

COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE V – FINANCE & LEGAL

TUESDAY, 2011 OCTOBER 11

Committee Report to the Board, 2011 October 17

The Committee met to discuss the following items:

1. **School Fund Balances Report**

R. Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer, referred to a memorandum dated 2011 October 06 entitled *School Fund Balances*. He reviewed:

- the major sources of funding received by schools;
- the Board-established guidelines for appropriate levels of school fund balances; and
- a summary of the school fund balances as at 2011 August 31.

R. Krowchuk noted that as no school exceeded the school fund balance penalty guidelines as at 2011 August 31, no reductions in school flex budgets are required.

This item was received for information.

2. **Preliminary Enrolment and Budget (verbal)**

R. Krowchuk provided a preliminary report on the enrolment figures for the 2011/2012 school year as staff are still in the process of finalizing data. He noted the following key points:

- the 2011/2012 budget projected an enrolment decline of 460 students in grades 1-12 and 500 English as a Second Language (ESL) students.
- as at 2011 September 30, compared to the 2011/2012 budget, preliminary data indicates:
 - a higher than expected enrolment decline for Grades 1-12 by 300 students;
 - a higher than expected enrolment decline for English as a Second Language (ESL) by 140 students ;
 - an increase in International students, by 66 students; and
 - no change in the projected enrolment for Distributed Learning, Special Education, and Adult Education.

R. Krowchuk noted that the district is expected to receive a net increase in funding of \$600,000 as lower funding due to the greater decline in enrolment is projected to be more than offset by funding supplements from the Province for enrolment decline and funding protection. Expenditures are estimated to be greater than budget by approximately \$600,000 as more Special Education Assistant's will be required. The net budget impact is therefore expected to be insignificant.

This item was received for information.

3. New School Accounting Model

R. Krowchuk referred to a report dated 2011 October 06 entitled *New School Accounting Model*. He provided an overview of the accounting systems currently used by schools (One-Write Plus) and the district (PeopleSoft). He indicated that the district has piloted a new accounting model with schools and plans to roll-out the implementation of this model to all schools over the next year. Under this new model, the accounting functions for board-allocated funds are to be processed by the district accounting department through the PeopleSoft district accounting system. The processing of school-generated funds would remain in schools.

F. Coughlan, Director of Finance, provided a PowerPoint presentation of the new accounting model. The topics included:

- Background, Objectives & Description
- Accounting Process
- Benefits of the new accounting model
- New Model – Closer Look
- Rollout Approach and Conversion process (to be completed in phases starting with annexes, elementary schools, and finally secondary schools);
- Timeframe
- Next Steps

This item was received for information.

4. Potential Additional Funding for Special Needs Students

R. Krowchuk referred to a report dated 2011 October 6 entitled *Potential Additional Funding for Students with Special Needs*. He reviewed the Minister of Education's statement on 2011 October 4 regarding consultation between government and the British Columbia Teacher's Federation (BCTF) over Bill 28. The statement referred to a proposal tabled with the BCTF regarding the establishment of a Class Organization Fund to provide \$165 million over the next three years to assist schools in dealing with class composition issues. R. Krowchuk reviewed a draft Class Organization Fund Memorandum of Agreement between the BCTF, British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA), and the Ministry of Education.

A Trustee expressed concern that school districts are not party to the process for the establishment of a Class Organization Fund.

This item was received for information.

5. New Business:

a) Office of the Auditor General (verbal report)

R. Krowchuk informed the Committee that the Office of the Auditor General have advised the district of their intention to appoint themselves as the district's auditor for the 2014/2015 school year.

This item was received for information.

6. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 2011 November 08 at 5:30 pm, Room 120

Meeting adjourned at 1930 hours.

Sharon Gregson, Chairperson

Committee V Members Present:

Patti Bacchus, Jane Bouey, Mike Lombardi

Other Trustees Present

Ken Clement, Ken Denike, Carol Gibson

Senior Management Present:

Rick Krowchuk, Jordan Tinney,
Flavia Coughlan

Association Representatives Present:

Jim Burnham, VASSA
Anna Maria Niccoli-Mullet, VEPVPA
Harjit Khangura, IUOE
Lorelei Russell, PASA
Brent Boyd, CUPE 407
Gary Xia, VDSC