

Staff Report



June 18, 2024

To Board of Education (Public Meeting)
From Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Re **Big Brothers Big Sisters Sponsorship**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Education approve the request from Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fraser Valley to sponsor group programs in the amount of \$5,000.

BACKGROUND:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fraser Valley (BBSFV) group programs aim to foster personal wellness and growth among students in grades 4 and 5, empowering them to realize their full potential. BBSFV diligently screens and trains 2 to 3 volunteer Group Leaders to facilitate weekly activities, which include games, group discussions, and exercises aligning with the designated theme for the week. The program's objectives encompass enhancing decision-making skills, fostering social connections and friendships, and bolstering self-esteem and a sense of belonging among students.

For 2024, their objective is to maintain the same level of programming across the district with five schools, catering to approximately 50+ students who greatly benefit from these vital social-emotional connections. The sponsorship of \$5,000 is equivalent to approximately \$14 per child per session. If financial support is approved, Abbotsford School District will be featured as the primary sponsor of group programs.