

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held Monday, May 29, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Roy H. Wilfong Boardroom, 1994 Fisher Drive, Peterborough, Ontario

Present: Trustees Jaine Klassen Jeninga (Committee Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Board), Paul Brown (Committee Vice-chairperson), Cyndi Dickson, Rose Kitney, Angela Lloyd and Diane Lloyd.

Trustees Steve Russell (Chairperson of the Board), Cathy Abraham, Sean Conway, Terry Brown and Kathleen Flynn; Student Trustee Maria Mahfuz attended via the Webex platform.

Regrets: Student Trustee Kelly Mitchell.

Also Present: R. Russo, D. McNaughton, J. Brake, J. Ford, A. Foster, S. Gohil, M. Loya, J. Maliha, A. Anirud, D. Fitzgerald, G. Kidd, G. Payne, J. Shuttleworth, D. Swift, C. McKeen, C. Pike, M. Tran and M. Williams.

CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Committee Chairperson Klassen Jeninga called the meeting to order (7:00 p.m.) and recognized and acknowledged that the committee was meeting on the traditional territory of the Mississauga First Nations.

J. Klassen Jeninga thanked everyone for attending and spoke to the importance of trustees and the decisions that are made through the budget process. Thanks was given to the finance team for all their work and preparation of the compliant budget for review.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was,

Moved by: Trustee A. Lloyd
Seconded by: Trustee P. Brown

That the Agenda be adopted as printed.

CARRIED

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ministry of Education Memorandum 2023: B04, 2023-24 Grants for Student Needs (GSN) Funding

Superintendent Foster drew attention to the correspondence included in the agenda package reminding the committee that the GSN funding is the primary funding source for school boards. The committee was informed that the Draft 2023-2024 Budget was put together with the considerations outlined in the memo.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2023-2024 Budget

Superintendent Foster briefly reviewed the 2023-2024 budget report noting that the content from the budget has been consolidated into the budget presentation. An outline was provided of what would be covered for the first budget meeting including enrolment projections, overview of revenue, review of expenses and department budgets.

A. Foster brought to attention that the trustees were being presented with a deficit budget that is compliant and in order to fund this deficit the board will be utilizing the allowable 1% of reserves.

Director Russo acknowledged the collaborative approach to developing the draft budget which is focused on the boards Strategic Priorities: Excel in Learning, Succeed in Life and Enrich our Communities.

A. Foster spoke to the financial challenges that were faced during the budget preparation process including unfunded benefits, funding gaps in transportation, special education, and indigenous education, as well as salary benchmark concerns and the elimination of the COVID learning recovery funding.

C. McKeen, Senior Manager, Budgets, School Operations and Procurement, reviewed current and projected enrolment for 2023-2024 noting enrolment in the elementary panel is projected at 25,820 ADE (an increase of 765 from the previous year). Secondary enrolment is projected at 9,903 ADE (an increase of 130 from the previous year).

C. McKeen provided an overview of revenue and expenses and also spoke to the breakdown of school board full time equivalent (FTE) positions. It was noted that although our revenue is increasing, it is not keeping pace with the growth in our expenditures.

Administration responded to questions of clarification.

A. Foster spoke to the funded programs and noted that the Priorities and Partnerships Funding (PPF) our board has been allocated is approximately \$5M. Continuing PPF examples include an Indigenous grad coach, entrepreneurship education pilot projects, Skilled Trades bursary and summer learning for students with special needs.

New PPF's include Math Recovery plan, reading supports, staffing to support de-streaming and transition to high schools and summer mental health assessments support. Also noted was the discontinuation of COVID-19 supports resulting in a loss of approximately 50 FTE.

J. Ford spoke to the school-based staffing portion of the budget noting that enrolment is the primary driver of funding and staffing requirements. The boards enrolment has increased in both the elementary and secondary panels resulting in an increase in FTE for teachers, Early Childhood Educators, supply teachers, school clerical support and clerical rovers. A change in model for allocating Principal and Vice-principal support has also resulted in an increase in FTE.

Administration responded to questions of clarification.

C. McKeen spoke to the school-based school supplies portion of the budget noting this part of the budget is allocated to schools for school-based expenditures. Unspent school allocations in the last five years averages \$1.1 million. Underutilized funds impact the board in that rollover funds are required to be put into reserves and when pulled out the next year, it counts against the maximum allowable amount of 1%. The reduction in this overall budget area will result in an approximate 10% reduction to school budgets.

Questions concerning the decrease in school allocations were addressed.

Superintendent Brake spoke to the Indigenous Education funding and its continuation to be enveloped for initiatives that support priorities through the Board Action Plan to support Indigenous Education within our system. Continued support ensures student learning of Indigenous knowledge, perspectives, culture and history. Notable changes are the decrease of approximately \$1 million to Indigenous funding in the realignment within the Indigenous Education Grant. This amount is a result of the First Nation, Metis and Inuit Studies allocation funding being decreased by approximately \$2.7 million and the Indigenous Board Action Plan Allocation being increased by approximately \$1.7 million.

Although there is a decrease in funding, one-time mitigation funding will help alleviate pressure and allow the Indigenous Education department to increase Indigenous student workers and student success positions and maintain their system principal, First Nation liaison, Indigenous graduation coach team and 2 consultants.

Questions concerning the decrease in funding for Indigenous Education were addressed.

Superintendent Maliha spoke to the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) budget noting that there is no envelope funding to support work in this department. The department will remain status quo with one consultant and one system principal to continue to support the K-12 Culturally Relevant and Responsive Pedagogy (CRRP) through toolkits, resources and ongoing professional development on human rights, anti-oppression and anti-black racism.

It was,

Moved by: Trustee A. Lloyd
Seconded by: Trustee Kitney

That the Resource Committee meeting be extended (9:01 p.m.).

CARRIED

EDI provides direct support to school leaders and has logged more than 500 calls so far this year and the newsletter has logged more than 600 readers per month.

Trustees provided comment and administration addressed questions of clarification.

Superintendent Gohil spoke to the Safe and Caring Schools budget. GSN funding continues to support a focus on safe and caring learning environments for staff and students. This department is committed to creating and sustaining safe and caring schools for the purpose of promoting learning, achievement and wellbeing. The committee heard that the Safe and Caring Schools team supported a wide range of system and school level actions and has worked in close collaboration with EDI, Special Education, Indigenous Education, Mental Health and Wellbeing and Information and Communication Technology departments throughout this year to support students. Emphasis will continue to be placed on the three pillars of the board action plan where we see all students as capable learners while holding high expectations of them, establish learning environments that are reflective of students lived experiences and identities, build meaningful relationships which center wellbeing and engagement, and to provide open and transparent communication that is reflective and responsive.

S. Gohil spoke to the teams work this year that includes the Anti-Sex Trafficking Regulation and Guide and Violent Threat Risk Assessment training. With the decrease in funding, this department will be reduced by a 0.5 FTE for a System Principal. This role has been consolidated and will be assuming principal of Clarke High School and will support Safe and Caring Schools.

Administration responded to trustee questions of clarification.

ADJOURNMENT

It was,

Moved by: Trustee Dickson
Seconded by: Trustee A. Lloyd

That the Budget Committee meeting be adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

CARRIED

Jaine Klassen Jeninga
Committee Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the Board
May 29, 2023