Central District Advisory Committee Report No. 1-2019

CENTRAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1-2019

To the Chair and Members Winnipeg Public School Board:

February 20, 2019

The Central District Advisory Committee reports as follows:

1. 2019/2020 Draft Budget Discussion

The Secretary-Treasurer was in attendance to provide an overview of the 2019/2020 Draft Budget. The Committee was informed that on January 9, 2019, the Province of Manitoba announced funding for public education. The increase for all of Manitoba for 2019/2020 is 0.5% or \$6.6 million dollars. The Committee was informed that the portion of the funding allocated to the Division which is based on enrollment, equals a decrease of 0.1% or \$202,963 over last year's funding.

The Committee was informed that the Minister of Education encouraged school boards to limit the special requirement increase to 2.0%. The Committee was informed that special requirement is based on the school year and property taxes are based on a calendar year. The Committee was informed that a 3.0% special requirement equals a 2.9% property tax increase or \$41 on average assessed home at \$214,200. The Committee was informed that the provincial funding for education is based on several factors including student enrolment, capital costs, equalization payments and the phase out of the Tax Incentive Grant.

The Committee was informed that the Board of Trustees is requesting feedback on the following budget additions: autism clinical psychologist, day program supports for students with exceptional needs, additional Early Childhood Inclusive Needs Support, Sound Field Systems, enhanced Wi-Fi, pilot video conference course, expanding Full Day Kindergarten programs, data analytics software, technology, school grounds maintenance and Lunch Program Coordinator.

The Committee was also informed that the Division provides many programs/services for students that are not provincially funded as follows: Intercultural Support Workers, Library Technical Assistants, Computer Technicians, Adult Crossing Guards, School Resource Officers, off campus programs, Home Learning Assistants for Early School Years, Library and Support Services, therapy services, summer school, nutrition programs, nursery, arts performances, special events and programs, milk subsidy, and Attendance Officers. These programs/services cost \$11,415,173 and are areas the Board of Trustees may have to find cost savings if required.

The Committee supported the Non-Mandatory Programs provided by WSD as these programs have been successful to increase and support learning abilities for students. The Committee agreed that should reductions be required to balance the budget, the expansion of Full Day Kindergarten sites, the sound field system and schools ground maintenance should be areas the Board may want to reconsider.

The Committee discussed the role of the Lunch Program Coordinator and suggested that the position may not provide significant assistance to the Parent Run Lunch Program.

The Committee was in support of continuing the Arts and extra curriculum activities, SRO and Adult Crossing Guards. The Committee supports the SRO Program continuing in the WSD although suggested the City should cover the expense.

The Committee discussed the importance of allocating funding to support mental health programs including Educational Assistants to assist students when required.

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Overall, the Committee supported a 2.9% property tax increase in order to maintain programs and services. There was an overall agreement that more information is needed on programs/services not funded by the Province before prioritizing reductions or additions.

The Committee was informed that the Board continues to advocate on behalf of the Division to continue discussions with the Province and seek alternatives to education funding. The Committee was encouraged to contact their MLA, Premier or Minister of Education to share their opinions of education funding.

2. <u>New Business</u>

The Committee suggested to have additional items added to the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting in April.

Respectfully Submitted,

CHRIS BROUGHTON Trustee Representative

March 4, 2019

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IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Representatives:

Cecil Rhodes School Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Elmwood High School Isaac Brock School Laura Secord School Principal Sparling School River Elm School Tec. Voc. High School Wolseley School

Regrets:

Trustee Cindy Murdoch Trustee Lisa Naylor Clifton School George V School Glenelm School Greenway School Kent Road School Sargent Park School

Non-Voting Representatives:

Community Member

Administration:

Celia Caetano-Gomes, Superintendent of Education Services Jamie Hutchison, Acting Director, Research, Planning & Technology Paul Kochan, Chief Financial Officer & Secretary-Treasurer Anne Pereira, Principal, Cecil Rhodes School Lorne Belmore, Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Luc Buller, Vice-Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Mike Babb, Principal, Elmwood High School Lloyd Rana, Vice-Principal, Elmwood High School Jeannette Tourangeau, Vice-Principal, Elmwood High School Brian Rogowsky, Vice-Principal, Isaac Brock School Rhona Churman, Principal, Laura Secord School Lionel Pang, Principal, Principal Sparling School Cree Crowchild, Principal, River Elm School Melody Woloschuk, Principal, Sargent Park High School Garth McAlpine, Vice-Principal, Sargent Park High School Aaron Benarroch, Principal, Winnipeg Adult Education Centre Lenin Mangaron, Vice-Principal, Winnipeg Adult Education Centre Susanne Mole, Principal, Wolseley School Thérèse Deleurme, Recording Secretary

Trustees:

Trustee Chris Broughton Trustee Yijie Chen Trustee Arlene Reid Trustee Linda Schatkowsky