



TRANSPORTATION MEETING

Garibaldi Secondary School – Cafeteria
24789 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge BC

Wednesday, April 22, 2015
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Agenda

Meeting Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to consult with the public and our stakeholders, listening to and acknowledging their concerns while building a mutual understanding of the issues related to student transportation.

The Board of Education (Trustees) will use the feedback collected at this meeting and through the online *Transportation Survey* when making its final decision regarding the proposed discontinuation of SD42 regular busing effective September 2016.

Participation Guidelines

To ensure that everyone is heard, we ask people to keep their comments in the discussion to 2 minutes per person. We will respectfully listen to all voices and listen to perspectives that are different than our own.

1. Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)

2. Presentation by Board Chairperson and Staff (25 minutes)

- a. What we heard so far – transportation survey results
- b. Information to deepen understanding

3. Facilitated Table Discussion

- a. Questions for clarity (30 minutes)

Please note: this is not an opportunity to make statements or engage in a debate.

At each table the presentation is discussed and questions for clarity are surfaced.

Each speaker will have two minutes to ask questions including follow up questions. This agenda item has a time limit of 30 minutes.

- b. Additional input - What have we not heard yet that the Board of Education (Trustees) should consider when making its decision (30 minutes)

At each table additional input is discussed and then presented to the group. Speaker's time is limited to two minutes per person. This agenda item has a time limit of 30 minutes.

4. Next Steps (10 minutes)

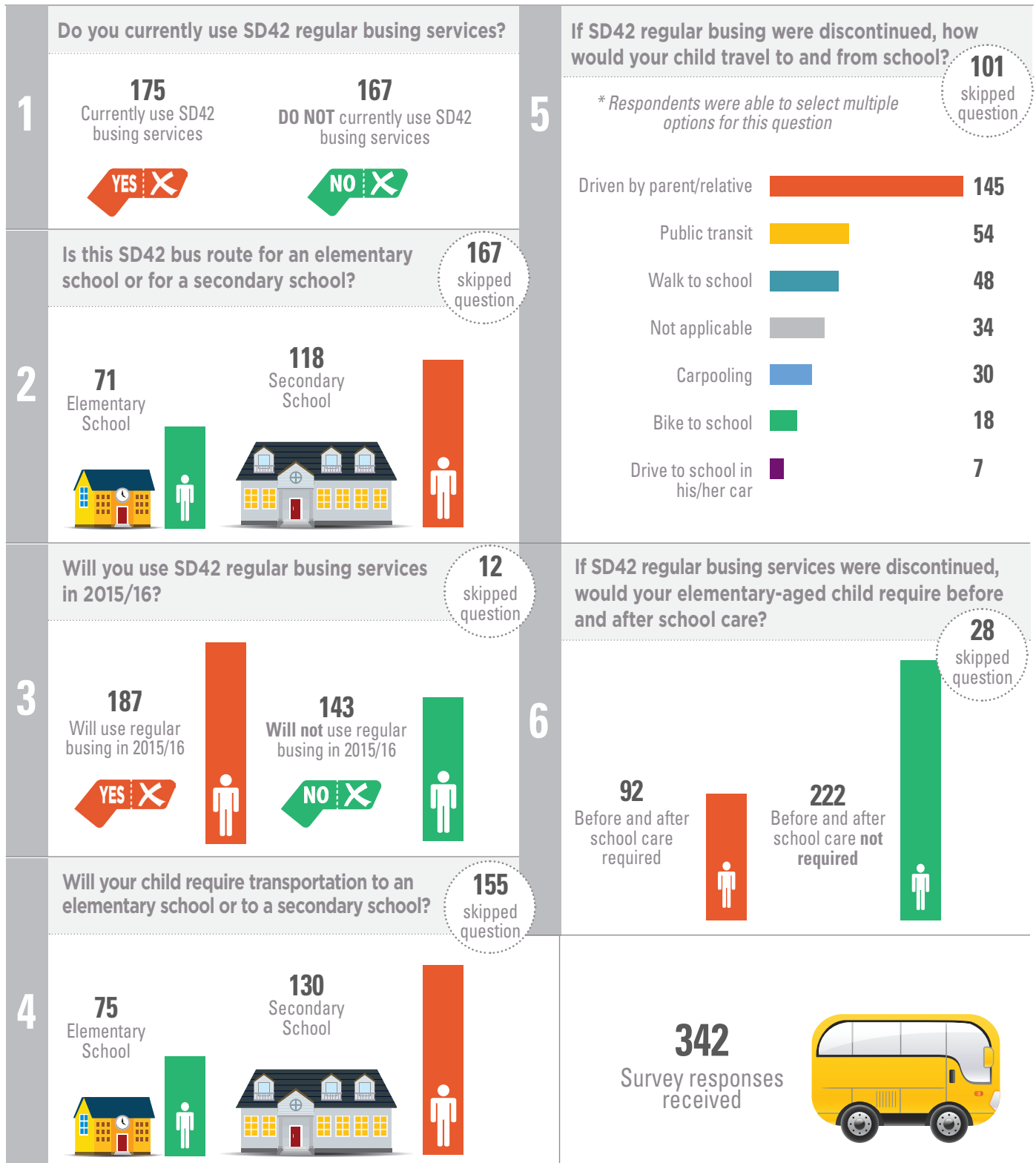
The decision regarding SD42 regular bus services for future years will be made by the Board of Education (Trustees) at the public board meeting scheduled for April 29, 2015 at the District Education Office.

