

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Thursday, February 18, 2021

2. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

Trustee Betty Edel volunteered to chair the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee members approved the Agenda of February 18, 2021, as distributed.

4. 2021/2022 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

The Secretary-Treasurer was in attendance to provide an overview on the draft Budget for the 2021/2022 school year.

Committee members were informed that on February 4, 2021, the Province of Manitoba announced an increase in education funding of \$20.8 million dollars. This resulted in a decrease in funding from the province of 1.6% or \$2.9 million dollars and an additional reduction from other revenue resources such as the Federal government of \$1.3 million dollars. As a result, the Board of Trustees is required to reduce almost \$5 million in programs in order to achieve a balanced budget of \$421,039,405. As directed by the Provincial Government, the property tax levy for WSD home and business owners will be frozen at 2020 levels or a decrease of about \$6 a year on the average assessed home value of \$225,700 within in WSD.

Committee members were informed that the reduction in the provincial budget along with the two percent cap on the special levy has created a deficit that requires WSD to reduce programs and/or services in order to achieve a balanced budget for the 2021/2022 school year.

Committee members were informed that the Board of Trustees drafted a proposed list of reductions to be made including School Resource Officers, Unfilled divisional support position vacancies, Occupational/ Physiotherapy, Milk Subsidy Program, Utility savings, School Budgets (non-salary), and School Clerk positions(12 month to 10 month).

In response to an enquiry, Committee members were informed that a list of non-mandated programs is available under Financial Facts on the WSD website.

In response to an enquiry Committee members were informed that none of the proposed reductions would directly affect sports programs in schools.

5. ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL REPORTS

SCHOOL REPORTS

Parent representatives from the following schools provided a written report on school activities: (attached)

- NIL

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6. DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE DATES

Committee members were informed the next Student Advisory Committee meeting will be held in April (T.B.D.).

In Attendance:

Voting Representative

Argyle Alternative High School
Children of the Earth High School
Daniel McIntyre Collegiate
Gordon Bell High School
Tec Voc High School

Regrets

Churchill High School
College Churchill
Elmwood High School
Grant Park High School
Kelvin High School
R.B. Russell High School
St. John's High School
Sisler High School
Winnipeg Adult Education Centre

Administration

Julie Smerchanski, Director
Patricia Mainville, Principal Argyle Alternative High School
Dennis Mogg, Principal Tec Voc High School
Nichola Batzel, Principal Children of the Earth High School
Lindsey Munz, Vice-Principal Tec Voc High School
Vinh Huynh, Principal Gordon Bell High School
Elaine Mayham, Guidance Counsellor Children of the Earth High School
Tarin Howard, Recording Secretary

Trustees

Betty Edel
Chris Broughton (Regrets)