

Wednesday, February 26, 2014  
6:00 p.m.

District Education Office  
22225 Brown Avenue  
Boardroom

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## **A G E N D A**

*“Courage is grace under pressure” – Ernest Hemingway*

### **A – OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order
2. Correspondence ITEM 1
  - i. Tanya Guenther, Chair, School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)
  - ii. Patti Bacchus, Chair, School District No. 39 (Vancouver)
  - iii. Baljinder Narang, Chair, School District No. 41 (Burnaby)
  - iv. Michele Babchuk, Chair, School District No. 72 (Campbell River)
  - v. Linda McMullan, Chair, School District No. 78 (Fraser-Cascade)
  - vi. Maple Ridge Teachers' Association
3. Ordering of Agenda
4. Invitation for Public Input to matters on the Agenda

### **B – CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. February 12, 2014 ITEM 2

### **C – PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

1. Montessori Program – Jennifer Williams, Patricia Patrick ITEM 3
2. Maple Ridge Teachers' Association – Teacher-Librarians ITEM 4

### **D – CHAIR REPORT**

### **E – DEFERRED ITEMS**

### **F – TRUSTEE MOTIONS**

### **G – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

1. Decision Items
  - a) Superintendent of Schools
    - i. Board Authorized Approved Course ITEM 5
    - ii. New Student Information System Implementation ITEM 6
  - b) Deputy Superintendent
  - c) Secretary Treasurer

2. Information Items

- a) Superintendent of Schools
  - i. Kindergarten Registration Enrolment Update
- b) Deputy Superintendent
- c) Secretary Treasurer

ITEM 7

**H – COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

1. Committees of the Whole

- a) Finance
- b) Budget

2. Committee & Advisory Committee Reports

- a) Aboriginal Education
- b) Board Policy Development
- c) District Student Advisory
- d) Education
- e) French Immersion Advisory
- f) Inclusive Education

**I – QUESTION PERIOD**

- 1. Trustee Questions
- 2. Staff Questions
- 3. Employee Group Questions
- 4. DPAC Questions
- 5. Public Questions

**J – TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- 1. BC School Trustees' Association Provincial Council
- 2. District Parent Advisory Council
- 3. Joint Parks and Leisure Services
- 4. Municipal Advisory & Accessibility
- 5. Ridge Meadows Community Arts Council
- 6. Ridge Meadows Education Foundation
- 7. Social Planning Advisory:  
[http://www.mapleridge.ca/EN/main/municipal/728/9982/spac\\_agenda\\_minutes.html](http://www.mapleridge.ca/EN/main/municipal/728/9982/spac_agenda_minutes.html)
- 8. Tzu Chi Foundation
- 9. Youth Society
- 10. Other Board Liaison Representative Reports
  - a) Good News Items

**K – OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) Public Disclosure of Closed Meeting Business

ITEM 8

**L – ADJOURNMENT**

To: Board of Education

From Board Chairperson  
Mike Murray

Re: **OPENING PROCEDURES**

Date: February 26, 2014  
(Public Board Meeting)

**Information/Decision**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. CORRESPONDENCE (*Information Item*)**

- i. Tanya Guenther, Chair, School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin)
- ii. Patti Bacchus, Chair, School District No. 39 (Vancouver)
- iii. Baljinder Narang, Chair, School District No. 41 (Burnaby)
- iv. Michele Babchuk, Chair, School District No. 72 (Campbell River)
- v. Linda McMullan, Chair, School District No. 78 (Fraser-Cascade)
- vi. Maple Ridge Teachers' Association

**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the Board receive all correspondence for information.

**3. ORDERING OF AGENDA (*Decision Item*)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Agenda be ordered as circulated.

**4. INVITATION FOR PUBLIC INPUT TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

*Attachments*



22 January 2014

The Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier of BC  
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

The Honourable Peter Fassbender  
Minister of Education  
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

The Honourable Michael deJong  
Minister of Finance  
PO Box 9417 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

Dear Premier Clark, Minister Fassbender, and Minister deJong:

The Board of Education of School District No. 27 (Cariboo-Chilcotin) finds that it is in a similar position as that of the Vancouver School Board, as written to you in their letter dated 25 November 2013.

We, too, are writing this letter due to our increasing concerns regarding education funding issues. We share with the VSB, its specific concerns surrounding the increased costs to school districts that government is not funding – leading to school closures, reductions in staffing, program cuts – eroding the quality of our public schools.

Beginning in December 2011, our board began its journey to eliminate our structural deficit. For 13 months we engaged in a public consultation process which included public meetings, surveys, open forums and more public meetings! We talked, we listened, we shared. This is no easy feat when you consider the geographic size of the Cariboo-Chilcotin; it has been likened to the size of the province of New Brunswick. In January 2013, the Board announced its Comprehensive Plan – a Plan to close four schools district-wide and reconfigure two secondary schools and many elementary schools in the Williams Lake area. Still, the savings are not enough.

Entering into the 2013-2014 school year, the Board still was budgeting an approximate \$400,000 shortfall, to be covered from our accumulated surplus. Compounding our issues of declining enrolment and funding protection reductions are further cost pressures, such as funding salary increases, this board is now anticipating a budgeted shortfall of \$2 million for 2013-2014 amended budget.





The government's refusal to fund the salary increases negotiated by Peter Cameron with our support staff unions will cost the Cariboo-Chilcotin school district approximately \$453,000 next school year (2014-2015).

The Board recognizes the vital contribution of its support staff, who have been without a wage adjustment for over four years. While this long-overdue increase is necessary, by the BC Government's own Cooperative Gains Mandate, the Board cannot cut services to find "savings".

We are now actively preparing the 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget and initial indications that we can expect to continue this extreme budget shortfall. It should be mentioned here that our accumulated surplus is near depletion. This district cannot continue to support a structural deficit of this magnitude. To rectify this structural deficit will mean less support for students, reduction of programs, outdated and insufficient learning resources, textbooks and building maintenance and inadequate infrastructure to support technology in classrooms.

The District's management team continues to work on increased shared services and other cost-saving opportunities, but it is impossible to balance the District's budget without making some difficult decisions that will have an impact on students.

The Board urges you and your government to give serious consideration to increasing overall funding for school districts in the 2014-2015 school year to prevent further cuts to staffing, programs and learning resources and to ensure all students receive the opportunities they need to succeed. We cannot achieve prosperity in BC by cutting corners on our children's education.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly

FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tanya Guenther  
Chair

:can

Cc: BC Boards of Education (via BCSTA distribution)



# Vancouver Board of Education

School District No. 39

BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

1580 West Broadway

Vancouver, B.C. V6J 5K8

Telephone: 604-713-5000

Fax: 604-713-5049

February 12, 2014

The Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier of British Columbia  
Box 9041, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC  
V8W 9E1

The Honourable Peter Fassbender  
Minister of Education  
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC  
V8W 9E2

Dear Premier Clark and Minister Fassbender:

Last night the Vancouver School Board voted to send you an open letter requesting the following:

1. Government direct BCPSEA and its appointed negotiator to immediately begin genuine, good-faith bargaining with the BCTF.
2. Government assure all school boards that government will take full financial responsibility for any costs arising from grievances, arbitrations and legal actions against boards that are now not in compliance with their collective agreements with teachers due to the recent ruling of the BC Supreme Court.
3. Government provide adequate funding to districts to enable them to be in compliance with the collective agreements that are now back in effect.
4. Government restore education funding to a level that enables school districts to restore all service levels to the equivalent of those provided in 2002 (see the VBE's Restoration Budget that was submitted to government in 2013, attached), adjusted for enrolment and inflation.
5. Government make sincere efforts to bargain a resolution for any retroactive claims for board non-compliance with collective agreements due to Bill 28, 27 or 22.

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#### Board of School Trustees:

Patti Bacchus - Chairperson

Mike Lombardi - Vice-Chairperson

Fraser Ballantyne Ken Clement Ken Denike

Cherie Payne Allan Wong Sophia Woo

Rob Wynen

The Honourable Christy Clark, Premier of British Columbia  
The Honourable Peter Fassbender, Minister of Education  
February 12, 2014  
Page 2

As you know, the decision of the BC Supreme Court against government has put most, if not all, BC school districts in some level of violation of their collective agreements with teaching staff. This is causing an extreme level of uncertainty in our district as we work through the process of getting into compliance with our agreements as quickly as possible.

We appreciate your prompt attention to these requests so we can return to focusing on supporting teaching and learning in our district and ensuring we are doing the very best to meet the needs of all students.

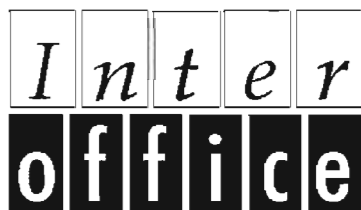
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Bacchus', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Patti Bacchus  
Chairperson

Att: VSB Restoration Budget

c: Vancouver MLAs  
All BC School Boards, c/o BCSTA  
VBE Trustees  
Steve Cardwell, Superintendent of Schools  
Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer



## Memorandum

vancouver school board



April 25, 2013

ITEM III-B1

TO: Trustees

FROM: Rick Krowchuk, Secretary Treasurer  
Lisa Landry, Director of Finance

RE: **Restoration Budget**

At the April 15, 2013 meeting of the Board, Trustees passed a motion requesting staff to prepare a restoration or statement of needs with regard to the 2013/2014 operating budget.

The Vancouver Board of Education (VBE), like other school boards in the Province, has faced significant funding shortfalls over the past decade. As school districts receive more than 90% of their funding from the Province, these funding shortfalls are directly attributable to cost increases which have not been funded by the Province. As a result of these funding shortfalls, school districts have had to make reductions to the level of services they provide in order to achieve balanced budgets, as required by the *School Act*.

The purpose of the restoration budget is to identify the additional funding that would be required by the VBE in order to restore the same level of service that was in place a decade ago. For the purpose of this analysis, we have chosen the 2002/2003 base budget (i.e. before the budget cuts in that year) as the service level in which to restore. The 2002/2003 funding shortfall (\$25 million) resulted in significant budget and service level reductions. The VBE has faced funding shortfalls in every year since, with the exception of 2005/2006.