The proposed discontinuation of regular SD42 student transportation is for the school year starting September 2016.

We will advise parents and other stakeholders of the decision made by the Board of Education (Trustees).

SD42 REGULAR BUSING TRANSPORTATION SURVEY RESULTS

Due to several cost pressures beyond its control and provincially mandated administrative savings, the Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows School District (SD42) is facing an operating budget funding shortfall of \$1.68 million for 2015/16, followed by a budget funding shortfall of \$1.44 million for 2016/17. Budget balancing proposals include the discontinuation of SD42 regular student busing starting 2016/17.



SHARED CONCERNS

Communities with no public busing

- Some areas have no public busing at all; in others the service is inadequate
- Public buses come too early or too late
- Current residence was selected because a school bus serviced the area
- No reasonable alternative to SD42 regular busing



... there is such poor local transit out by 270th where we live. We have no actual bus stop, the kids would be expected to stand on the side of Dewdney and flag the bus down.

Student Safety

- Distances too great for children to walk (5 km – 20 km)
- Children too young to walk to school
- Roads unsafe for walking and/or bike riding: there is traffic, no proper walkways or sidewalks, wildlife
- Public transportation (where available) not as safe as school buses



My elementary school aged children live almost 2 miles from [their school] in an area with no public transportation, no street lights, no sidewalks and where bears and cougars are a common sight.

Driving children to/from school presents issues for some

- Both parents work fulltime and cannot drop off or pick up
- Single parents work fulltime and cannot drop off or pick up
- Taking time off to drive children to/from school would be a financial hardship
- School often in the opposite direction of work



We live 9 km from our catchment school, Whonnock. But that is in the opposite direction both my husband and I drive to work.

Catchment schools too far from home

- School boundaries changed and now our catchment school is too far
- Schools within walking distance are too full
- If regular busing is discontinued, students should be accommodated in a school closer to home or one on the way to work



I find it rather upsetting that my child cannot go to a school within walking distance of 7 blocks due to Albion being too full and him being forced to go to a school almost 30 blocks from home, Whonnock.

