



## Official Trustee

Mike McKay

## Senior Leadership Team

Peter Jory  
Superintendent of Schools/CEO

Nicole Bittante  
Secretary-Treasurer

Carl Cooper  
Director of Instruction, Curric. & Innovation

Dianne Ballance  
Director of Instruction, Student Learning

Ryan Brennan  
Director of Instruction, Human Resources

# North Okanagan-Shuswap Synopsis

Highlights of the May 22, 2018 School District No. 83 Board Meeting

## Proposed annual budget

In order for a balanced budget to be presented at the June 19th board meeting, Official Trustee Mike McKay received and approved a set of budget adjustments at Tuesday evening's board of education meeting.

For September 2018 the district is predicting an increase of 164 full time equivalency (FTE) in enrolment. Secretary-Treasurer Nicole Bittante explained that after accounting for all of the costs associated with enrolment increases, opening an outdoor learning program, and cost pressures outside of the district's control, there is approximately \$600,000 in the budget for system improvements.

McKay added a very long list of worthy projects for these funds was presented to the budget committee by staff and partner groups last month for deliberation.

At the meeting staff recommended, and McKay approved, a \$128,914 increase to school supply allocations, \$38,732 increase to add .4 FTE to occupational therapist/physiotherapist time, \$81,232 to the Inclusive Support Program (ISP) for additions to teaching and prep time, \$4,000 to cover transportation costs related to early dismissal of students for the report card initiative, \$242,787 for Instructional Learning Team (ILT) to fully implement the new curriculum, \$38,732 for .4 FTE teacher for Sexual Health/SOGI Lead, and \$96,830 for SPARK Program at Pleasant Valley Secondary.

Also accepted was an increase of \$17,214 to the substitute/replacement budget, an increase of \$19,000 to services and supplies to address increases in annual software licensing costs and to assist schools with school fee hardships, \$8,000 was added to clerical time, \$5,000 was added to the HR budget to provide a relocation allowance, \$5,000 was added to technology to address increases in software licensing, \$50,000 was added to snow removal budget, \$10,000 to operations supplies and materials, \$80,000 for a painter, and \$14,000 for a custodial lead hand.

The complete report will soon be available on the district's website at <https://bit.ly/2LmoTTt>

## Downtown Activity Centre

McKay noted that the district will be accepting proposals for sale of the Downtown Activity Centre until July 6, 2018.

He said he was pleased to see the City of Salmon Arm's involvement in this as they recognize it is a community resource but when the lease was signed five years ago, the school district gave notice that this would be the final lease. He noted the school district extended the lease, which originally ended on June 30th, until the end of December as the district investigated the potential and costs of retrofitting the building to once again be a school but the estimate was for \$8 million plus. "So that closed the book on that," he said.

He added the district is working with the City to see if transit can be arranged to help

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**Students who took part in the exchange program to Inashiki, Japan over Spring Break made a presentation about their trip and the amazing things they got to see and do. (On right) Teacher Stan Koroluk, one of the sponsors of the trip, which has been taking place for 27 years, said it was a wonderful learning experience for both himself and the students. "I can't really describe it but its something I will never forget and I'm sure the students will never forget. I hope the board keeps it going."**

students who are not within bussing limits get to school. Also, they are in discussions about some possible solutions for the traffic congestion on 30th St. near Shuswap Middle School, King's Christian and South Broadview. "It is always good to be working with our municipal partners."

### **Transportation regulation**

The district's regulation for bus transportation (Regulation 5040.02R) was also adjusted and passed at the meeting on Tuesday, adding clear language around courtesy riders.

"Communication of board policy and regulations regarding transportation has not been consistent. The district needs to decide on consistent guidelines and practice around courtesy riders. The Transportation department needs to be able to make and uphold decisions to ensure that transportation services are fair and equitable for all riders across the district," explained Bittante.

The new regulation has been amended to reflect the recommendations from the Transportation Review regarding clearly defined criteria for eligible and non-eligible (courtesy) riders.

Courtesy ridership may be granted to a student by the Transportation Department if there is an existing bus route, space is available and no additional stops are required.

The district's complete policy manual is available on the district website at: <https://bit.ly/2IGAJdg>

### **Transportation review**

After months of work, the school district's transportation review is completed and adjustments made and there is good news for eligible riders and not as good news for some courtesy riders, particularly in the Salmon Arm area.

In the fall of 2017, the Transportation Department initiated a review of transportation routes in the Salmon Arm area, with a focus on courtesy routes, courtesy stops and courtesy extensions, explained Bittante.

"The issues that the district is currently faced with is there is increasing enrolment in the district which has resulted in more eligible riders on buses, thereby limiting the district's capacity to provide services to courtesy riders. There are some days when buses are full to capacity and some students are unable to board the bus. The

district is not allowed to run buses beyond capacity and can't be in the position of leaving students on the side of the road."

She added the district does not qualify for Ministry funding to purchase any additional buses at this time. Those funds are available based on eligible riders. There is no allowance made for courtesy riders. Also, the many additions to district routes put into place to accommodate courtesy riders when enrolment was flat or declining, have resulted in some eligible riders being on the bus for up to an additional 45 minutes each way per day.

The results of the transportation review included detailed analysis of certain routes where courtesy routes, stops and extensions were causing capacity challenges. A number of recommendations were presented to the Official Trustee, Senior Management and partner groups in the district for discussion. After a presentation in April just before the DPAC meeting, a further adjustments were made to provide a bus for kindergarten to grade 5 students that live in the downtown Salmon Arm area, and are within 3.5 km of a school. "Without a downtown elementary school for these 110 students they have attend either South Broadview or Hillcrest and that is quite a hike up the hill for little legs," commented McKay.