The VBE base operating budget for 2002/2003 was \$415 million. The intent of this analysis is to project what the VBE operating budget would be for 2013/2014 if the 2002/2003 service levels were maintained. In order to perform this analysis, the 2002/2003 base budget was adjusted to reflect the following factors over the last 11 years:

- Salary increments for teachers, administrators and excluded staff;
- Collective agreement increases;
- Changes to employee benefits;
- Employee turnover salary savings;
- Inflation on goods and services; and
- Changes in enrolment.

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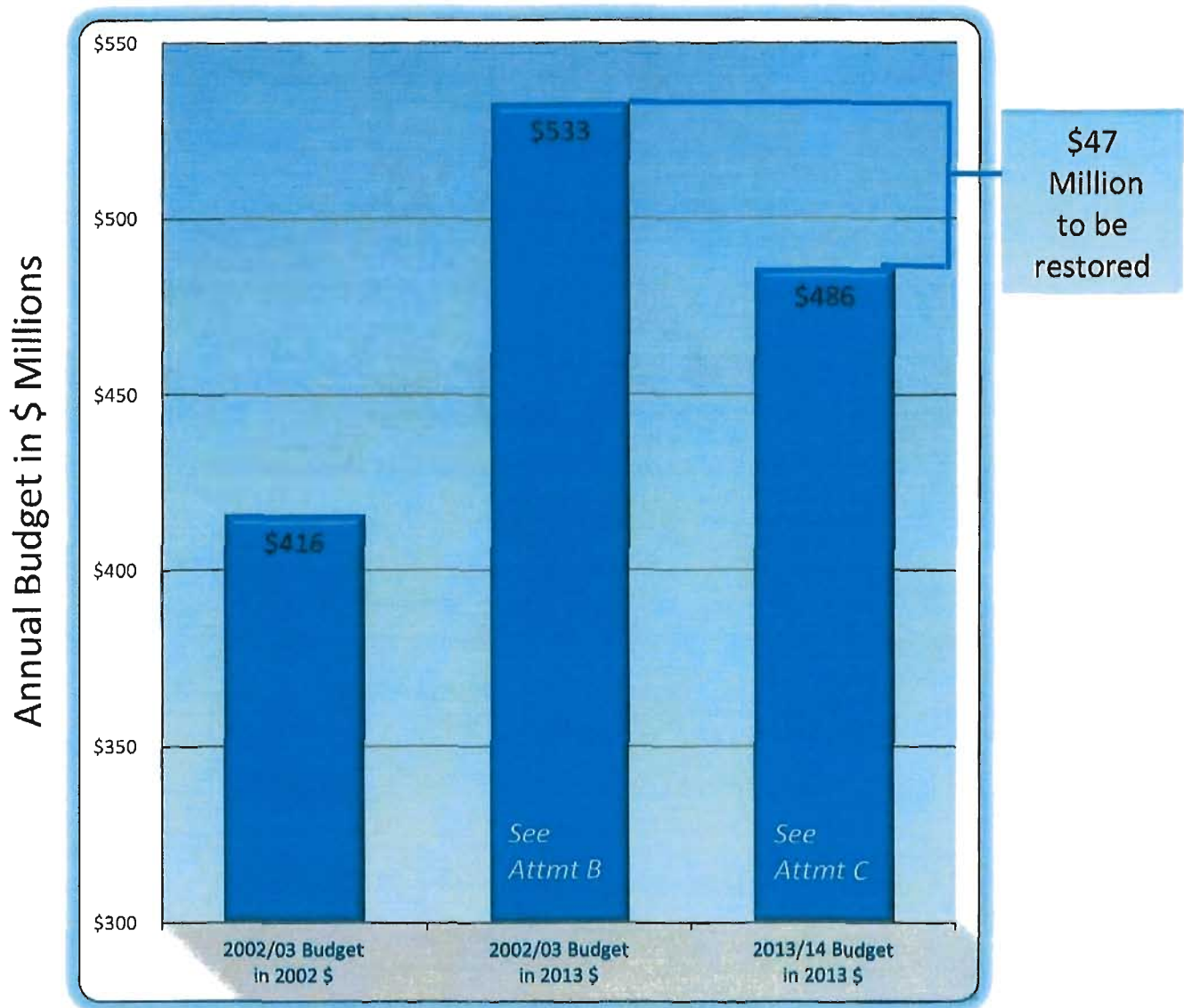
Based on the above-noted adjustments, it is projected that the 2013/2014 operating budget would have to be in the order of \$533 million to be able to deliver the same level of service that was in place before the 2002/2003 budget cuts. Our actual base budget funding for 2013/2014 however is only \$486 million. Accordingly, the VBE would need approximately \$47 million in additional annual funding in order to provide the same level of service as was delivered prior to the 2002/2003 budget cuts.

Attachment A presents a graphic presentation of the results of this analysis. Attachment B provides a summary of the major factors which cause the 2002/2003 base budget to increase to a projected \$533 million by 2013/2014. Attachment C outlines the major areas that are currently underfunded compared to 2002/2003. Attachment D provides a summary of some of the service cuts that the VBE has had to make over the last decade. Attachment E provides a summary of the major provincial cost increases downloaded to school districts without a related increase in funding.

It should be noted that this is a high-level analysis meant to identify the general order of magnitude of additional funding that would be required to restore the same level of service as was in place prior to the 2002/2003 budget cuts. The projection is dependent on the methodology employed and assumptions made.

This report is provided for information.

## Projected Restoration Budget for 2013/14





2002/03 Budget Restated to Current 2013 Dollars (\$million)	
2002/03 Base Budget	415.9
Cost Increases Since 2002	
Collective Agreements Increases	58.0
Salary Increments	34.1
Employee Benefits Cost Increases	36.9
Inflation on Goods and Services	9.7
Expenditure Impact of Enrolment Changes	(9.9)
Employee Turnover Salary Savings	(11.6)
Subtotal of cost increases	117.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>533.3</b>

Table A: The 2002/2003 base budget is notionally adjusted to reflect the change in the purchasing power of money from 2002 to 2013.

This takes into account changes in the following factors over the intervening period:

- Collective agreements provides for the salary increases negotiated in collective agreements
- Salary increments within pay bands for teachers, school administrators and exempt staff.
- Benefits includes cost increases to benefits due to increases in salary, collective agreement changes to benefits and cost increases
- Inflation on goods and supplies at rates that reflect general inflation

These increases in costs are offset by:

- Reduction in enrolment in the period. 2013 enrolment is lower than 2002 enrolment, and this has been accounted for as a reduction
- Turnover savings, due to retiring teachers at the top end of salary scales being replaced by new teachers

Revised–May 2,2013

Areas Reduced during 2002/03 to 2012/13 (\$million)	
Teachers	(34.1)
Education Assistants	4.5
Other Staff	(2.2)
Services & Supplies	(15.5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(47.3)</b>

Sample of Budget Cuts	Year	FTE	Net Amount
Adult Education Program: Self-Paced Program	2012/2013	(4.50)	(402,120)
District Management Reorganization	2011/2012	(8.00)	(301,851)
Vice Principal Reduction	2011/2012	(3.00)	(171,336)
Reduction in Cafeteria Subsidies	2011/2012	(3.00)	(200,000)
Reduction of Summer School Teachers and Supplies	2011/2012	(3.20)	(237,500)
Adult Education - Teacher Assistants and Instructors	2011/2012	(4.75)	(464,610)
Non-enrolling teachers	2010/2011	(20.10)	(1,360,971)
Suspend interior painting for one year	2010/2011	(12.00)	(1,146,000)
Teaching Staff reduction	2009/2010	(13.15)	(853,521)
Reduction of Vice Principal	2007/2008	(1.46)	(153,329)
Reduction of Teachers	2007/2008	(40.00)	(2,480,000)
Non-enrolling Teachers	2006/2007	(37.60)	(2,266,000)
Elementary VPs	2004/2005	(3.00)	(252,000)
Finance & Administration	2004/2005	(4.00)	(338,450)
Learning & Information Technology	2004/2005	(2.50)	(176,375)
Operations & Maintenance	2004/2005	(6.70)	(600,000)
Supervision Aides	2004/2005	(16.00)	(154,304)
Community Facilities/Swimming	2004/2005	-	(102,281)
Associate Superintendent	2003/2004	(1.00)	(160,000)
Closure of Shannon Park Annex	2003/2004	(4.20)	(400,000)
Learning and Information Technology Reorganization	2003/2004	(8.00)	(549,500)
Principals	2003/2004	(3.30)	(377,000)
Human Resources Reorganization	2003/2004	(7.00)	(503,510)
Finance and Administration Reorganization	2003/2004	(4.00)	(186,000)
Teaching Staff reduction	2002/2003	(200.00)	(12,095,735)
Instructional Supplies & Expenses	2002/2003	-	(2,463,942)
Superintendent's Short Term Assignments	2002/2003		(128,000)
Elementary Extra Clerical	2002/2003	(10.00)	(400,000)
Multicultural Home School Workers	2002/2003	(9.50)	(392,118)
Elementary & Secondary Vice Principals	2002/2003	(9.30)	(502,000)
District Administration	2002/2003	(9.20)	(630,031)
Operations & Maintenance	2002/2003	(35.40)	(2,509,239)
Multicultural Home School Workers	2002/2003	(9.50)	(392,118)

Selected Provincially Downloaded Costs	Year	Amount
Teacher's Pension Plan	2013/2014	3,517,802
MSP	2009/2010 to Present	919,269
Carbon Offsets	2009/2010 to Present	2,408,461
School Protection Plan Deductible increase	2009/2010	The deductible for insurance increased from \$3,000 to \$10,000



2014-02-14

The Honourable Peter Fassbender  
Ministry of Education  
PO BOX 9058 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender:

The Burnaby Board of Education has reviewed B.C. Supreme Court Justice Griffin's decision and the government's decision to appeal. It is the opinion of the Board that this generates considerable uncertainty and erodes confidence within the public education system. In order to resolve the matter as quickly as possible and restore public confidence in the system the Board urges government to:

- Withdraw the appeal;
- Negotiate through the labour relations grievance process a stay of implementation of the 2002 collective agreement provisions that would disrupt student learning in the current school year. This would provide immediate stability to the system and still respect B.C. Supreme Court Justice Griffin's decision;
- Provide adequate funding to cover all costs relating to grievances and settlements arising from the judgement;
- Provide adequate funding to ensure districts are able to return to compliance with the collective agreements that are now in effect;
- Continue negotiations in good faith to achieve a new collective agreement prior to the beginning of the 2014-15 school year.