Hardship for families

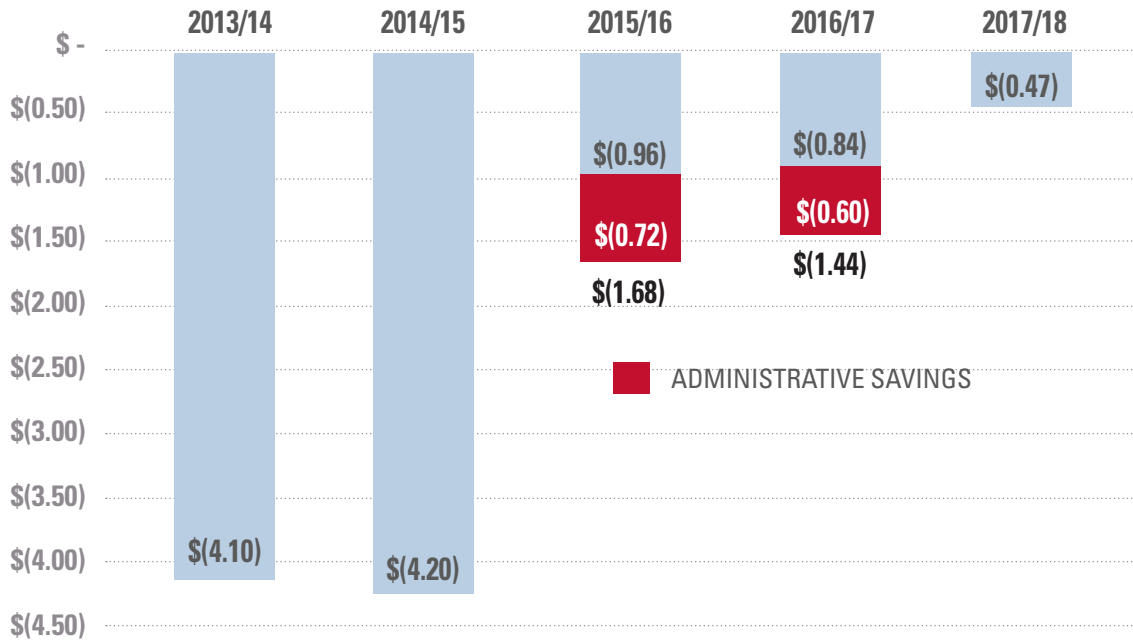
- Some would be forced to work only part-time
- Some may have to get a different job or change careers entirely
- Some families may have to sell their house and move
- Some can't afford public transit costs or driving expenses
- Families are already paying a busing fee and local taxes to support transportation infrastructure in the community



I don't know because I start work at 7, and there are no transit buses that go to Webster's. This would be awful for my family as I am a single mom.

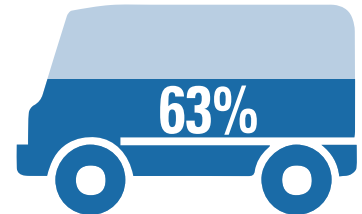
INFORMATION TO DEEPEN UNDERSTANDING

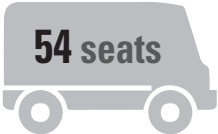
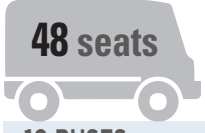
FINANCIAL CONTEXT



The Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows School District is running 12 regular bus routes with a capacity of 588 and an overall utilization of 63% for 2014/15.

COST PER BUS: \$59,456 (to and from school, 180 days per year)



	NUMBER OF STUDENTS TRANSPORTED	COST PER STUDENT PER YEAR <i>To and from school, 180 days per year</i>	ANNUAL STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEE	SUBSIDY PER STUDENT PER YEAR AT 100% UTILIZATION
 54 seats 2 BUSES	109	\$1,091	\$215	\$876
 48 seats 10 BUSES	261	\$2,278	\$215	\$2,063
TOTAL 2014/15	370	\$0.71 M	\$0.06 M	\$0.65 M

MAPLE RIDGE - PITT MEADOWS SCHOOL DISTRICT (NO.42)

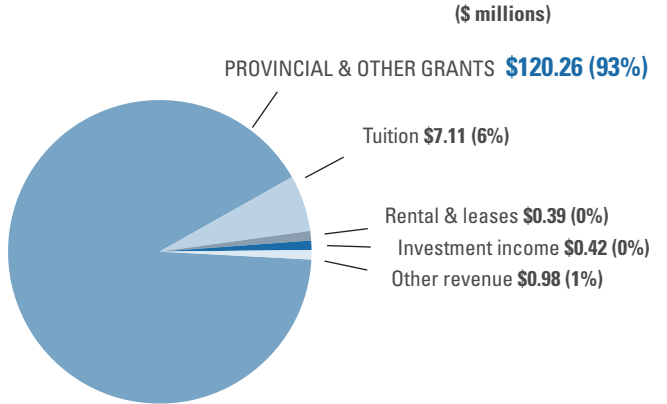
PROPOSED PRELIMINARY BUDGET 2015/16 - 2016/17

For 2015/16 and 2016/17, the province tasked all school districts with finding administrative savings. For the Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows School District, the administrative savings target set by the Ministry of Education over two years is \$1.34 million.

