

Minutes



Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

Date: January 24, 2023
Time: 3:30 pm
Location: Abbotsford School District Administration Office

TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE: Stan Petersen, Chair
Rupi Kanda-Rajwan
Korky Neufeld
Preet Rai
Mike Rauch
Shirley Wilson

REGRETS: Jared White

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

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Petersen called the meeting to order at 3:33 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 May 31, 2022

The Minutes of the Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting held May 31, 2022, were approved and will be presented at the February 14, 2023, Public Board Meeting.

5.0 DELEGATIONS

6.0 FACILITIES UPDATE

6.1 Abbotsford Traditional Seismic Project Update

The Secretary-Treasurer provided background on the school's history and provided updates on the scope of work including upgrades, challenges and remaining work.

6.2 Winter Preparedness Plan

The Secretary-Treasurer reported on the winter preparedness plan developed by the district in response to inclement weather conditions. The committee commended Dale Churchill, Director, and the staff at facilities and transportation. The committee requested the plan be added to the next public agenda for public awareness.

7.0 FINANCE UPDATE

7.1 Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)

The Secretary-Treasurer provided background on the existing PowerSchool product called Atrieve used for the district's ERP needs. Over the last few years, there has been growing dissatisfaction of the product in its effectiveness and security in managing the district's data. Changing ERP is a large undertaking and in consultation with other districts, many are also re-evaluating their ERP systems.

The district determined it would proceed with a request for proposals (RFP) for its ERP and was advertised on the BC Bid forum. Out of three respondents, Spark Rock was the highest-ranking as determined by a staff evaluation team and has been selected as the preferred vendor going forward.

7.2 Accumulated Surplus – Local Capital Balances Review 2022-23

The Secretary-Treasurer provided background on accumulated and unrestricted operating surpluses. The accumulated operating surplus has been set between 1-3% equating to \$2.5-6M. Background was provided on school budgets, and unanticipated costs relating to enrolment bumps, fuel surcharges, ongoing facility maintenance, I.T. infrastructure and challenges to meet the Board's strategic goals.

Discussion ensued regarding equity initiatives and variances in learning services at schools depending on needs.

Discussion ensued regarding community engagement at the upcoming public budget information sessions in spring: March 2 and May 4.

8.0 MINISTRY INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

9.0 BUDGET INFORMATION

10.0 FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

12.0 REPORTS

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:29 pm.