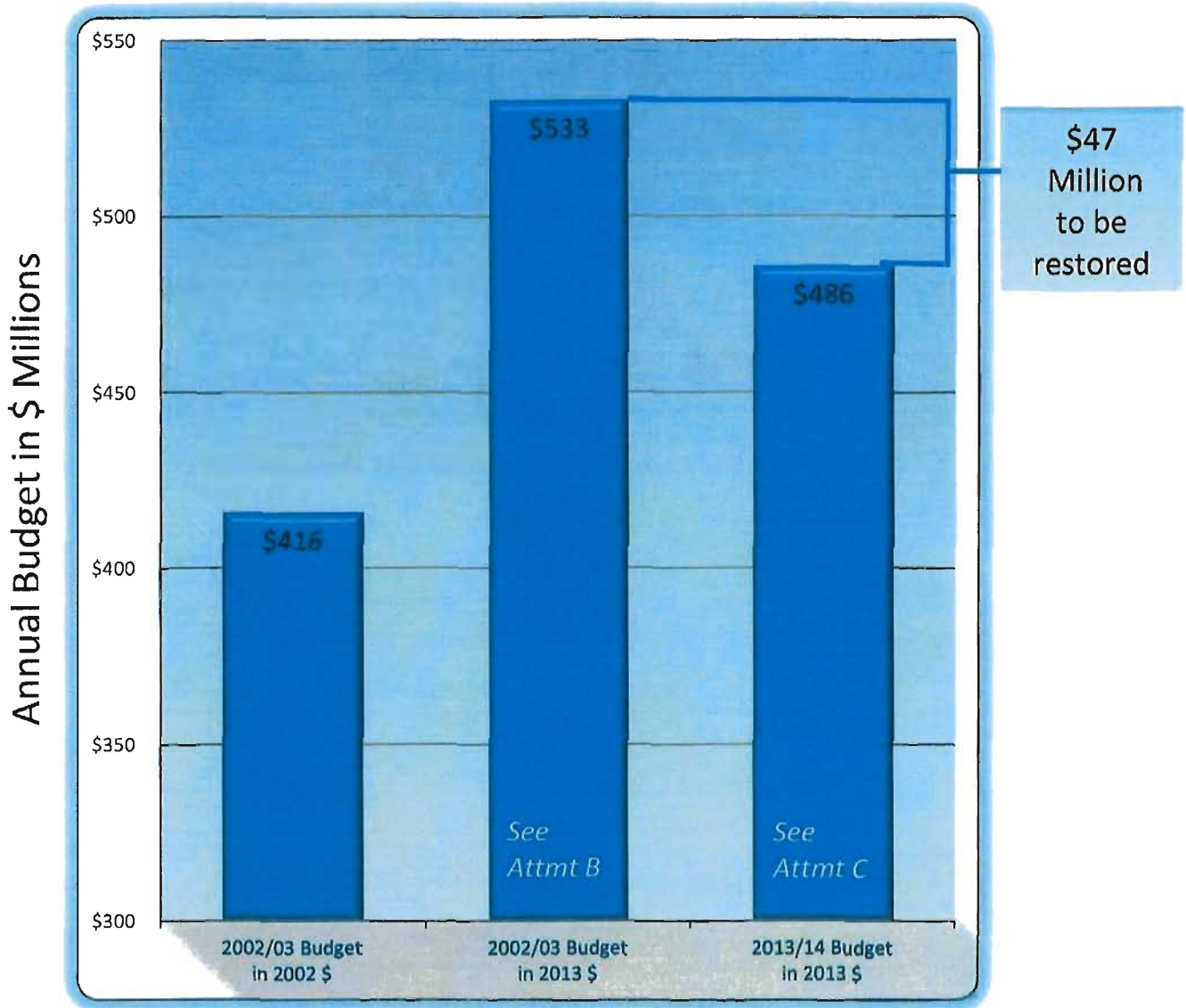
Based on the above-noted adjustments, it is projected that the 2013/2014 operating budget would have to be in the order of \$533 million to be able to deliver the same level of service that was in place before the 2002/2003 budget cuts. Our actual base budget funding for 2013/2014 however is only \$486 million. Accordingly, the VBE would need approximately \$47 million in additional annual funding in order to provide the same level of service as was delivered prior to the 2002/2003 budget cuts.

Attachment A presents a graphic presentation of the results of this analysis. Attachment B provides a summary of the major factors which cause the 2002/2003 base budget to increase to a projected \$533 million by 2013/2014. Attachment C outlines the major areas that are currently underfunded compared to 2002/2003. Attachment D provides a summary of some of the service cuts that the VBE has had to make over the last decade. Attachment E provides a summary of the major provincial cost increases downloaded to school districts without a related increase in funding.

