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**MINUTES OF THE NEW WESTMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPERATIONS POLICY & PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 6:30 PM
Via Zoom Link**

PRESENT Gurveen Dhaliwal, Chair
Karim Hachlaf, Superintendent
Committee Chair Maryam Naser, Associate Superintendent
Dee Beattie, Trustee Robert Weston, Executive Director Human Resources
Cheryl Sluis, Trustee
Guests:
Elliott Slinn, Trustee Members of the Public
Marc Andres, Trustee DPAC Chair: Laura Kwong
Dave Crowe, Director of Capital Projects
Laura Goodman, Recording Secretary

Committee Chair

Minutes –

ii. Estimated Operating Grant Relocations (B. Ketcham)

September Enrolment Count – the 1701 enrolment process has been completed. An increase over our projections for standard enrolment which leads to a funding increase for the district of 1.2 million dollars. Supplement for unique student needs: There has been a decrease in the amount of funding anticipated. Up overall, when it comes to students with diverse needs from prior year – last year 388 students with diverse needs, this year 396. The decrease represents a decrease from the projected amounts submitted in the spring.

Summer school learning has an increase from our estimated amount in the spring – due to a new elementary K-5 summer program this year. Between the July and September 1701 Enrolment estimates we are anticipating a funding lift to our overall budget of \$900K; however, with this additional enrolment we will have to account for additional expenses.

Portables are funded out of operational dollars, not capital dollars. The need to examine our operating budget during budget season to ensure that we portion out some of this increase towards costs that we need to support due to growing enrolment.

c. Human Resources & Staff Update (Verbal) (R. Weston)

i. Executive Director, Human Resources Weston shared highlights on recruitment and absenteeism.

Absenteeism rate has increased for both teachers and E.A.s, and it continues to be a challenge to find replacements. November has seen an increase in absence due to the flu season.

Recruitment: speciality teacher positions - finding replacements for French Immersion, English Support, and English language continues to be a challenge. E.A. positions to work in education has not been a challenge as we have received ninety-two applications for these positions.

NWTU: The NWTU local bargaining concluded. Once the tentative agreement between BCPSEA and BCTF is ratified; this Collective Agreement with teachers will be resolved for the next 3 years.

CUPE 409: Collective bargaining has begun with meetings being regularly scheduled over the next 4 weeks. The goal is to have the Collective Agreement completed before the winter break, and/or by the third week in January. Once both labour agreements are resolved and settled, we will have labour stability for the next 3 years.

d. Short Term Capacity Review Childcare Update (B. Ketchum)

i. Secretary-Treasurer Ketcham provided a comprehensive updated report which contained data taken from the OPPC meeting held on October 4, 2022, and the Regular Open Board meeting held on October 25, 2022, to provide a complete set of analysis for the Public and for the Board. Within the report she had answered questions that were raised by several parents that had questions in respect to the analysis and the decision-making process.

Moved and Seconded

AND THAT staff continue to work with community partners to assist Purpose Society in identifying alternate downtown/central locations up to December 2022 in parallel with planning for a District-owned site to be utilized in the event no other options are identified.

Carried Unanimously

Questions from the Public and detailed discussion ensued.

5. **New Business**

a. B.C. Electoral Boundary Commission (M. Russell)

Vice-Chair Russell provided a summary of her report. She stated that electoral boundaries are reviewed after every second provincial election; and that a review had begun approximately 1 year ago. The preliminary report was released on October 3, 2022.

The preliminary report as it relates to our District proposes a change to our provincial boundaries which would result in significant changes to our current electoral boundaries.

Vice-Chair Russell also outlined the impact on New Westminister's schools and catchments. Concern, that our District will have to navigate 5 MLAs instead of two. Vice-Chair Russell stated that she would prefer for our District to be less fragmented in representation.

Moved and Seconded

That that Operations Policy and Planning Committee recommend to the Board of Education of School District No. 40 (New Westminister) to send a letter to the Electoral Boundaries Commission highlighting the concerns of their proposed changes as tabled in their Preliminary Report Dated October 3, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. **Old Business**

Nil.

7. QTc 0.002 Tw 1.0officead TJ0 Tc 0e.2 (t)-Pd