



While Vancouver Board of Education (VBE) staff and education partners continue to strive to maintain the Vancouver school district's high-quality learning experiences and opportunities for all students, the Board is once again facing a challenging funding shortfall for 2011/2012. In fact, the VBE has faced funding shortfalls in nine of the past ten years, and preliminary projections indicate annual funding shortfalls will continue in the years beyond 2011/2012.

The 2011/2012 base budget includes adjustments required to reflect anticipated changes in enrolment, inflation and other factors. Owing to the full implementation of All Day Kindergarten in September 2011 and the anticipated increase in special needs students in 2011/2012, 59 additional staff will be required and have been added into the base budget for 2011/2012 (including 27.4 additional teachers and 16.5 additional Special Education Assistants).

The majority of VBE revenues (94.4%) are derived from provincial operating grants. Accordingly, the level of educational services and programs that the VBE can provide is substantively dependent on the level of provincial funding received. Years of underfunding have significantly reduced the resources available to provide the educational services required for the students in our district.

Given the projected funding shortfall of \$8.4 million for 2011/2012, further budget reductions are required in order to achieve a balanced budget (required by the *School Act*). In order to minimize any further reductions to resources that directly support our core educational services and programs, the proposed budget cuts for 2011/2012 were targeted as far away from the classroom as possible.

Approximately 85% of VBE expenditures are allocated to instruction-related functions (including school administration), 11.5% to building operations and

| 2011/2012 Projected Operating Budget Shortfall | |
|---|---------------|
| (\$millions) | |
| Enrolment Change | (2.55) |
| Salary and Employee Benefits Changes | (4.08) |
| Inflation | (1.02) |
| Prior Year One-Time Items | (7.78) |
| Current Estimate of 10/11 Surplus to Be Carried Forward | 3.61 |
| 11/12 Operating Grant Funding Impact | 3.40 |
| Relocation of Alternative Programs to Lord Elementary | 0.02 |
| Other | (0.01) |
| Total Projected Funding Shortfall | (8.41) |

maintenance, 2.7% to district administration and 0.9% to transportation and other expenditures. However, of the \$8.4 million in budget reductions for 2011/2012, only 30% of the reductions (\$2.6 million) impact instruction and school administration, while 70% of the reductions (\$5.8 million) are in district administration, building operations and maintenance, transportation and other expenditures and revenues.

Approximately 92% of the operating budget is expected to be spent on salaries and employee benefits. Although a concerted effort has been made to minimize staff reductions owing to the projected funding shortfall, the budget proposals will still result in a reduction of 55 FTE staff compared to the base budget. This includes a 7% reduction in management staff, including the reduction of 8 managers at the Education Centre announced on April 6th. As well, the preliminary budget proposals will result in a 1.6% reduction in school administrators (3.0 FTE), a 1.2% reduction in various support staff groups (25 FTE) and a 0.6% reduction in teachers (19 FTE) in our K-12 and adult programs.

| | 2011/2012 Proposed Staff Adjustments (FTE) | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2010/2011 Preliminary | 2011/2012 Base Changes | 2011/2012 Proposals | 2011/2012 Preliminary |
| CUPE 15 | 1,197.21 | 16.90 | (14.30) | 1,199.81 |
| CUPE 407 | 101.00 | | | 101.00 |
| IUOE | 720.15 | 1.95 | (5.95) | 716.15 |
| Night School Administrators | 0.91 | | | 0.91 |
| PASA / Excluded / District Principals | 105.70 | | (7.40) | 98.30 |
| School Administrators - Admin Time | 136.19 | (0.80) | (0.60) | 134.79 |
| School Administrators - Teaching Time | 51.70 | 0.80 | (2.40) | 50.10 |
| Teachers / ALC | 3,127.49 | 27.42 | (19.10) | 3,135.81 |
| Trades | 47.00 | 13.00 | (5.00) | 55.00 |
| Trustees | 9.00 | | | 9.00 |
| TOTAL | 5,496.35 | 59.27 | (54.75) | 5,500.87 |