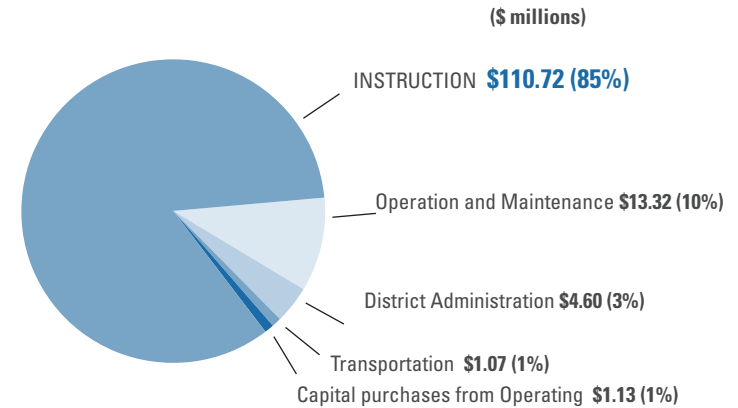
Given this requirement for multi-year savings, this year's proposed budget contains proposed budget changes that will be implemented over two years.

Due to several cost pressures beyond its control, the Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows School District is estimating an operating budget funding shortfall of \$1.68 million for 2015/16, followed by a budget funding shortfall of \$1.44 million for 2016/17.

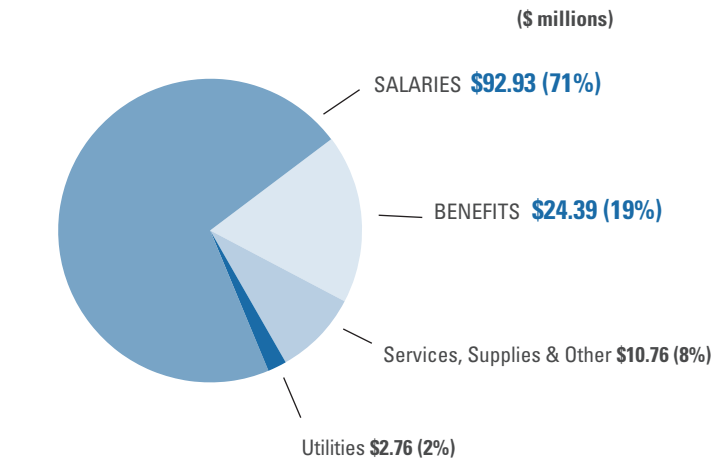
93% OF REVENUE IS PROVIDED BY THE MINISTRY



85% OF EXPENDITURE IS RELATED TO INSTRUCTION



90% OF EXPENDITURE IS FOR SALARIES AND BENEFITS



Operating Budget Projections	(\$ millions)	2015/16	2016/17
Costs Not Funded by the Province			
Salary and benefit changes		(0.80)	(0.53)
Inflation		(0.30)	(0.18)
		(1.10)	(0.71)
Enrolment driven changes		(0.12)	(0.13)
Funding Formula Changes			
Increased per pupil funding		0.64	
Teachers wage and benefit increases		(3.09)	(0.37)
CUPE wage and benefit increases		(0.22)	(0.15)
Estimated Labour Settlement Funding		3.32	0.52
		0.65	-
Surplus Carry Forward		(2.68)	
One-Time Revenue and Expenditures			
School and projects rollover budgets		1.86	
One-time transfer to contingency reserve		2.29	
One-time job action related			
Revenue		4.14	
Expenses		(4.19)	
Miscellaneous one-time revenue		(1.91)	
Reverse one-time savings and expenses		0.10	
		2.29	-
Total Projected Surplus / (Shortfall)		(0.96)	(1.62)
Administrative Savings Target		(0.72)	(0.60)
Estimated Budget Funding Surplus/(Shortfall)		(1.68)	(1.44)