It should be noted that this is a high-level analysis meant to identify the general order of magnitude of additional funding that would be required to restore the same level of service as was in place prior to the 2002/2003 budget cuts. The projection is dependent on the methodology employed and assumptions made.

This report is provided for information.

Projected Restoration Budget for 2013/14



2002/03 Budget Restated to Current 2013 Dollars	(\$million)
2002/03 Base Budget	415.9
Cost Increases Since 2002	
Collective Agreements Increases	58.0
Salary Increments	34.1
Employee Benefits Cost Increases	36.9
Inflation on Goods and Services	9.7
Expenditure Impact of Enrolment Changes	(9.9)
Employee Turnover Salary Savings	(11.6)
Subtotal of cost increases	117.3
Total	533.3

Table A: The 2002/2003 base budget is notionally adjusted to reflect the change in the purchasing power of money from 2002 to 2013.

This takes into account changes in the following factors over the intervening period:

- Collective agreements provides for the salary increases negotiated in collective agreements
- Salary increments within pay bands for teachers, school administrators and exempt staff.
- Benefits includes cost increases to benefits due to increases in salary, collective agreement changes to benefits and cost increases
- Inflation on goods and supplies at rates that reflect general inflation

These increases in costs are offset by:

- Reduction in enrolment in the period. 2013 enrolment is lower than 2002 enrolment, and this has been accounted for as a reduction
- Turnover savings, due to retiring teachers at the top end of salary scales being replaced by new teachers

Revised–May 2,2013

Areas Reduced during 2002/03 to 2012/13	(\$million)
Teachers	(34.1)
Education Assistants	4.5
Other Staff	(2.2)
Services & Supplies	(15.5)
Total	(47.3)

Attachment D

Sample of Budget Cuts	Year	FTE	Net Amount
Adult Education Program: Self-Paced Program	2012/2013	(4.50)	(402,120)
District Management Reorganization	2011/2012	(8.00)	(301,851)
Vice Principal Reduction	2011/2012	(3.00)	(171,336)
Reduction in Cafeteria Subsidies	2011/2012	(3.00)	(200,000)
Reduction of Summer School Teachers and Supplies	2011/2012	(3.20)	(237,500)
Adult Education - Teacher Assistants and Instructors	2011/2012	(4.75)	(464,610)
Non-enrolling teachers	2010/2011	(20.10)	(1,360,971)
Suspend interior painting for one year	2010/2011	(12.00)	(1,146,000)
Teaching Staff reduction	2009/2010	(13.15)	(853,521)
Reduction of Vice Principal	2007/2008	(1.46)	(153,329)
Reduction of Teachers	2007/2008	(40.00)	(2,480,000)
Non-enrolling Teachers	2006/2007	(37.60)	(2,266,000)
Elementary VPs	2004/2005	(3.00)	(252,000)
Finance & Administration	2004/2005	(4.00)	(338,450)
Learning & Information Technology	2004/2005	(2.50)	(176,375)
Operations & Maintenance	2004/2005	(6.70)	(600,000)
Supervision Aides	2004/2005	(16.00)	(154,304)
Community Facilities/Swimming	2004/2005	-	(102,281)
Associate Superintendent	2003/2004	(1.00)	(160,000)
Closure of Shannon Park Annex	2003/2004	(4.20)	(400,000)
Learning and Information Technology Reorganization	2003/2004	(8.00)	(549,500)
Principals	2003/2004	(3.30)	(377,000)
Human Resources Reorganization	2003/2004	(7.00)	(503,510)
Finance and Administration Reorganization	2003/2004	(4.00)	(186,000)
Teaching Staff reduction	2002/2003	(200.00)	(12,095,735)
Instructional Supplies & Expenses	2002/2003	-	(2,463,942)
Superintendent's Short Term Assignments	2002/2003		(128,000)
Elementary Extra Clerical	2002/2003	(10.00)	(400,000)
Multicultural Home School Workers	2002/2003	(9.50)	(392,118)
Elementary & Secondary Vice Principals	2002/2003	(9.30)	(502,000)
District Administration	2002/2003	(9.20)	(630,031)
Operations & Maintenance	2002/2003	(35.40)	(2,509,239)
Multicultural Home School Workers	2002/2003	(9.50)	(392,118)

Attachment E

Selected Provincially Downloaded Costs	Year	Amount
Teacher's Pension Plan	2013/2014	3,517,802
MSP	2009/2010 to Present	919,269
Carbon Offsets	2009/2010 to Present	2,408,461
School Protection Plan Deductible increase	2009/2010	The deductible for insurance increased from \$3,000 to \$10,000