Your timely attention to this matter is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Baljinder Narang".

Baljinder Narang  
Chairperson  
Burnaby Board of Education

C: Burnaby MLAs  
BCSTA Member Boards  
Burnaby Board of Education  
Kevin Kaardal, Superintendent of Schools/CEO  
D. Greg Frank, CPA, CA Secretary Treasurer



# School District 72

Campbell River, B.C.

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425 Pinecrest Road, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 3P2 • Tel: 250.830.2300 • Fax: 250.287.2616 • [www.sd72.bc.ca](http://www.sd72.bc.ca)

February 18, 2014

The Honourable Peter Fassbender  
Minister of Education  
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Fassbender,

On behalf of the Board of Education for School District 72, I write you to express our increasing frustrations around the current state of our public education system.

While we in no way refute the findings of Justice Griffin or take any position on the decision to appeal, we are extremely concerned over the potential impacts on students, the relationship for future successful bargaining, and the economic viability of our district to continue to deliver essential services.

In consultations with our senior management team, we have determined that the ruling would require approximately 31 new teaching positions and \$3.1 million in the first year alone.

Increased staffing levels and supports for our students would certainly be welcomed, but should they prove to be unfunded, we simply could not provide an adequate level of service and/or the variety of programming required to support our district's diverse needs.

In our district, we philosophically believe in the full integration of special needs students into our classrooms in a meaningful way. Should we have to implement 2002 collective agreement language into a 2014 demographic the opportunities for these students may become limited.

In your recent visit to our district we were able to exhibit to you some of our innovative programming that has engaged students and led them into areas of trades and technology, connecting classroom learning to "real world" opportunities. These types of programs are in jeopardy, and it will become increasingly difficult for our district to comply with the government's BC Education Plan and its mandate around Personalized Learning.

We call on the government to fund any and all costs arising from Boards having to rectify this situation and ask for adequate time to implement any changes so as to allow for consultation with our education partners and communities.

*Learning to Be Our Best*

Page 1 of 2



# School District 72

Campbell River, B.C.

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425 Pinecrest Road, Campbell River, B.C. V9W 3P2 • Tel: 250.830.2300 • Fax: 250.287.2616 • [www.sd72.bc.ca](http://www.sd72.bc.ca)

As Trustees, we implore, on behalf of our students, their parents and our staff, that parties at the bargaining table place the highest imperative on reaching an agreement to determine costs and the necessary flexibility in implementation to achieve optimum class size and composition requirements that are in the best interest of all students, the future of public education and the health of communities.

Sincerely,

Michele Babchuk,  
Board Chair, School District 72 Board of Education

c: Board of Education for School District 72  
All BC School Boards, c/o BC School Trustees' Association  
Elaine Thompson, CRDTA  
Christine Szafluk, CUPE Local 723  
SD72 District Parent Advisory Council, DPAC  
Claire Trevena, MLA  
Rob Flemming, BC NDP Education Critic



650 KAWKAWA LAKE ROAD  
HOPE, B.C.  
VOX 1L4

Phone (604) 869-2411 (Hope residents)  
Phone (604) 796-2225 (Agassiz residents)  
Fax (604) 869-7400  
[www.sd78.bc.ca](http://www.sd78.bc.ca)

December 16, 2013

Mr. Laurie Throness, MLA  
Chilliwack-Hope  
East Annex  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, B.C.  
V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Throness,

**Re: Literacy Funding**

I write on behalf of the Board of Education for School District No. 78 (Fraser-Cascade) to let you know of the important role the community literacy outreach coordinator plays in our community. We participate in the Fraser-Cascade Literacy Task Initiative whose goal is promoting and supporting life-long, life-wide and life-deep learning. The Fraser-Cascade Literacy Task Initiative was created to provide the opportunity for strategic partnering across civic (municipal and band governments), public (libraries and social/health services), economic (private to social economy), education (pre-school, public, private and post-secondary) and community/volunteer sectors. Over the years, the Task Initiative has focused on the following:

- maintain and strengthen our communities' capacity to support literacy development programs
- enhance literacy for children from birth through age 18
- enhance literacy development for adults
- enhance literacy development in Aboriginal communities

Our Task Initiative group meets regularly and includes members from SD 78 (Fraser-Cascade), public libraries from both Hope and Kent, Hope Community Services, Agassiz-Harrison Community Services, the University of the Fraser Valley, and representatives from Free Rein Associates. The work that has been focused on includes the flagship program Story Time in the Park. This is a 9-week program that takes place in July and August in our communities. Typically, a couple of summer students are employed to assist in the delivery of the program. In the last couple of years we have added physical movement as part of the program focus as we are aware of the need to focus on healthy living, especially.

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One of the goals of our group was to look for ways to extend the Story Time in the Park initiative to a full year program. We know that by building enjoyment and physical activity around reading, children of all ages will not only learn to enjoy reading but also build their creative capacity.

The second theme for us was to build literacy programs for all ages and make them available across our communities. The Literacy Coordinator has had this as a focus for her activities. The website [www.wannaread.org](http://www.wannaread.org) along with other social media helps provide coordination. We have received 792 new books to distribute to children from "1<sup>st</sup> Books for Kids" as well as outreach through the HOPE Project (Helping Others Pursue Excellence) that help provide life skills, nutrition, literacy and computer literacy for individuals who are at risk of homelessness, and have mental health and/or addiction concerns.

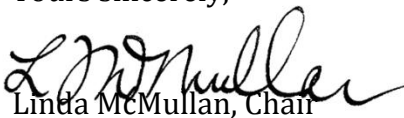
As you can see, coordinating support for all these community efforts requires a presence. We understand that the provincial government has funded, annually, \$2.5 million dollars through Decoda Literacy Solutions to allow for a coordinated province-wide program of support. We believe that without the retention of this funding support the work that has been accomplished over the past number of years would be at risk.

I understand there is a recommendation from the Select Standing Committee on Finance to provide annual funding of \$2.5 million for community literacy work across BC. For the current fiscal year we also understand there is only \$1 million allocated and an additional \$1.5 million is needed to support the funding levels required for the current year.

Please provide your support to reinstate the literacy support for community literacy coordinators.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Linda McMullan, Chair  
Fraser-Cascade Board of Education  
LM/SW/tlm

c.c. BCSTA member school boards  
Shayna Jones, Fraser-Cascade Literacy Task Force  
Leona Gadsby, Decoda Literacy Solutions

# Maple Ridge Teachers' Association

TELEPHONE: (604) 467-2111

11771 Fraser Street, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 6C6

February 12, 2014

Mr. Mike Murray  
Chair, Board of School Trustees  
School District #42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows)  
22225 Brown Avenue  
Maple Ridge, BC V2X 8N6

Dear Mr. Murray,

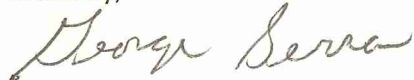
On behalf of the MRTA, please find attached a set of information sheets on the openStudent student information system. Also included is the contact information for Tim Agnew from the openStudent development team who has indicated his willingness to meet with the Board, Senior Team, and teachers to review "this made in BC" information system that could be the program used to replace BCeSIS in SD42. As Mr. Agnew indicates in his email to MRTA First Vice-President Todd Patrick, he has not had any contact with the district regarding this program.

The MRTA and the teachers we represent hear on a regular basis that the SD42 budget is stretched to the breaking point and is in fact going to be in deficit again this year and that there is not enough money in the system to improve learning conditions for students. With this in mind, we believe the district would be remiss in its duties if it did not explore the openStudent system, along with Senior Team and teachers, as a viable alternative to ASPEN as the cost differences are tremendous.

In fact, the quoted cost of openStudent is between \$45,000 and \$105,000 per year versus the ASPEN 12 year contract at \$300,000 per year.

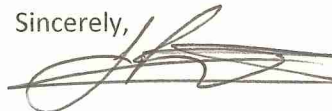
This significant yearly savings would be better spent in the classroom. Parents deserve to have this explored, students need to have this explored, and teachers want to have this explored. Well over \$2,000,000 over twelve years is at stake.

Sincerely,



George Serra,  
President,  
Maple Ridge Teachers' Association

Sincerely,



Todd Patrick  
First Vice-President,  
Maple Ridge Teachers' Association

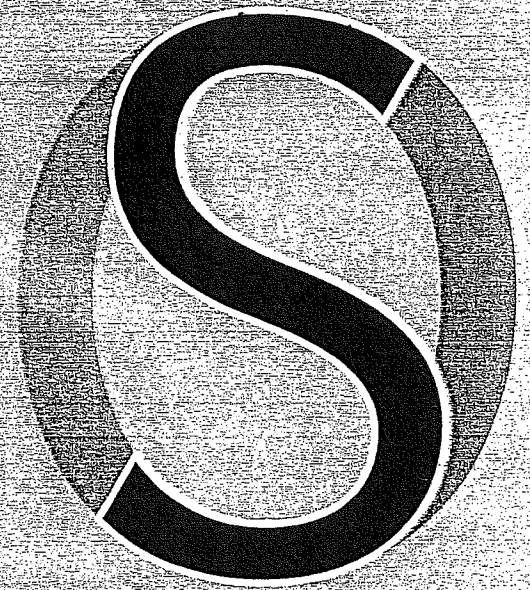
GS/TP/em

Attachment

- cc - Board of School Trustees  
- Laurie Meston, DEO  
- F. Coughlan, DEO  
- D. Vandergugten, DEO  
- S. Derinzy, DEO



# Open Education Services Society



openStudent  
STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Building a foundation for:

- Improving Student Achievement
- Flexibility and Choice
- Student-Centered Learning
- Measurement and Accountability
- Innovation

Hi Todd:

Thanks very much for allowing me the opportunity to respond to one of your members comments. There are quite a few misconceptions contained within the response from your member that I hope I can now clear up for you and your group.

