

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF  
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 46 (SUNSHINE COAST)  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE NOTES**

Tuesday, March 30, 2021, 9:30 a.m.  
Online via Zoom

TRUSTEES: S. Haines (Committee Chair), A. Amaral, S. Girard, S. Leech,  
M. Hampvent, T. Ste. Marie

STAFF: P. Bocking, Superintendent; N. Weswick, Secretary-  
Treasurer; P. Bishop, Director of Instruction; K. Kerr, Director  
of Instruction; R. Collison, Manager of Facilities and  
Transportation; P. Luporini, District Principal of Technology;  
J. Shelemey, SCTA; S. Mackenzie, CUPE 801; E. Reimer,  
Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.

2. Staffing Timelines

Director Bishop reported on timelines and the planning process for staffing for the 2021-22 school year. Director Bishop noted that teachers now have an opportunity to port seniority from another district, up to a maximum of 20 years. The change in practice will be accounted for in the staffing process.

3. Funding Announcement

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported on the ministry funding announcement and reviewed the estimated operating grants for the 2021-22 school year.

- Basic per student allocation increased by 4.3%
- Special needs funding increased by 6%
- Indigenous Education supplement increased by 4.7%
- English Language Learners (ELL) increased by 4.4%

3. Preliminary Budget Considerations

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reviewed expected revenues for 2021-22, as compared to the 2020-21 amended budget, and highlighted:

- Equity of opportunity supplement, new to 2020-21 and continuing in 2021-22,
- Increase to the Unique Features funding block,
- Loss of Enrollment Decline funding due to increased enrollment,

- Funding for labour settlements has been included in the per-student allocation and Unique Features block, resulting in the loss of the “Labour Settlements” funding line,
- Expected increase in rental income after return to facility rentals and additional daycare licenses,
- Expectation of 1.5 million unrestricted surplus.

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick suggested that the delay of the provincial budget announcement could result in additional funding being announced, which could have an impact on the anticipated approval date for the 2021-22 school budget. Regardless of those delays, the district will present a balanced budget for consideration prior to the ministry’s deadline.

Next steps include:

- Continued finance department work to estimate costs and drivers.
- Evaluate impacts of various requests for funding,
- Calculate school allocation rates,
- Balance budget and bring recommendations to April Operations Committee,
- Re-evaluate after provincial budget announcements, if required.

#### 4. Transportation Review

Secretary-Treasurer Weswick reported that the consultants’ review of the district’s bus routes had highlighted potential issues to be considered before proposing route adjustments. In particular, the potential use of transportation assistance when bus routes aren’t able to efficiently collect a small number of eligible students residing within their school catchment area. The committee shared concerns that the use of transportation assistance could result in inequitable access to schools and could significantly impact families requiring bus services. The committee also noted that housing development continues to grow in previously undeveloped areas on the Sunshine Coast.

The committee discussed current route issues, which became apparent through the route review, where buses arrive either at or after the morning bell, or leave school prior to the final bell. The district plans to address these issues for the 2021-22 school year.

The committee discussed the ministry’s transportation grant, which is available to districts that do not charge for bus service for eligible riders. Secretary-Treasurer Weswick indicated that some districts continue to receive the grant while charging fees for courtesy riders.

#### 5. Food in Schools

Director Kerr reported on food supports at schools and provided additional information on funding to support those programs. The committee discussed the ongoing efforts of local community schools to support nutrition programs and indicated that needs varied site by site. Director Kerr noted that in some cases, staffing for food support programs has been included in the financial breakdown provided in the agenda package.

The committee discussed the district food program at New Westminster School District as well as motions to support food programs being considered at the upcoming BCSTA Annual General Meeting.

Director Kerr will contact New Westminster School District to request additional information on their process in developing a district food program, including how the district engaged with families to survey needs, and report back to the April Operations Committee meeting.

6. Local Government OCP and Zoning Referrals (standing item)

No referrals were received.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.