BUDGET BALANCING PROPOSALS**Budget Balancing Proposals 2015/16**

Use of Contingency Reserve for Ongoing Expenditures	1,051,517
Transportation	70,000
Education Administration and Human Resources	20,450
Move to Bring Your Own Device by 2018	147,251
Business Operations and Governance	42,500
Facilities and Maintenance	200,000
Student Support Services	(19,968)
Elementary - Clerical Model Change	(7,018)
Other Staffing Changes	2,589
International Education	44,727
General Supplies Reduction	399,216
Total Ongoing Proposals	899,747
Total Operating Budget Proposals 2015/16	1,951,264

Budget Balancing Proposals 2016/17


Use of Contingency Reserve for Ongoing Expenditures	700,000
Transportation	645,000
Facilities and Maintenance	300,000
Support Teacher Allocations	270,777
Classroom Teacher Allocations Elementary	322,097
General Supplies Reduction	180,000
Total Ongoing Proposals	1,717,874
Total Operating Budget Proposals 2016/17	2,417,874

Use of Contingency Reserve to Fund One-Time Expenditures	2,512,275
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This is a proposed preliminary budget. The Board of Education will consult with partner groups and the public before making its final decision to adopt the preliminary budget balancing proposals on **April 29, 2015**.

Groups or individuals who wish to present their views on the Proposed Preliminary Budget at the **April 15, 2015** Budget Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting must REGISTER at budget@sd42.ca no later than **April 13, 2015**.

Please send written submissions no later than two (2) **working days** before the meeting. You may send in your submissions by:

 MAIL: *Maple Ridge - Pitt Meadows Board of Education*
Attention: Executive Assistant to the Board,
Secretary-Treasurer's Office
22225 Brown Avenue
Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 8N6

 FAX: 604.463.0573

 EMAIL: budget@sd42.ca

Groups or individuals who wish to participate in the **Student Transportation** meeting must REGISTER at budget@sd42.ca no later than **April 17, 2015**. If you are unable to attend the Transportation Public Input meeting in person, you can provide your feedback through our online transportation survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/sd42transportation> available from **April 9** to **April 22, 2015**.

Partner Groups and Public Consultation Schedule:

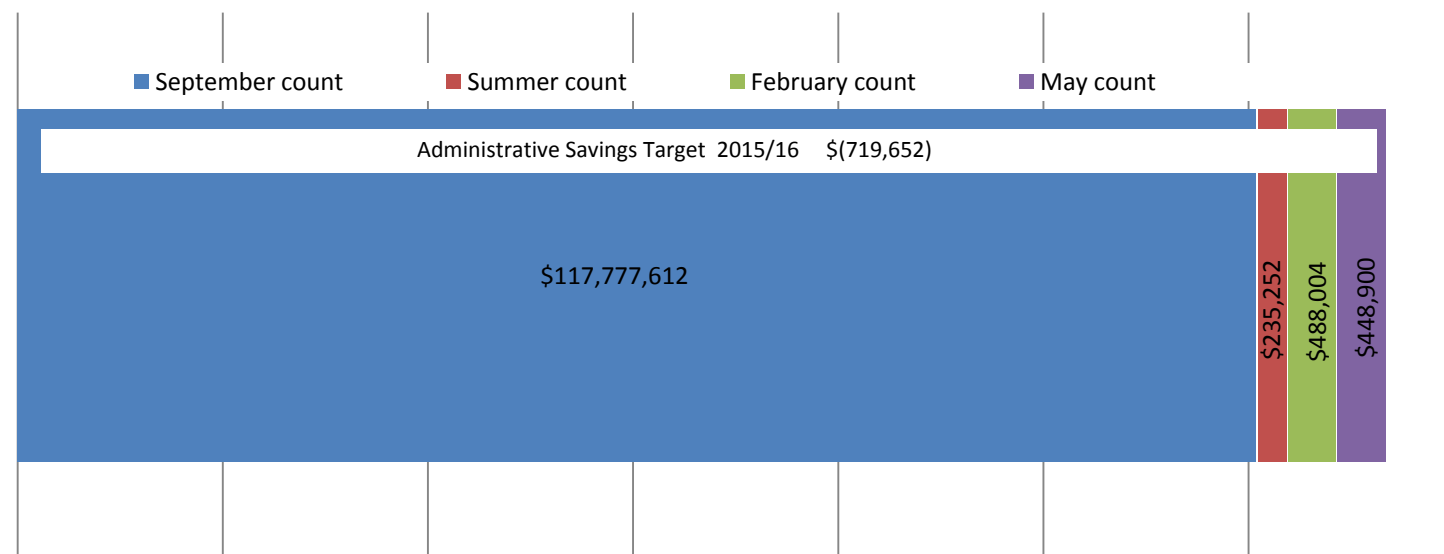
Download the budget document at <http://www.sd42.ca/budget-process>

