

Trustee Report
April 2016

Board Meeting Highlights:

1. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is an evidence-based course that we are currently offering in our School District and community as part of our comprehensive approach to supporting positive mental health for our students and staff.

The course was designed in Australia and is supported by the Mental Health Commission of Canada, providing certification for adults who interact with youth. It is offered all across Canada and in 18 countries around the world. The course takes two full days to complete and participants are provided with a resource binder to keep.

We began offering the course in our District in January 2015 and since then, we have offered 4 sessions, training over 100 adults in the skills needed to intervene with young people who may be experiencing distress or needing support with depression, eating disorders, psychosis, substance use, self-harm, anxiety and other mental health concerns.

2. The finance department has reviewed the available funding provided by the Ministry and other sources, projected costs for central departments and utilities, and maximized the funding available to school budgets. The revised funding amounts are available in the tables below. School principals will be working through implications to their budgets and sharing decisions with their staffs and parents, to the greatest extent possible, over the coming weeks.

BASE FUNDING	2015/16	2016/17	Change
Elementary Schools	202,000	218,000	16,000
Secondary Schools	412,000	428,000	16,000
Pender Base	484,000	463,000	-21,000
SCAS	294,000	359,000	65,000

PER-PUPIL FUNDING	K Funding	Grade 1-3 Funding	Grade 4-7 Funding	Grade 8-10 Funding	Grade 11 & 12 Funding	SCAS Funding
Proposed Per-Pupil Amounts	6,035	5,098	4,484	4,656	5,073	4,888
Prior Year Amounts	5,896	4,990	4,386	4,539	4,931	4,765
Net Change	139	107	98	117	141	123
Percent Change	2.4%	2.1%	2.2%	2.6%	2.9%	2.6%

SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL FUNDING	Level 1 Special Ed	Level 2 Special Ed	Level 3 Special Ed
Proposed Per Pupil Amounts	40,250	14,750	8,700
Prior Year Amounts	39,500	13,750	8,200
Net Change	750	1,000	500
Percent Change	1.90%	7.30%	6.10%

3. Nurturing the Learning Spirit takes place on April 22nd (secondary) and May 9th (elementary). This innovative School District No 46 tradition brings principals together with students to explore the strengths and challenges in education from the perspective of our aboriginal students. Participants learn more about traditional canoe culture as they paddle within shíshálh territory.

Dave Mewhort (Trustee Liaison)