Cost of Aspen versus openStudent: I'm not sure which part of the Ministry RFP referenced a potential decrease in costs with a commercial provider, but we now know for sure that the Ministry has guaranteed Fujitsu-Aspen a minimum of \$20 per fte for 12 years. If one takes into account international and DL students, it's actually a little more than this. In addition, the fee is for a specific list of services but does not include other potential catalogue items like archiving records and changes to the software. This will add to the cost for districts. In sharp contrast, the fee for openStudent is based on cost recovery for operational expenses and will continue to decrease (per fte) as the participation level increases.

Java based technology: We use the exact same enterprise server side (J2EE) technologies that Aspen uses. Our application is a fully web based program and requires no client software whatsoever. We also use other best of breed technologies such as J2EE, Ajax, HTML 5 and CSS. I think that your member is confusing us with BCeSIS that did indeed use the outdated client side Java technologies that he referred to. There are no inherent security issues with the technologies that we have chosen.

Secondary Module: The openStudent Advanced release is well under way in terms of development and business requirements gathering. This version includes a Master Timetable Builder and a broad range of teacher related admin and educational tools. All of these 'modules' are being developed within a context of intense collaboration with BC teachers and will be released long before the decommissioning of BCeSIS.

I agree that district 42 has not attended any of our workshops or presentations to date. I would strongly recommend doing this as it would give your members an opportunity to get the full and accurate story regarding openStudent, and would also give you a chance to get a demonstration of the application. To this end, we would be very happy to come to your district at a mutually good time. All we would need from you is a venue.

I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

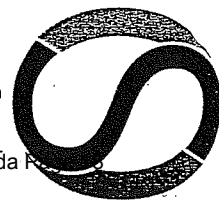
Regards

Tim Agnew  
250.732.8871

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Project Manager  
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Saanichton, BC, V8M 1L1  
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www.openstudent.ca

A community based  
Student Information System  
For BC schools - By BC schools

openStudent

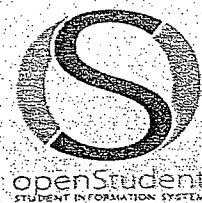




# Open Education Services Society



## Enabling Educational Innovation



Flexibility	Schools and districts have flexibility to manage and improve solutions to meet their requirements into the future and adopt any solution components that meet their needs without service provider preferences or constraints getting in the way.
Control	Schools and districts have direct control over governance, development, service provider contracts, service levels, scope, cost and cost recovery – it means never being forced to pay implementation costs again because someone ended the life of the solution you use.
Innovation	<p>Schools and districts have the ability to custom build or use any best-in-category solution to meet their requirements.</p> <p>Enable 21st Century Learning with innovation that is directly aligned to BC requirements and is unencumbered by the needs of other jurisdictions.</p> <p>Be agile and responsive to achieve educational innovation.</p> <p>Innovation is about taking the system where you want your business to go and not letting the system determine your business. Solutions for BC are unique and often difficult to negotiate into commercial solutions built for a US market.</p>
Lowest Cost	Schools and districts have cost control with a not-for-profit solution that yields the lowest cost long term and allows more money for education.

Educational innovation is possible when your best educators plan and design the best delivery methods.

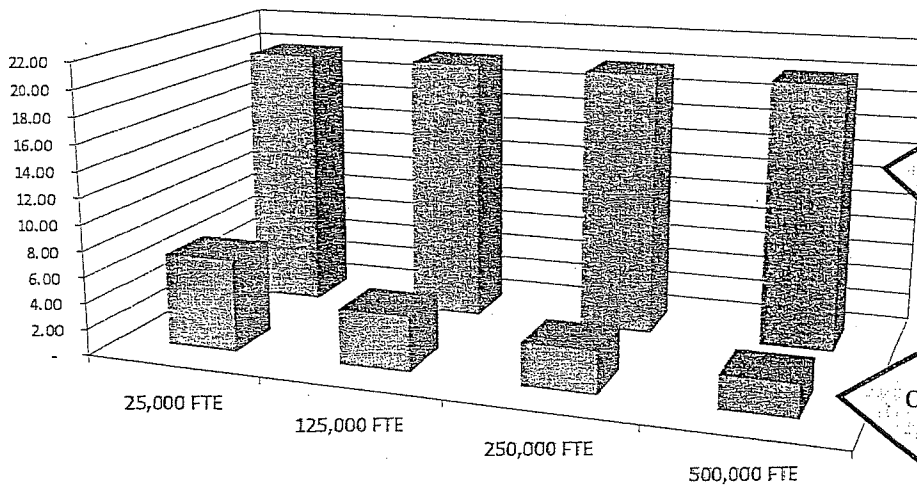
Your district's SIS decision process needs to consider how you will accomplish educational innovation and what flexibility, control, and costs you will have to achieve your objectives over the long term.



# Open Education Services Society

Flexibility  
Control  
Innovation  
Lowest Cost

## Lowest Cost for Educational Innovation



The Ministry cost  
recovers \$10 per  
student from schools  
and districts.

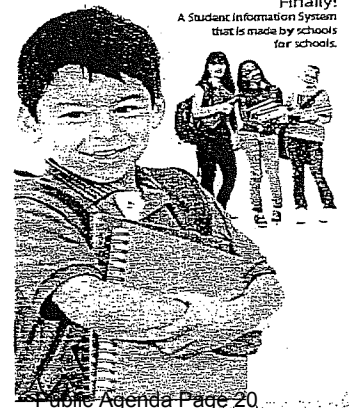
Aspen: \$20+

openStudent: \$3 to \$7

The non-profit and lean approach to development and operations ensures that the total cost of openStudent will be substantially lower than that of BCeSIS or other commercial applications.

The non-commercial approach guarantees that the system will be affordable and sustainable in the long-term and will represent a fraction of the current expenditure level.

These savings can be re-directed into student learning and achievement.



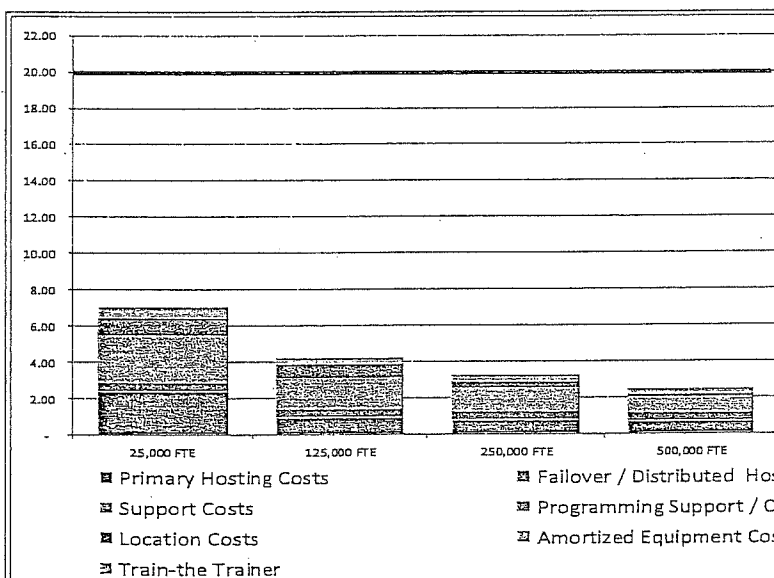
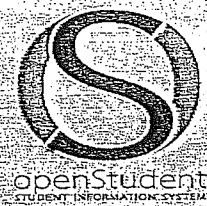
Finally!  
A Student Information System  
that is made by schools  
for schools.



Low Cost  
Total Control  
Flexibility  
Innovation

# openStudent Fact Sheet

## Lowest Cost



Aspen: \$20+

openStudent: \$3 to \$7

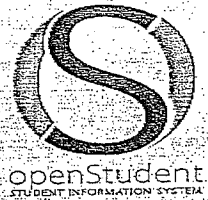
The non-profit and lean approach to development and operations ensures that the total cost of openStudent will be substantially lower than that of BCeSIS or other commercial applications. The non-commercial, non-profit approach guarantees that the system will be affordable and sustainable in the long-term and will represent a fraction of the current expenditure level. These savings can be re-directed into student learning and achievement.



Low Cost  
Total Control  
Flexibility  
Innovation

# openStudent Fact Sheet

## Why openStudent?



### Lowest Cost

Common ownership, non-profit operations and a lean approach to software development has ensured that the overall cost of the development and operation will be substantially lower than that of BCeSIS or other commercial applications. The non-commercial, non-profit approach will ensure that the system is affordable and sustainable in the long-term and will represent a fraction of the current expenditure level. These savings can be re-directed into student learning and achievement.

### Education Community Control

The development and operation of openStudent is completely controlled by the education community. This means that the software can never be sold and leave districts back at square one. It also means that the investment that districts make in openStudent is forever.

### Flexibility

openStudent is owned and governed by the education community. This will allow for complete flexibility in making future changes to the application in a timely and affordable fashion as education needs in BC evolve.

### Relevant Functionality

openStudent is made **by** the BC education community **for** the BC education community. The advanced nature of BC's education policies result in business requirements and support needs that are not present in other jurisdictions. Solutions for BC are unique and extremely hard to negotiate into commercial alternatives; particularly those that are built for a US market.

