



Trustees:

Mike Murray (Chair), Susan Carr (Vice-Chair), Lisa Beare, Ken Clarkson, Korleen Carreras, Eleanor Palis, Dr. Dave Rempel

Executive:

Sylvia Russell (Superintendent), Laurie Meston (Deputy Superintendent), Flavia Coughlan (Secretary Treasurer), David Vandergugten (Director of Instruction)

Correspondence

The Board received correspondence from community members asking for the reinstatement of regular student busing, and from several Boards of Education (addressed to the ministers of Education and Finance) concerning education funding. These letters are available for review on the district website in the June 15 agenda package.

Presentation: Student Inquiry

The Board received presentations from three groups of elementary school students on their inquiry projects around environmental sustainability. The presentations focused on global warming and explored some of the small steps schools can take to reduce energy consumption and become more environmentally responsible. These presentations were only a small sample of the 700 other inquiry projects that have been completed by elementary school students in the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows School District this year. A number of these have dovetailed with the school district's Energy Management Program.

Presentation: Garibaldi Music Program

A delegation from Garibaldi Secondary came to present to the Board about the school's music program. Noting that the program had grown significantly since its inception three years ago, students spoke about the ways in which this program has enriched their lives, and addressed also the district level supports that are needed to continue meeting student needs.

Literacy Network Helping Teachers

The Board received an update on the progress that the Literacy Network has made over the past year. The intent of the network is to ensure students have the necessary support to progress in and develop their passion for reading. The Board heard about several network activities, and learned also about the network's intent to develop a new tool for assessing student progress over the next year.

School Fees Schedule

The Board approved standard secondary school fees for the 2016/17 school year, and fees for various academy programs. Fees for academy programs are based directly on the extra costs associated with offering this specialized programming. Elementary school supply lists were also discussed, and a cap of \$55 for supply costs was established district-wide. This change introduces a greater degree of standardization for the upcoming school year.

International Education Fees

An international student fee schedule was established for the 2016/17 school year, with a \$500 per year increase in tuition fees for a total of \$12,500. This increase was based on comparisons to fees collected in other school districts. While the new fees reflect an increase, they remain competitive. Trustees observed that the International Education program is beneficial both for the school district and the local community, and that Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows public schools are enriched by the involvement of international students.

2015/16 Capital Plan

The Board adopted the capital bylaw required to authorize the expenditures necessary to implement the capital plan approved by the province. This capital plan includes the development of final project definition reports for the new South Albion Elementary School, seismic mitigation projects at Westview Secondary and Fairview Elementary, building envelope remediation at Thomas Haney Secondary and Maple Ridge Elementary, as well as the installation of energy efficient roof-top air handling units at Westview Secondary.

Board Meeting Schedule

The Board established the following meeting schedule for the 2016/17 school year:

September 7, 2016	February 22, 2017
October 19, 2016	March 8, 2017
November 16, 2016	April 12, 2017
December 14, 2016	April 26, 2017
January 18, 2017	May 17, 2017
February 8, 2017	June 21, 2017

Trustee Professional Development

The Board approved a policy allowing trustees to carry forward professional development allocations in recognition that there are more opportunities available in some years than others, and noting that trustees need to keep up with latest trends in education in order to make well-informed decisions.

2016/17 Budget

Trustees considered a report provided by staff on what to add to the previously adopted budget given the additional funding of \$631,773 recently made available by the province.

The Board approved the following amendments to the 2016/17 budget:

- 1) Allocate one-time funding of \$0.36 million to add supports for vulnerable students at elementary and secondary, and to minimize the number of academic classes over 30 at the secondary level.
- 2) Allocate one-time funding of \$7,000 to increase elementary clerical support banks as follows:

Student Enrolment	Clerical Support Bank
Under 200	30 hours / year
200-349	35 hours / year
350-499	47 hours / year
500+	55 hours / year

- 3) Allocate one-time funding of \$0.26 million to support a one-year pilot of a revised model for regular student transportation that entails:
 - Securing a regular student transportation contract for 2016/17;
 - Providing regular student transportation to eligible students, defined as:
 - a. Primary Students (Grades K – 3) that live farther than 4 kilometers to their catchment area school
 - b. All Other Students (Grades 4 – 12) that live farther than 4.8 kilometers to their catchment area school
 - Transportation services not being provided to students that are not eligible;
 - Reducing the number of contracted buses by:
 - Enforcing a July 31 application deadline for transportation services;
 - Creating routes based on registrations received, and optimizing and/or extending routes in order to achieve a 95%+ utilization for each bus.
 - Increasing the annual student transportation fee to mirror the cost of TransLink fares of \$52/month for eight months for an annual fee per student of \$416 (maintaining an estimated subsidy of \$730/student at 100% utilization);
 - Providing eligible low income families with a transportation fee waiver.
- 4) Authorize the Secretary Treasurer to prepare and implement all the required procedures to address the details of implementing the new bussing service

Financial Statements for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2016

The Board reviewed and approved the financial statements for the quarter ended March 31, 2016.

Board Policy Development

The Board rescinded the old policy on physical restraint of students in lights of its recent adoption of the new policy, and adopted the new policy on field trips, Policy 8901. Over the coming months, staff will be reviewing procedures attached to this policy.

Operational Plan

Trustees received the draft operational plans for the Board and all district functional areas for the coming school year. A more detailed review of these plans will be undertaken in early fall.

Superintendent's Update

The superintendent provided updates on school events and activities.

Trustee Remuneration

The Board received a report outlining the annual increase in trustee remuneration based on the Vancouver area CPI rounded to the nearest \$100. The total cost of the increase will be \$200 per trustee.

Good News

In the good news portion of the evening, trustee Murray noted the Municipal Advisory Committee on Accessibility Issues honored Laurie Meston at its recent awards night as a Citizen Champion for her significant contributions to inclusive education in the district.

The next Board of Education meeting will be at 6 pm September 7, 2016 in the District Education Office.