



May 9, 2022

Kamloops Thompson  
Teachers' Association  
202-1157 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kamloops, BC V2B 7L2

**Attention:** *Laurel Macpherson, President, KTTA*  
*Darcy Martin, Vice President, KTTA*

**Re: Board of Education Budget Process (2022) – KTTA Stakeholder Response**

Dear Laurel and Darcy,

Thank you for providing input on the Board of Education's 2022-2023 Annual Budget Presentation on April 5, 2022. The responses below follow the order in your letter dated April 19, 2022

**Enhanced Communicable Disease Protocols** – The Board appreciates support from the KTTA for the continuation of the day-shift custodial staff along with the MERV-13 filters. As a priority of the Board of Education, these items are now part of the structure of the operating budget. Should alternate funding be made available from the Ministry of Education for these items in the coming school years, the District will re-align the budgets accordingly.

**WorkSafeBC** – Recent Updates regarding physical and psychological injury - Inclusive Education Services staff will continue through the 2022-2023 school year to provide professional development for all staff regarding mindfulness, mental health, social emotional learning and psychological first aid. For the 2021-2022 school year, the District has increased the FTE of the social emotional teacher from 0.5 to 1.0 to support staff teams, as an entire team/system in setting up positive learning environments that support students and each other. This increase has been included in the 2022-2023 Annual Budget.

**Competency Based Inclusive Education Plans (CBIEP)** – Annually, the Inclusive Education department allocates a portion of their budget specifically for professional development. The District Principal of Inclusive Education is currently working with school teams to support the implementation of CBIEPs and plans are in development for the 2022-2023 school year, for whole staff professional development on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Throughout the year, training sessions will be available to staff for ongoing support and facilitated discussions.

**Labour Settlement Funding** - Historically, funding from the Ministry of Education and Child Care has been provided specifically for labor settlement for both teaching and support staff. This funding initially is provided through a separate and distinct grant and then subsequently included within the operating grant basic allocation, or the per student FTE amount. We are confident, at the conclusion of collective bargaining, labour settlement funding will be provided by the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

**Ventilation in Shop Class** - The District routinely applies for, and has been awarded, HVAC and Ventilation upgrades through the Ministry of Education and Child Care's Minor Capital Project Program. The cost of these upgrades is approximately \$500K each and the District has received approval for 2-3 upgrades per year.

**Management Position** - The Capital Project Manager position was created in August 2019 and subsequently filled January 2021, for the purpose of supporting the District in its enrollment growth, capital projects and maintenance of its facilities. To date, the position has been included within the Valleyview Secondary Expansion project. As this project is nearing completion, the position has been included in the 2022-2023 Annual Operating Budget. The District is in a period of consistent growth with 950 new students enrolling in SD73 over the last four years. The Board of Education is actively advocating for increased capital, new schools, and childcare spaces from the Ministry. Recently, new capital project announcements from the Ministry of Education and Child Care include the rebuilding of Parkcrest Elementary, a new elementary school in Pineview Valley, support for a new elementary school in Batchelor Heights, two new childcare centers at Ralph Bell Elementary and Happyvale Elementary, and two new playgrounds for Ralph Bell Elementary and Heffley Creek Elementary.

**Seamless Day Child Care Pilot Project** - The District received a three-year funding agreement for the Seamless Day Child Care program from the Ministry of Education and Child Care. In addition, parents participating in the Seamless Day program pay a monthly amount to the program based on their child's attendance. As part of the Ministry's funding agreement, the District is required to apply for additional funding such as the Child Care Operating Funding (CCOF), the Child Care Reduction Initiative and the Early Childcare Educator Wage Enhancement. The intent of the program is that the program is self-sustaining and would not draw on the Operating Fund intended for the K-12 education program.

The role of the Board and specifically the Finance and Planning Committee of the Whole, is to provide input into and approve the Districts annual budget. The Board ensures the allocation of resources will move the District towards achieving its desired results, strategic priorities, improvement to student outcomes and life chances.

We expect additional students to enroll in the District for the 2022-2023 school year, and are prepared to add additional resources in September. A revised budget will be prepared in December once the September enrollment is confirmed by the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

Thank you for taking the time to provide input on the 2022-2023 Annual Budget.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Kershaw  
Chair, Finance and Planning Committee

TC/dh  
Attached: KTTA Letter

Cc: Rhonda Nixon, Superintendent, SD73  
Trina Cassidy, Secretary-Treasurer, SD73  
Heather Grieve, Board Chair, Board of Education, SD73  
KTTA Members, SD73