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2015 6:00 pm DEO Boardroom	BOARD MEETING Public Presentation of the 2015/16 Proposed Preliminary Budget
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm MRSS	BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE * REGISTRATION REQUIRED by April 13, 2015 * Public and Partner Group Input on the 2015/16 Proposed Preliminary Budget
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm GSS	STUDENT TRANSPORTATION MEETING * REGISTRATION REQUIRED by April 17, 2015 * Public and Partner Group Input on the Proposed Regular Student Transportation Changes
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015 6:00 pm DEO Boardroom	BOARD MEETING Final Deliberations and Adoption of the 2015/16 Proposed Preliminary Budget Balancing Proposals
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2015 6:00 pm DEO Boardroom	BOARD MEETING Adoption of the 2015/16 Preliminary Budget Bylaw

Please note: All submissions to the board are considered public documents. The board, therefore, reserves the right to make any submissions available to public and to place them on the district website.

Overview of the 2015/16 Operating Grant Allocation Formula

Allocation of the total Operating Grant and Enrolment counts (2015/16 estimated as at March 2015)



Funding Adjustments:

- Districts' preliminary allocations are adjusted after each of the enrolment counts; September 30th, February and May;
- District preliminary allocation will increase if actual enrolment is higher than district estimated enrolment; and consequently decline if actual enrolment is lower than district estimated enrolment;
- Funding Protection is calculated following the September enrolment count only – this supplemental grant is calculated *last* and ensures that districts do not experience a funding decline of greater than 1.5% compared to the previous year *for the September count*;
- The "Holdback" is used as a contingency to fund districts for enrolment greater than the district estimated enrolment and preliminary allocation. Holdback not required for this purpose becomes available for allocation to all districts;
- The full operating block, including holdback, must be allocated to districts by June 30 of the current school year;
- Funding is disbursed in a "just in time" manner to closely match district cash needs.

Provincial Totals

79% allocated through the Basic Allocation

SD42 - \$98,112,424

12% allocated to recognize unique student enrolment

SD42 - \$15,262,202

8% allocated to recognize unique district factors

SD42 - \$5,302,021

1% allocated to buffer the effects of declining enrolment

SD42 - \$0

SD42 - \$(719,652)

Basic Allocation

Common per student amount for every FTE student enrolled by school type

Standard School: \$7,158 per school age FTE	Continuing Education: \$7,158 per school age FTE
Alternate School: \$7,158 per school age FTE	Distributed Learning: \$6,030 per school age FTE

Unique Student

Additional per student funding to address uniqueness of district enrolment and support additional programming

Level 1 Special Needs: \$37,700 per student	Level 2 Special Needs: \$18,850 per student	Level 3 Special Needs: \$9,500 per student
English/French Language Learning: \$1,380 per student	Aboriginal Education: \$1,195 per student	Adult Education: \$4,565 per FTE
Vulnerable Students: in addition to CommunityLINK		