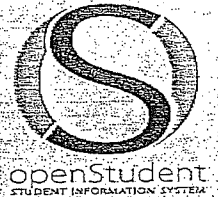
### Innovation

A student information system is vital to achieving educational outcomes. School boards need **flexibility, control, and innovation** to align it to their needs. Flexibility and control will allow openStudent to change rapidly in sync with changes in BC education.

Low Cost  
Total Control  
Flexibility  
Innovation

# openStudent Fact Sheet

## Common Misconceptions



### openStudent Security

openStudent has been designed and developed with the highest level of security. The application meets or exceeds the Province of BC's standards for Application and Web Development and Deployment and Cryptographic Standards for Information Protection. The application will undergo regular independent security audits and be hosted within the Ministry of Citizen Services network infrastructure. A draft openStudent Privacy Impact Assessment has been prepared for district review.

### openStudent Flexible Reporting

openStudent will incorporate Jasper Reports, a powerful, best-in-category solution for flexible reporting. Jasper Reports is embedded in openStudent and will enable Ad Hoc reporting and data extracts for any purpose, as well as the custom development of educational dashboards down to the user level.

### openStudent Hosting

openStudent will be hosted by HPAS, a leading edge data centre with operations in Kamloops and Regina. HPAS is a preferred supplier of BC Citizen Services, and will also host the Aspen application.

### Development Tools

openStudent is NOT an open source project. It is an education community project that utilizes open source tools. The following are comments from Gartner Research regarding open source tools: *"By 2012, 80% of all commercial software will include elements of open-source technology. Many open-source technologies are mature, stable and well supported. They provide significant opportunities for vendors and users to lower their total cost of ownership...."*



# Open Education Services Society

Flexibility  
Control  
Innovation  
Lowest Cost

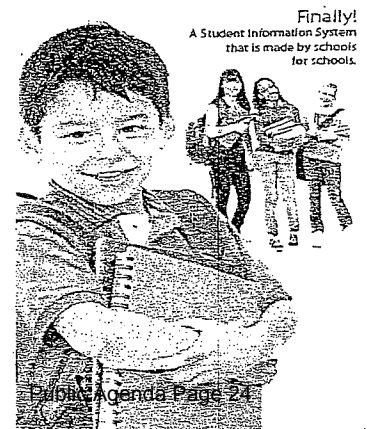
## Reducing Risk in Educational Innovation



Five Risk Areas for Decision Making		openStudent Risk	Aspen Risk
<b>1</b>	User Acceptance ⇒ Administrators ⇒ Educators ⇒ Parents and Students	Low	High
<b>2</b>	Cost ⇒ Annual recurring costs ⇒ Transition costs ⇒ Life-time cost control	Low	Very High
<b>3</b>	Fails to meet requirements ⇒ Unable to change or improve ⇒ Poor responsiveness	Low	High
<b>4</b>	Personal Information Privacy	Low	Low
<b>5</b>	Public Acceptance ⇒ Parents ⇒ Taxpayers	Low	High

The approach used by openStudent reduces school and district risks by offering flexibility, control and innovation in the areas critical to supporting educational innovation and 21st Century Learning.

Your district's SIS decision process needs to include a district assessment of risk and the amount of flexibility and control you will have to manage these risks over the long term.





Low Cost  
Total Control  
Flexibility  
Innovation

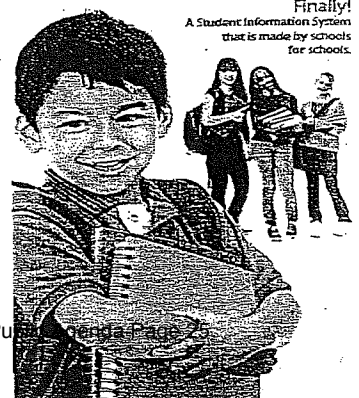
# openStudent Fact Sheet

## Remarkable Progress



To date, openStudent has made remarkable and speedy progress with the development of the application. The development team will release the core version (for elementary schools) in the fall of 2013 and release the advanced version (for secondary schools) in the spring of 2015.

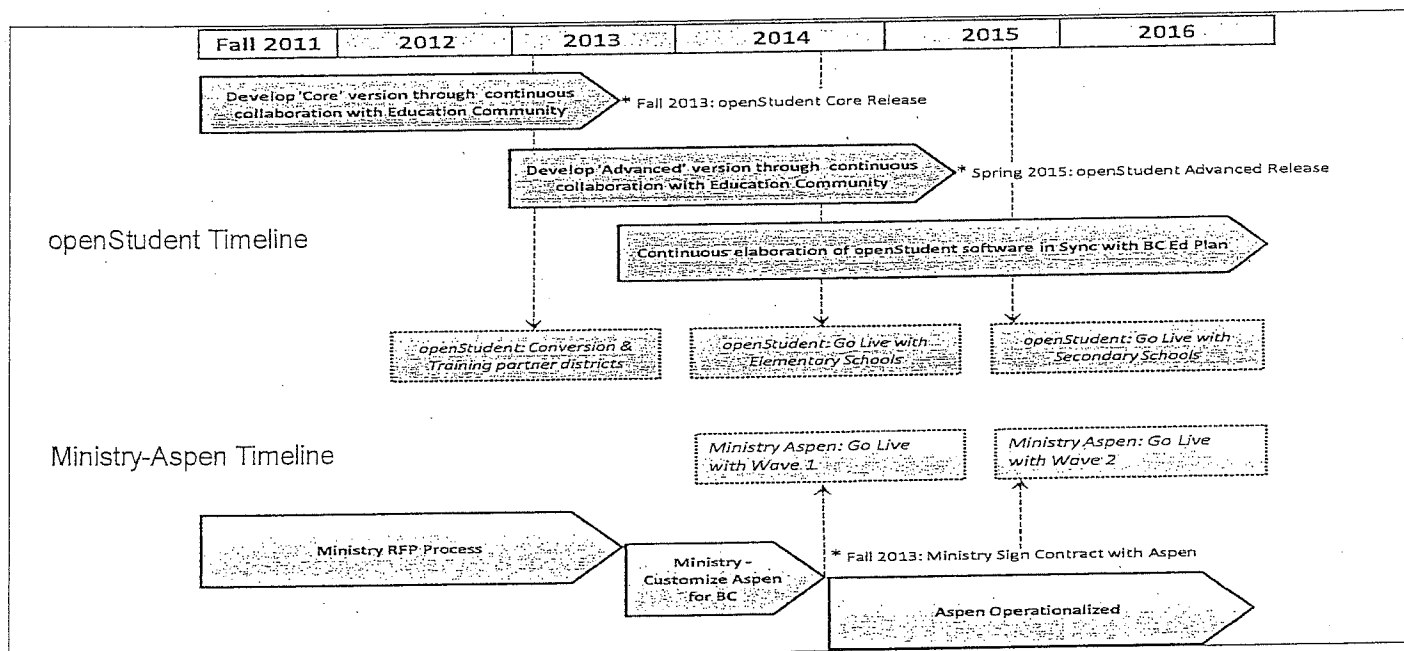
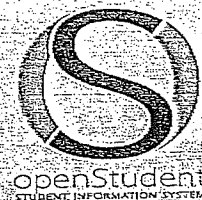
Release 1 - Core	Component	Date
	Security	✓
	Provincial-District-School Searches	✓
	Student Demographics	✓
	Student Registration	✓
	Cross Enrollment	✓
	School Details	✓
	Attendance	✓
	Teams-Groups	✓
	Course & Subject Functionality	✓
	Preliminary Reports	✓
	Course Section Maintenance	✓
	Linked Records (Sibling)	✓
	Behavior Incidents	✓
	Enrollment Reporting and Drilldown	✓
Release 2 - Advanced	Integration of Jasper Reports / Ad Hoc	Feb 2014
	Notifications and Messages	Feb 2014
	Transportation	Mar 2014
	Mark Entry	Mar 2014
	Fees	Mar 2014
	Grade Book	Jun 2014
	21 <sup>st</sup> Century Assessment & Collaboration Tools	Sep 2014
	Master Timetable Builder	Nov 2014
	Parent & Student Portals	Dec 2014
	Grad Calculations	Mar 2015



Low Cost  
Total Control  
Flexibility  
Innovation

# openStudent Fact Sheet

## Roadmap for Implementation



1. openStudent Core version will be released in late fall 2013
2. openStudent Advanced version will be released in spring 2015
3. Elementary schools will go live in the fall of 2014
4. Secondary schools will go live in the fall of 2015
5. The openStudent application development and implementation will be completed prior to the decommissioning of BCeSIS in the spring of 2016.

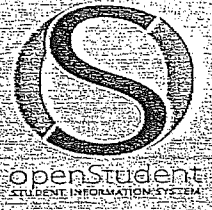




Low Cost  
Total Control  
Flexibility  
Innovation

# openStudent Fact Sheet

## openStudent & Core Review



The BC government has identified 6 specific objectives to be achieved by the current Core Review. Some of these objectives are as follows:

*Ensure that government is operating as efficiently and effectively as possible by:*

- ⇒ *Eliminating overlap and duplication between ministries and within the broader public sector;*
- ⇒ *Restructuring government program delivery and governance models where costs can be reduced and outcomes improved for the public;*
- ⇒ *Confirm government's core responsibilities and eliminate programs or services that could provide better service at less cost through alternative service delivery models;*

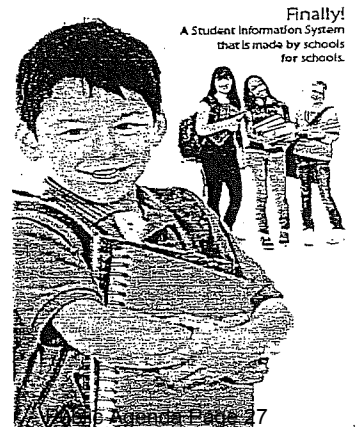
It is clear that the low cost, district centric, highly flexible and innovative approaches that are the mainstays of the openStudent project achieve these important government objectives.

