

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1-2021

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board:

February 18, 2021

The Student Advisory Committee reports as follows:

1. Election of Committee Chair

Trustee Betty Edel volunteered to chair the meeting.

2. 2021/2022 Budget Discussions

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

The Committee was 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.

The Committee was 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.

The Committee was 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).

The Committee was informed that a list of non-mandated programs is available under Financial Facts on the WSD website.

The Committee was informed that none of the proposed reductions would directly affect sports programs in schools.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Edel
Trustee Representative

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)