Unique District

Additional funding to address uniqueness of district factors

Small Community: for small schools located a distance away from the next nearest school	Low Enrolment: for districts with low total enrolment	Rural Factor: located some distance from Vancouver and the nearest large regional population centre	Climate Factor: operate schools in colder/ warmer climates additional heating or cooling requirements	Sparseness Factor: operate schools that are spread over a wide geographic area
Student Location Factor: based on population density of school communities		Supplemental Student Location: Level 1 and 2 special needs enrolment		
Salary Differential: Funding to districts that have higher average educator salaries				

Funding Protection / Enrolment Decline

Enrolment Decline: funding to districts experiencing enrolment decline of at least 1% when compared to the previous year	Funding Protection: funding to ensure that no district experiences a decline in operating grants greater than 1.5% when compared to the previous September
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CSF Supplement – district receives a 15% funding premium on allocated funding

Administrative Savings - operating grants to school districts are reduced and Boards are expected to meet the administrative savings targets set by the province.

Provincial Holdback - \$55.1 million

Attachment



TransLink

400 - 287 Nelson's Court
New Westminster, BC V5H 4N2
Canada
Tel 778.375.7500
translink.ca

March 11, 2015

South Coast British Columbia
Transportation Authority

Paul Harrison
Purchasing & Transportation Manager
School District 42

Dear Mr. Harrison,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding School District No 42's consideration of discontinuing regular school bus services in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.

We have worked with a number other School Districts across the region that have or are considering implementing similar approaches to school busing. As a public agency, we share your interest in finding cost efficiencies in the face of budget pressures. With that context, we will be pleased to work with you to support identifying transportation solutions in the area. However we cannot replace the school buses you currently provide due to regulatory and funding constraints.

As the regional transportation authority, providing exclusive school bus service (similar to yellow buses) is not a part of our mandate. TransLink and our bus operating division Coast Mountain Bus Company (CMBC) are governed by the Motor Vehicle Act, which states that school trips can be provided only as long as they do not provide exclusive school-specific service. Any of our transit services must be a public route for use by all customers, not just students.

TransLink does want to instill in students the habit of using sustainable transportation modes: walking, cycling, and public transit. To promote transit use by students, TransLink can provide additional service to meet demand on existing routes when resources allow. These supplemental services are intended to accommodate overloads to ensure that regular bus services continue to have capacity, without experiencing pass-ups or overcrowding due to student-based ridership. Our ability to provide additional service currently is limited by funding availability, and so any increase in existing service requires a re-allocation of service.

TransLink already provides bus service close to many of the schools in School District 42. Pitt Meadows Secondary is directly served by route C41, which operates every 30 min during peak periods using a community shuttle vehicle with capacity for 24 passengers. That school is also within walking distance of Hammond Rd, which has frequent service at all times of day provided by routes 701 & 791, connecting to Lougheed Hwy and Dewdney Trunk Rd. Garibaldi Secondary is served by route 701, with some additional morning service already provided to accommodate school-related ridership. This bus route only provides access to the school from the west along Dewdney Trunk Rd.

The majority of the 13 school bus routes identified for cancellation by School District 42 serve outlying parts of Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge, areas that are not served by existing TransLink



TransLink

400 - 287 Nelson's Court
New Westminster, BC V5H 4N2
Canada
Tel 778.375.7500
translink.ca

South Coast British Columbia
Transportation Authority

bus routes. Some of those areas for new service are identified in the Mayors' Plan for the region, however TransLink does not have funding to expand service and provide new routes into those areas at this time. As a result, most students currently using your school bus routes will not have any TransLink bus options available to them to access schools if you decide to cancel those services this year.

We'd be happy to put you in touch with our TravelSmart team, who has resources available to explore opportunities through carpooling, ridesharing, walking or cycling, as well as school-specific programs at www.travelsmart.ca. Further, there is benefit to the School District working directly with local municipalities on this issue. This could include discussions on roadway improvements to accommodate students who are able to walk or cycle to school.

Thank you again for contacting us in advance of this decision. We look forward to working with you to further the discussion. Please contact me for any further issues at 778-375-7822 or daniel.freeman@translink.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Daniel Freeman".

Daniel Freeman
Manager, Transit Network Management
TransLink

400 - 287 Nelson's Court
New Westminster, BC V3L 0E7