#### Quotes:

Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines and Minister Responsible for Core Review –

“I’ve formally requested my Cabinet colleagues to submit bold ideas to the Core Review process to help government control spending and ensure the **best possible use of government resources**. I look forward to working with my colleagues to identify programs, services and agencies that require direction and change to protect the best interests of taxpayers.”

openStudent makes sense from the perspective of lowest cost, effective delivery of educational outcomes, support of education policy, long-term control, flexibility and innovation. The shared service approach to delivering a core education application will provide the highest possible value for taxpayers dollars.





ITEM 2

To: Board of Education

From: Board Chairperson  
Mike Murray

Re: **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Date: February 26, 2014  
(Public Board Meeting)

**Decision**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Minutes of the February 12, 2014 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

*Attachment*



**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING  
Wednesday, February 12, 2014 (6:00 PM)  
DEO Board Room**

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**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Board Chairperson – Mike Murray  
Trustee – Susan Carr  
Trustee – Ken Clarkson  
Trustee – Kathy Marshall  
Trustee – Sarah Nelson  
Trustee – Dave Rempel

**STAFF:**

Acting Superintendent – Laurie Meston  
Secretary Treasurer – Flavia Coughlan  
Assistant Superintendent – Shannon Derinzy  
Assistant Superintendent – David Vandergugten  
Mgr. of Communication/Community Relations – Irena Pochop  
Executive Assistant – Karen Yoxall

**ABSENT:**

Vice-Chairperson – Eleanor Palis

**A. OPENING PROCEDURES**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.  
The Chair welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

2. Correspondence

There is no correspondence.

3. Agenda

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Marshall

Additions/Amendments:

Trustee Motions – Motion submitted by Trustee Nelson

THAT the Agenda be ordered as amended.

**CARRIED**

The Chair opened the floor to others wanting to speak to the Agenda.

**B. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. January 29, 2014 Public Board Meeting Minutes

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Minutes of the January 29, 2014 Public Board Meeting be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

### **C. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

#### **1. Safe Schools – Sherri Skerratt**

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Nelson

Sherri Skerratt presented information on the implementation of the Safe and Caring Schools Policy that was approved by the Board of Education on February 13, 2013. The presentation described the model – universal, targeted and intensive and included an overview of each.

THAT the Board receive the presentation on Safe Schools by Sherri Skerratt for information.

**CARRIED**

### **D. CHAIR REPORT**

### **E. DEFERRED ITEMS**

### **F. TRUSTEE MOTIONS**

Moved: **Trustee Nelson**

Seconded: **Trustee Clarkson**

THAT the Board respond to the article in the Maple Ridge News title “CUPE bristles” and clarify the details of the remuneration policy so that the public is informed of the policy about how decisions on annual remuneration are made.

**CARRIED**

### **G. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

#### **1. Decision Items**

##### **a) Superintendent of Schools**

##### **i. 2014-2015 District School Calendar**

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Carr

The Acting Superintendent reported that for the past three years School District No. 42 has implemented a District-wide School Calendar. The School Calendar Regulation enacted in Spring 2012, established a new legislative framework that eliminated a Ministry standardized school calendar and set the requirements for a Board-established school calendar beginning in the 2013-2014 school year. The Regulation sets a minimum number of hours of instruction that Boards must offer to students during the school year. As well, there are different calendar information requirements for bricks-and-mortar and distributed learning schools.

The Acting Superintendent explained that the proposed draft 2014-2015 school calendars would be shared with the public for feedback before being presented to the Board in March for approval.

THAT the Board of Education approve the attached proposed draft school calendars to be shared with the public in order to receive public feedback.

**CARRIED**

- b) Deputy Superintendent
- c) Secretary Treasurer

i. Budget Process

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Nelson

The Secretary Treasurer reported that the School District is estimating that it will be facing a budget funding shortfall for 2014/2015 and that in accordance with the School Act, school districts in the province must approve a balanced budget for submission to the Ministry of Education by June 30, 2014.

The Secretary Treasurer presented the proposed 2014/2015 Preliminary Budget Process Timeline.

THAT the Board approves the proposed 2014/2015 Preliminary Budget Process Timeline.

**CARRIED**

**1. Information Items**

- a) Superintendent of Schools
- b) Deputy Superintendent
- c) Secretary Treasurer

i. Enrolment Projections

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Nelson

The Secretary Treasurer reported that every year, the Ministry of Education requests that school districts provide a three year enrolment projection for the purpose of projecting operating grant requirements. It was explained that projections were calculated using enrolment projections from the Baragar system, three year average grade to grade transition rates and local knowledge of recent and historical enrolment trends.

THAT the Board receive the Secretary Treasurer's report on Enrolment Projections for information.

**CARRIED**



**I. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**1. Committees of the Whole**

a) Finance

i. Financial Statements Quarter Ended December 31, 2013

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

At the recommendation of the Finance Committee of the Whole, the Secretary Treasurer presented the Financial Statement Quarter Ended December 31, 2013 to the Board for approval and answered questions from trustees regarding reasons for variances presented in the statements.

THAT the Board approve the Financial Statements for the quarter ended December 31, 2013.

**CARRIED**

b) Budget

i. 2013/2014 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw

At the recommendation of the Budget Committee of the Whole, the Secretary Treasurer presented the Amended Annual Bylaw for 2013/2014 to the Board for approval. It was reported that the Amended Annual Budget Bylaw for 2013/2014 included budgets for operating fund, special purpose funds, and the capital fund.

It was further reported that an overall \$0.38 deficit is projected. This annual deficit, which is permitted under the Accounting Practices Order of the Ministry of Education, is due to amortization expense exceeding the amortization of deferred capital revenue and budgeted capital asset purchases from operating and special purpose funds (\$0.80 million) offset by an estimated surplus for the year in local capital of \$0.42 million.

The Secretary Treasurer explained that this unrestricted surplus could potentially be used to assist in the offsetting of future projected funding shortfalls.

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Nelson

THAT the Board approve the transfer of \$315,000 from the Operating Fund to Local Capital to be used for Capital Lease payments due in 2013/2014.

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Carr

THAT the Board approve the transfer of any unrestricted surplus for 2013/2014 (currently estimated to be \$0.42 million) to Local Capital to potentially be used to assist in offsetting of future projected funding shortfalls.

**CARRIED.**

**Moved:** Trustee Marshall

**Seconded:** Trustee Clarkson

THAT the Amended Budget Bylaw of the Board for the fiscal year 2013/2014 be given three (3) readings at this meeting. (vote must be unanimous).

**CARRIED.**

THAT the Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows) 2013/2014 Amended Annual Budget Bylaw be:

Read a first time on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014;

Read a second time on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014;

Read a third time, passed and adopted on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014

**CARRIED**

## **2. Committee & Advisory Committee Reports**

- a) Aboriginal Education
- b) Board Policy Development
- c) District Student Advisory
- d) Education
- e) French Immersion Advisory
- f) Inclusive Education

## **J. QUESTION PERIOD**

A question was posed re: the proposed draft school calendar and CUPE employees. The Board Chair clarified that budget changes will be considered during the budget process for the upcoming year.

## **K. TRUSTEE REPORTS**

### BC School Trustees' Association

Trustee Clarkson explained that motions for the upcoming Annual General Meeting will be discussed at the BC School Trustees' Association Fraser Valley Meeting.

### District Parent Advisory Council

It was reported that the meeting was well attended, each school presented reports and Judy Dueck gave a presentation on emergency preparedness.

### Artist in Residence Program

Trustee Clarkson reported that the next Artist in Residence had been chosen.

### Social Planning Advisory

The Board Chair reported that funding for the safe house was at risk of being lost and is a great resource for children at risk in the community.

### Tzu Chi Foundation

Trustee Rempel reported that applications are due at the end of the month.

Good News Items

Trustee Nelson reported that the Centennial Committee has chosen the heron mascots and is planning many activities for the celebrations that are due to take place on April 25th.

Trustee Carr reported on the Grad Transitions that took place at Maple Ridge Secondary School and that are scheduled again for April 9<sup>th</sup>.

**L. OTHER BUSINESS**

**M. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved:** Trustee Rempel

**Seconded:** Trustee Nelson

THAT the meeting of the Board be adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Mike Murray, Chairperson

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Flavia Coughlan, Secretary Treasurer



ITEM 3

To: Board of Education

From: Board Chairperson  
Mike Murray

Re: **PRESENTATIONS**

Date: February 26, 2014  
(Public Board Meeting)

**Information**

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*To be distributed.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Board receive the presentation by Jennifer Williams and Patricia Patrick on the Montessori Program at Hammond Elementary for information.



ITEM 4

To: Board of Education

From: Board Chairperson  
Mike Murray

Re: **PRESENTATIONS**

Date: February 26, 2014  
(Public Board Meeting)

**Information**

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*To be distributed.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Board receive the presentation by the Maple Ridge Teachers' Association on Teacher-Librarians for information.





ITEM 5

To: Board of Education

From: Acting Superintendent  
Laurie Meston

Re: **BOARD AUTHORIZED  
APPROVED COURSE**

Date: February 26, 2014  
(Public Board Meeting)

**Decision**

---

**BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

As per the *School Act*, Boards of Education must approve Board authorized courses, academies, trade and partnership programs in the Spring proceeding their implementation.

The Education Committee has met, reviewed and approved the attached course outlines and recommends implementation.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve the Board Authorized Course Inquiry into Sustainability.

*Attachment*



## Board/Authority Authorised Course Framework Template

School District/Independent School Authority Name	Maple Ridge/ Pitt Meadows
School District/Independent School Authority Number	42
Developed by	Vicci O'Neill Halabi
Date Developed	January 10, 2014
School Name	Westview Secondary
Principal's Name	Patricia Geisinger
Superintendent Approval Date (for School Districts only)	
Superintendent Signature (for School Districts only)	
Board/Authority Approval Date	
Board/Authority Chair Signature	
Course Name	Inquiry into Sustainability
Grade Level of Course	12 (open to grade 11 and 12 students)
Number of Course Credits	4
Number of Hours of Instruction	120 hours
Prerequisite(s)	
Special Training, Facilities or Equipment Required	N/A
Course Synopsis	Through inquiry students will carry out research, solve problems and develop action plans that will lead to a deeper understanding of the environmental, economic and social challenges that need to



	be overcome in order to develop a green and sustainable future.
--	---

Adapt the following categories according to the structure of the course. For example, the course may be organized into topics rather than units, or the learning outcomes may be grouped under suborganizers, with suborganizers grouped under curriculum organizers. This section of the template serves as a guide to ensure the course contains all required components.