Budget Proposals Highlights

Proposals to address this shortfall in order to achieve a balanced budget include:

- District management reorganization
- Reduction of administrative staffing in HR, IT, Purchasing, non-teaching Cafeterias, CIE
- Reduction of teacher allotment for secondary class size/composition issues
- Reduction of extra clerical support for elementary schools
- Allocation of Vice Principals only to elementary schools with a student headcount greater than 400
- Establishment of minimum class size of 20 for Adult Education and 16 for Summer School
- Elimination of media services
- Reduction of underutilized budgets in district administration and facilities
- Printing reorganization to a full cost recovery model
- Phase-in of interior painting over two years
- Partial closure of vacant school space
- Reduction of student transportation services
- Introduction of annual nominal fee of \$25 per student for the band and strings music program
- Increase of parking revenue at the Education Centre

Since the Board has not yet made a decision for the 2011/2012 school calendar, the base budget cannot include projected savings resulting from the revised local calendar. A decision with respect to possibly continuing a version of the local school calendar for 2011/2012 will be made by the Board of Trustees on May 11.

| 2011/2012 Budget Proposals Summary (\$millions) | | | | |
|---|----------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Reductions | | % Reduction | |
| | FTE | \$ | FTE | \$ |
| Expenditures | | | | |
| Instruction | (24.5) | \$ (2.11) | (0.55%) | (0.54%) |
| School Administration | (7.40) | \$ (0.48) | (2.24%) | (1.56%) |
| District Administration | (14.90) | \$ (1.62) | (11.71%) | (10.86%) |
| Facilities | (7.95) | \$ (1.37) | (1.24%) | (2.41%) |
| Transportation | | \$ (0.25) | (0.00%) | (9.20%) |
| Other | | \$ (1.40) | | |
| Total Expenditures | (54.75) | \$ (7.23) | | |
| Revenues | | \$ (1.19) | | 0.25% |
| TOTAL | (54.75) | \$ (8.42) | | |

Have your say

Let us know what you think of the 2011/2012 preliminary budget proposals. Public stakeholder meetings on the 2011/2012 Budget will be held on the dates noted in the table below.

Please send your written submissions no later than two working days before a meeting to: Vancouver Board of Education - Attention: Administrative Coordinator, Secretary-Treasurer’s Office, 1580 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6J 5K8, or send by fax to 604-713-5049, or email to budget2011_12@vsb.bc.ca. All submissions to the Board are considered to be public documents. The Board, therefore, reserves the right to make any submissions available to the public and placed on the website.

Revised budget proposals will be presented to the Education and Student Services and Finance and Legal Committee on April 27, 2011.

The Board of Trustees will make their final deliberations and adopt the 2011/2012 Preliminary Operating Budget on May 5, 2011.

VSBC Public and Stakeholder Consultations

| | |
|--|---|
| Tuesday, April 19, 2011 Location: Mt. Pleasant, 7:00 p.m. | Committee-of-the-Whole Public Consultation on Preliminary Budget Proposals |
| Wednesday, April 20, 2011 Education Centre Room 400, 7:00 p.m. | Plenary Education & Student Services/Finance & Legal (Committee III/V) Stakeholder Consultation on Preliminary Budget Proposals |
| Thursday, April 21, 2011 Education Centre Boardroom, 7:00 p.m. | Committee-of-the-Whole Additional Public / Stakeholder Consultations (to be held if necessary) |
| Wednesday, April 27, 2011 Education Centre Boardroom, 5:30 p.m. | Plenary Education & Student Services/Finance and Legal (Committee III/V) Public Presentation of Revised 2010/12 Preliminary Budget Proposals |
| Tuesday, May 3, 2011 Education Centre Boardroom, 7:00 p.m. | Committee-of-the-Whole Public & Stakeholder Consultations on the Revised Budget Proposals |
| Thursday, May 5, 2011 Education Centre Boardroom, 7:00 p.m. | Committee-of-the-Whole/Special Board Meeting Final Deliberations and Approval of 2011/12 Preliminary Budget |

For information on the budget process go to: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/budget-2011-2012>