

Minutes



Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

Date: April 25, 2023
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Stan Petersen, Chair
Korky Neufeld
Mike Rauch
Jared White
Shirley Wilson (Via Teams)

REGRETS: Preet Rai
Rupi Kanda-Rajwan

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Kevin Godden, Superintendent
Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
Carla Danielsson, Assistant Superintendent
Monica Schulte, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Tracy Orobko, Executive Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Petersen called the meeting to order at 3:52 pm.

2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LOCAL INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

We acknowledge the Abbotsford School District is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Stó:lō people, the Semá:th First Nation and Mathxwí First Nation. With this, we respect the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers.

3.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The committee adopted the agenda as presented.

4.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting held April 4, 2023

The Minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting held April 4, 2023, were approved and will be presented at the May 9, 2023, Public Board Meeting.

5.0 DELEGATIONS

6.0 FACILITIES UPDATE

6.1 International Students (Budget Implications)

As requested at the April 11, 2023, closed Board meeting, the Secretary-Treasurer provided a three-year summary of international revenues and expenditures. Discussion ensued on pandemic impacts, site capacities, class composition, funding and allocation. Clarification was provided around the role of the international department, school staffing, competition with surrounding districts and homestay barriers.

7.0 FINANCE UPDATE

7.1 Third Quarter Financial Update

The Secretary-Treasurer and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer presented third quarter results. The information will be presented at the May 9th Public Board meeting.

8.0 MINISTRY INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

9.0 BUDGET INFORMATION

10.0 FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

12.0 REPORTS

12.1 Meeting with the City of Abbotsford (Todd Stewardson) Update

The Secretary-Treasurer reported on his recent meeting with Todd Stewardson, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture. There has been much positive conversation around cost sharing of MRC field replacement with the city, and more details will be presented to the Board in due course. Terms discussed included returning to 65/35 (SD) cost split (from 50/50). Other terms included collapsing existing field agreements and replacing them with one master agreement. This work is ongoing.

Committee members proposed inclusion of community groups and city staff once an announcement is made.

12.2 Naming of School District Fields (Colleen and Gordie Howe/W.J. Mouat)

The Secretary-Treasurer sought clarification from trustees as to staff direction resulting from the April 11th Closed Board meeting where names were discussed. Trustee Petersen has connected with Sophie Schmidt and confirmed she is 'ecstatic and honoured' to be considered for the nomination.

The committee confirmed the overarching name, "Let's' emo:t, Let's' eth'ale". Discussion included encouraging the city to use John Davidson for one of their sites given the relationship to APD.

It was agreed to add this item to the May 9th Closed Board meeting where two names will be selected, including indigenous.

12.3 Five-Year Capital Plan

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the list of major and minor projects and reminded the committee of project types.

The committee reviewed the Long Range Facility Plan (LRFP) recommendation and rankings list. The LRFP will be updated in fall 2024.

The five-year capital plan submission will be presented at the May 9th public meeting for Board approval.

12.4 Strategic Plan and Preliminary Budget for 2023-2024

The Superintendent reported on an internal exercise with exempt staff on the work forming the external and internal environmental assessment priorities. Senior management are working on SWOT analysis and feedback from the engagement portal will come forward in due course.

Discussion ensued regarding curriculum, trades, life skills in addition to student mental health needs and social issues. Concerns were raised regarding pressures on staff and their well-being.

The Secretary-Treasurer reflected on the strategic plan budget process and the list of initiatives noting an explanation from the contributor of new or existing funds will be added.

This work will be brought back to the May 30th Finance and Facilities committee meeting.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.