## Rationale

Organizational Structure: (units, topics, modules):

Unit/Topic	Title	Time
Unit 1	What is sustainability?	20 hrs
Unit 2	How is nature and ecology related to sustainability?	25 hrs
Unit 3	What are the possible sustainable solutions to environmental challenges?	25 hrs
Unit 4	How do we design transportation, architecture and cities for a more sustainable future?	25 hrs
Unit 5	How are environmental ethics related to social development?	25 hrs
Unit 6		
	Total Hours	120 hours

## Unit/Topic/Module Descriptions



**Unit 1:** Introduction to sustainability.

Initiation and development of an action plan to bring about sustainability or an environmental change to **Westview Secondary**. (year long project)

Possible action plans: Recycling of plastic

Reducing electrical use

Development of green spaces

Reducing school food waste

Reducing paper consumption etc.

**Unit 2:** Basic introduction to ecology and nature as it relates to sustainability:

Ecosystems, climate change, biodiversity

Inquiry at a **community** level

Possible topics: garbage, recycling, composting, water use, sewer and drainage,

Salmon enhancement, community gardens, eating local, invasive species,

Permaculture etc.

**Unit 3:** Sustainable solutions to environmental challenges:

Energy, food production, water, resources, BC sustainability legislation

Inquiry may continue as a natural progression from topic 2 or widen to a topic of inquiry at the **provincial** level to include possible topics such as:

oil and gas pipeline construction, Water privatization, maintaining coastal or water ecosystems, fracking, transportation, hunting etc.

**Unit 4:** Designing transportation, architecture and cities for a more sustainable future:

Transportation, green building standards, urban planning

Problem based learning challenge: To design a green and sustainable city of the future that would encompass a plan for transportation, energy use, green building standards, waste management etc.

**Unit 5:** Environmental ethics as related to social development

Global sustainability initiatives

Inquiry at a **global** level:

Possible topics: rainforest destruction, international trade versus reducing our carbon

Footprint, use of the environment (pesticides, pollution, fracking etc) versus Health etc.



**Instructional Component:** A combination of inquiry and problem based learning will comprise the pedagogical framework that will be used to teach the course Inquiry into Sustainability. Students will work in collaborative teams to carry out an action plan that will bring about a sustainable environmental change within Westview Secondary, propose and develop an inquiry that will look at an environmental challenge within their community and propose a sustainable action plan. Students will then design a green, sustainable city of the future and culminate the course by carrying out a globally based inquiry that looks at environmental ethics as related to social development.

**Assessment Component:**

Formative assessment: student journals, individual and team interviews, team reflective logs.

Summative assessment: use of rubrics to assess final projects and presentations.

**Learning Resource:** Students have access to a class set of 30 iPads to carry out research.





ITEM 6

To: Board of Education

From: Acting Superintendent  
Laurie Meston

Secretary Treasurer  
Flavia Coughlan

Re: **NEW STUDENT  
INFORMATION SYSTEM  
IMPLEMENTATION**

Date: February 26, 2014  
(Public Board Meeting)

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**Decision**

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**BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

At its December 11 2013 Closed Board meeting, the Board of Education approved the Memorandum of Understanding for Implementation of the BC Common Student Information Service in BC School Districts (MOU) and authorized the Superintendent to choose the implementation period for School District No. 42 schools and to submit the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the Ministry of Education by December 31, 2013 in order to confirm participation and commitment and further that the implementation of the new student information system will begin after project budget approval by the Board.

Given the complexity of this project the implementation period chosen for all Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows schools is between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016. This will allow ample time to plan and execute the implementation of the new student information system before the current provincial student information system (BCeSIS) will no longer be operational in March 2016.

The operating costs for the current student information system (BCeSIS) includes a usage fee of \$10.00 per student per year and IT salaries and benefits, which the Board is required to fund. The new system will have a similar per student cost and local support requirements resulting in a similar estimated operating cost structure post implementation. There will, however, be significant one-time costs associated with the implementation of the new student information system. It should be noted that these costs would not vary significantly should a different system be selected than the one selected by the province and approved for implementation by the Board.

The roles and responsibilities for the School District and the Ministry are outlined in Attachment A. School District responsibilities will be fulfilled in part by using existing infrastructure and staffing and in part by adding temporary staffing and project resources. The projected implementation costs for the activities listed in Attachment A are \$438,000 and include: Temporary Staffing (Project Manager, Teacher and Clerical trainers), project related travel, training, and staff release time.

It is proposed that the one-time implementation costs be funded from the Board's contingency reserve. The contingency reserve is projected to have a balance of approximately \$2.19 million at the end of the current fiscal year 2013/2014.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board: approve the use of the Local Capital Reserve to fund the projected one-time costs associated with the implementation of the new Student Information System for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 budget years to a maximum of \$438,000.

*Attachment*

Work Area	Ministry	School District Responsibilities	School District Resources
Governance	Facilitate development of the governance structures and processes.	Use established governance processes for requesting changes and improvements to the Service. Assign representatives to participate in governance processes.	Project Executive Sponsor: Superintendent Project Steering Committee: Superintendent, Secretary Treasurer, Directors of Instruction, Director of HR, Project Manager Management of Project: Project Manager Project Working Group: Subject Matter Experts (i.e. Elementary and Secondary representatives, IT, HR)
Software Configuration and Testing	Supply the tools and infrastructure required by the School District to configure and test software to address the requirements of district schools.	Coordinate testing to ensure that the common software configuration addresses the requirements of district schools. Provide personnel resources to assist in configuration development and testing.	Project Manager and Project Working Group
Data Conversion	Develop, implement, and support data conversion and loading processes. Work with the School District to complete data conversion.	Coordinate, with the Ministry, the planning and scheduling of data conversion. Identify special data conversion requirements (e.g. user defined fields). Complete data conversion processes using tools and procedures provided by the Ministry.	Project Manager and IT resources (IT - Computer Software Coordinator, Data Analyst)
Data Custodianship	Facilitate the development and adoption of data standards and associated processes in consultation with the School District.	Manage access to records for students enrolled in district schools. Ensure that data entered by district schools is accurate, complete, and adheres to approved standards. Provide personnel resources to enter and maintain student data.	IT - Computer Software Coordinator, Data Analyst
Report Development	Provide access to the framework and tools for report development. Develop and provide access to reports approved collectively through the governance process.	Using tools provided by the Ministry, manage the development of reports specific to the requirements of School District.	Project Manager and Project Working Group
External System Integration	Develop, implement, and support common system integration methods, processes, and tools to meet existing and future system integration requirements.	Support planning and development processes for external system integration Provide personnel resources to participate in the development and testing of external system interfaces. Work with the Ministry in order to develop, implement, and support external system interfaces for integrating district systems with the Service.	IT System Analysts

Work Area	Ministry	School District Responsibilities	School District Resources
Implementation	<p>Develop and support an Implementation Toolkit and documents that will guide the development of a comprehensive implementation plan for the School District, including identifying schools for staged implementation, tools for data conversion, testing of the system, and a training plan that addresses all users.</p> <p>Provide project management and oversight for the development of an Implementation Planning Framework.</p> <p>Develop reasonable school readiness criteria that must be satisfied to undertake implementation.</p> <p>Manage, with the School District and other boards of education, the collective implementation schedule.</p> <p>Provide a communications plan to support local implementation within district schools.</p>	<p>Coordinate project, resource, and financial plans for local implementation and training.</p> <p>Prepare local training and rollout schedules for all district schools.</p> <p>Develop plans for managing communications within district schools.</p> <p>Fund and supply all resources required to complete local implementation in accordance with the School District's implementation plan.</p> <p>Manage and complete all activities required to accomplish a transition to the new system in accordance with the School District's implementation plan.</p> <p>Develop school-level plans for integration and support.</p>	<p>Project Executive Sponsor: Superintendent</p> <p>Project Steering Committee: Superintendent, Secretary, Treasurer, Directors of Instruction, Director of HR, Project Manager</p> <p>Management of Project: Project Manager (full time)</p> <p>Project Working Group: Subject Matter Experts (i.e. Elementary and Secondary representatives, IT, HR)</p> <p>Trainers: Teacher, Clerical (full time)</p>
Training	<p>Using a "train the trainer" model, develop training plans, materials and infrastructure required by the School District to prepare and deliver user training.</p>	<p>Coordinate all training resources to complete local user training within district schools.</p> <p>Coordinate the delivery of user training to accomplish a transition to the Service in district schools.</p>	<p>Project Manager and Trainers: Teacher (0.5 FTE) and Clerical (0.5 FTE)</p>
Help Desk	<p>Provide "Level 2" helpdesk services for all system and software inquiries (help and support that cannot be addressed by "Level 1" support) through which designated "Level 1" contacts can report service and software problems for resolution.</p>	<p>Provide a "Level 1" helpdesk for district schools.</p>	<p>IT - Computer Software Coordinator, Data Analyst</p>
Local Network Infrastructure	<p>Provide specifications for minimum local network infrastructure and service levels that meet operational requirements for the School District and district schools.</p>	<p>Maintain local network and systems infrastructure to meet project specifications</p>	<p>IT Manager and IT System Analysts</p>

## Background Information Student Information System Selection Process

Fujitsu and Aspen (MyEducation BC) were selected through a comprehensive procurement process undertaken by the school districts and the Ministry of Education. The timeline and details of the MyEducation BC procurement process are detailed below.

June – Oct 2011	The Ministry engaged consultant to conduct an independent, province wide assessment of the needs and expectations for a student information system, assess whether the current BCeSIS system could meet the current and anticipated future needs of education within the Province, assess competitive market alternatives, and provide recommendations. Face to face focus groups with 10 districts representing the geographic and demographic variation in province, 436 survey responses, and interviews with Ministry, BCTF and districts were used to gather data.
Fall 2011	Consultant report concludes that there is provincial support for common student information service, and current application (BCeSIS) not aligned with nor able to meet future needs.
January 2012	Stakeholder survey to determine key requirements and criteria for a new electronic student information system. Responses from 1400+ stakeholders included BCTF, BCSTA, BCCPAC, BCPVPA, BCSSA, FISA, FNEsc, school district staff, independent school staff who identified the 700 requirements for a new system/service.
May 2012	Executive steering committee (3 superintendents, 3 secretary-treasurers, 1 school district principal, one service management council member and ministry staff) agree to move forward with a procurement, following a successful RFI (Request for Information)
July 2012	Province begins procurement by issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) The purpose of the RFQ was to establish a list of Qualified Respondents eligible to submit proposals, in compliance with the Vendor Reference Check Policy required by Treasury Board. As described in the policy only legal entities qualified through the RFQ process were eligible to submit proposals through the RFP.
August 2012	16 responses received and evaluated by core evaluation committee (CEC) comprised of 5 school district representatives and 4 ministry staff lead by an independent government procurement specialist.
September - November 2012	Functional requirements for the new system were prepared by 45 experts from public and independent schools. These requirements were made publicly available on the Ministry's website, 175 comments were received that were then incorporated into the requirements document that formed part of the Request for Proposal.
December 2012	Request for Proposals issued to all qualified candidates from the RFQ process. Six proposals were received by Feb 2013 deadline.
February – June 2013	Evaluation of proposals by evaluation team. Evaluators were all members from the core evaluation committee and additional subject matter experts. In total experts from 16 districts helped to select the successful vendor on behalf of all school districts and the ministry. Evaluation process included review of written proposals, demonstration, validation, and scenario based testing.
July- November 2013	Contract finalization discussions, reference checks, and governance review.
November 2013	Ministry of Education entered into a contract with Fujitsu Consulting (Canada) to offer MyEducation BC, a hosted service based upon the Aspen SIS software from Follett School Solutions Inc. MyEducation BC will replace BCeSIS.

## MyEducation BC

MyEducation BC will be built by Fujitsu Consulting (Canada) Inc. around Follett Corporation's proven Aspen SIS product. The proposal submitted by this proponent was the most highly ranked of the six proposals that were submitted. The evaluation process included:

1. Evaluation and scoring of the written proposal against the core and functional requirements
2. Validation of specific core functional requirements (must have achieved 80%) to continue
3. Software demonstration test

MyEducation BC will replace BCeSIS which is scheduled to be decommissioned by March 2016. Aspen SIS is a modern, feature-rich SIS designed from the ground up for province-wide implementations and to fully support learning and teaching. Aspen was chosen because it has features that best address key requirements for schools in BC:

- Aspen is a true enterprise solution that maintains a single record for each student throughout their entire education career.
- The software has the features and flexibility needed to support Personalized Learning in BC.
- A comprehensive web-based portal will allow parents and students to access student records, monitor student progress on a continual basis, and communicate securely with teachers and other school-based staff.
- Flexible scheduling options.
- Support for continuous learning models.
- A modern interface that is easy to learn, easy to use, and can be tailored to user preferences and workflows.
- A comprehensive suite of reports and robust reporting tools that, within appropriate security constraints, have access to the entire database.

## OpenStudent

In the provincial procurement process openStudent, a product developed by the Saanich School District, did not meet the initial RFQ requirements, so it was not eligible to continue in the process. No proposal was received from openStudent.

At this time the development of the openStudent SIS is underway. This student information system is estimated to complete production of the full application by fall 2015. The Saanich School District continues to actively seek school district partners to financially support the completion of the development of the application. The investment sought is \$16 per student FTE. All investments made will be returned to the school districts in the form of reduced annual fees until the investment is recovered.

The marketing material supplied by openStudent advertises that the per student user fee for their product (\$7 to \$3/student) will be lower than the fee for the provincially selected solution (\$10/student). The marketing materials do not disclose what the estimated total cost of ownership (TCO) for openStudent might be. For this product the total cost of ownership would include factors such as usage fees, hosting, application service and support, hardware service and support, clerical support, and compliance with ministry reporting requirements. It is predicted that overall TCO may be higher with OpenStudent than MyEducation BC for a number of reasons, including technical service and support for a system built around open-source software.



openStudent was not considered as a viable alternative by the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows school district in part due to the technical and financial risks identified below:

- openStudent does not currently include a complete student information system. Several components of the program are not ready for use or evaluation at this time. Most significantly the product developed to date can only be used in elementary schools. Given the implementation timeline required for our school district, this lack of total readiness would be problematic.
- openStudent will have no guaranteed means of accessing student records maintained in BCeSIS and Aspen. The ability to maintain a Single Transferrable Sharable Student Record is a critical feature of any selected student information system. Given that students enter and exit school districts on a regular basis, this would cause significant challenges to continuity of student programming, tracking of enrolment, etc.
- OpenStudent is actively seeking investment capital from school districts in order to underwrite its software development costs. To our knowledge, no metro school districts have indicated an interest in making a capital investment in openStudent. The Province has indicated that it will not be providing funding for this product. Given that sufficient funding might not be available to complete the development of the product there is significant risk associated with choosing to implement this solution.

### Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows Student Information System Selection

The provincial selection process provided evidence that the great majority of available products will not meet the needs of the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows school district as well as MyEducation BC product appears to. In December 2013, at the recommendation of senior staff, the Board of Education approved the Memorandum of Understanding for Implementation of the BC Common Student Information Service in BC School Districts (MOU) and authorized the Superintendent to choose the implementation period for School District No. 42 schools and to submit the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the Ministry of Education by December 31, 2013 in order to confirm participation and commitment and further that the implementation of the new student information system will begin after project budget approval by the Board.

Given the complexity of this project the implementation period chosen for all Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows schools is between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016. This will allow ample time to plan and execute the implementation of the new student information system before the current provincial student information system (BCeSIS) will no longer be operational in March 2016.

To: Board of Education

From: Acting Superintendent  
Laurie Meston

Re: **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION  
ENROLMENT UPDATE**

Date: February 26, 2014  
(Public Board Meeting)

### Information

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#### BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

2014 Kindergarten registration has four stages, three of which have already been completed: Sibling, Programs of Choice and General. The next stage begins February 26<sup>th</sup> for parents who have yet to register their child. This phase will remain open until June 13<sup>th</sup>. Parents who move into Maple Ridge or Pitt Meadows over the summer will have the opportunity to register their child in late August (date yet to be determined). Attached is the kindergarten enrolment update as of February 19, 2014.

Kindergarten registration this year was completed using the SD42 Parent Portal. Parents were able to register their child from home, work, public libraries or any of our elementary schools (specific computers were made available to parents). The portal's design streamlined the data supplied by the parent, allowing the district to have accurate data regarding catchments (home/daycare), siblings and reasons for choosing a non-catchment school. The registration dashboard (name of school/soft and hard caps/current enrolment/waitlist), allowed the district to easily manage enrollment as well as make transfer decisions based on the district's criteria (sibling, in catchment, daycare in catchment, out of catchment, out of district).

At the present time, all students have secured a spot in their catchment school. We were only able to accommodate students using criteria numbers 1 and 2 (siblings and in catchment) at Alexander Robinson, Albion and Yennadon. We do not anticipate being able to accommodate students whose daycare is located in these catchments. A small number of students have been wait-listed at their school of choice. Some of these students may be accommodated in the next few months as numbers fluctuate both up and down depending on family moves etc.

Waitlists occur in French Immersion, Montessori and the Environmental school. These parents have registered their child in alternate SD42 programs while waiting to hear if there is space in their program of choice.

To date 954 students have registered in kindergarten for 2014/15. Last year at this time we were at 958. Historically close to 100 kindergarten students register throughout the district between March and September. Over the coming months numbers at specific schools may fluctuate up or down depending on family moves, etc.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board receive the attached report on Kindergarten registration as of February 19, 2014, for information.

**PUBLIC BOARD MEETING Kindergarten Registration Update -  
February 26th, 2014**

Please find below an overview of Kindergarten Registration as of February 19, 2014. The numbers will continue to increase over the coming months and may

	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
Albion	60	53
Alexander Robinson	49	60
Alouette	34	45
Blue Mountain	21	19
Davie Jones	39	40
Edith McDermott	34	24
Environmental	15	16
Eric Langton EN	15	19
Eric Langton FR	32	42
Fairview	34	32
Glenwood	49	31
Golden Ears	47	56
Hammond	35	24
Hammond Mont.	20	22
Harry Hooge	43	50
Highland Park	25	31
Kanaka Creek	72	66
Laity View EN	26	19
Laity View FR	69	66
Maple Ridge Elem.	38	45
Pitt Meadows Elem EN	21	20
Pitt Meadows Elem FR	50	64
Webster's Corner	25	13
Whonnock	35	31
Yennadon	70	66
<b>Total</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>954</b>



ITEM 8

**RECORD**

**2013-2014**

Pursuant to provisions of 72 (1) of the *School Act*, the following report is a general statement of: (a) matters discussed; and (b) the general nature of decisions resolved at the following meetings from which persons other than Trustees or officers of the Board, or both were excluded:

**January 29, 2014**

Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 3::21 p.m.
Motion of Exclusion	Approved
Ordering of Agenda	Approved as circulated
Confirmation of Minutes – January 15, 2014	Approved as circulated
Chair Report	Approved
Deputy Superintendent Decision Item	Approved
Superintendent Information Item	Received for information
Secretary Treasurer Information Item	Received for information
Adjournment	Adjourned at 4:31 p.m.