In all, changes are being made to 12 different routes in the Salmon Arm area to address issues. "These changes will improve service to our eligible riders," explained Bittante.

Now that a decision has been made communication will go out to all those affected by the changes. "It's not that we won't allow courtesy riders," comments McKay. "It's just that the service will only be available if there is capacity on the bus."

McKay thanked Operations Manager Trevor Bettcher and his team for all their work on the review and for finding a way to get a bus route to bring the more than 100 kindergarten to grade 5 students, who are courtesy riders in the downtown Salmon Arm area, up the hill to school. "I think staff has done a good job of meeting the concerns expressed at the transportation review meeting to the best of our ability."

[To read the complete review on the district website please click here \(Transportation Review\).](#)

## **Annual Facilities Grant**

The 2018-19 annual facilities grant spending plan received approval at the meeting on Tuesday.

The \$1,654,113 will be used on various projects throughout the school district including \$60,000 to level, plant and re-build the playing field at Eagle River after the geo system was installed, \$175,000 to pave the parking lot at North Shuswap, \$30,000 to install an irrigation system at Silver Creek, \$210,000 on roofing projects at Parkview and South Canoe, \$100,000 for welding and forge exhaust system at Eagle River Secondary, \$120,000 for exterior upgrading at Carlin, and \$130,000 technology infrastructure at South Canoe. There will also be smaller projects including asbestos abatement at various sites, fire alarm upgrades at various sites and testing for lead in the water.

## **Trustee elections**

In preparation for trustee elections on October 20, 2018, McKay appointed Carrie Pratt as Chief Electoral Officer and Veronica Deacon as Deputy Chief Electoral Officer. He also gave three readings and approval to a trustee election bylaw for five trustees and rescinded the former bylaw for nine.

## **Policy initiatives**

McKay gave second reading to policies on the Accumulated Operating Reserve (Surplus), Board Delegation of Authority, Budget Monitoring and Reporting, Monitoring Board Performance, Roles and Responsibilities of the Board, Trustee Attendance, Trustee Code of Conduct, Trustee Conflict of Interest, Trustee Professional Development, and Trustee Remuneration and Expenses.

"These policies set the framework within which the district operates and were discussed by the Watson Report," commented McKay. "I appreciate all the work that has been done to get these into place."

He added that these draft policies will now go out for public consultation.

McKay also gave third and final reading to a policy on Student Admission, Attendance and Withdrawal. This approved policy states that the board recognizes its obligation under the School Act to provide an educational

program to school age residents of the school district. The Board believes that regular attendance is integral to student success and will establish procedures through the accompanying administrative regulations for student admission and school attendance.

The Board recognizes that, from time to time, it may be necessary to provide an alternative schedule or educational program. When necessary, schools may withdraw students in accordance with the administrative regulation and the School Act.

### **Operating Fund Projection**

At each board meeting since February, Bittante reports the finance department's "educated guess" at what the district's surplus will be at the end of the fiscal year (June 30th). School districts are legally not allowed to have a deficit. She noted that at this time they are predicting an approximately \$1.1 million surplus which, after eliminating restricted funds, will leave the district with about \$600,000. "As we get closer to the end of the year this figure gets more accurate," she added.

### **School surplus report**

McKay received an update on the status of school surplus spending and deficit remediation. That the Board request an annual report as at June 30th of each year for all schools with greater than 10% of their yearly budget allocation unspent, and that a report also be provided for all schools in a deficit.

In May 2018, Principals were asked to provide an update on their surplus spending plans, and to update the Official Trustee on whether or not any deficit has been addressed in the current year.

For example, A.L. Fortune Secondary had a \$39,774 surplus (30 per cent) in October 2017 due to a number of capital projects which could not be completed by year end (millwork LCD projector installation). The money has now been spent and includes new resources for science and socials, theatre lighting upgrade, gym sound system and wrestling mats.

Eagle River Secondary School had a surplus of \$48,348 (46%), due to the school not spending funds on resources as the new Grade 10-12 curriculum was delayed for another year. A large purchase of equipment did not get processed until after year end. The surplus has now largely been spent on purchasing technology for classrooms, and learning experiences and equipment for student use. The remaining surplus will be spent on new resources to support the renewed curriculum in the following year.

Salmon Arm West Elementary School had a surplus of \$11,714 (46%) due to \$5,000 in District funds being received in June for District Numeracy (related to the Principal's District Numeracy work). The surplus was used to purchase iPads (approximately \$3,000), levelled literacy kits (approximately \$2,000), and math resources (approximately \$1,500). Remaining surplus spending is reserved to support student learning.

Highland Park Elementary School had a surplus of \$18,795 (54%). The surplus was due to budgeting conservatively including anticipating new classroom costs in 2017-18. The surplus was used for new classroom costs, learning resources for the new curriculum, and technology.

McKay commented he appreciated the work and transparency to show how funds are being spent in the schools and if there are reserves or surpluses, what they are being used for.

### **Announcements**

Superintendent Peter Jory reported at the meeting that he was pleased to announce that the district has heard from the Agricultural Land Commission and received permission to re-open South Canoe School. South Canoe will be home to the district's new Outdoor Learning Program in September.

He added that Salmon Arm Secondary is hosting the B.C. Mountain Bike Championships on May 25 and 26th. Over 200 competitors from across the province will be here to compete in the event, including a contingent from SD83 of over 40 riders.

Jory noted that over 180 students took part in the school district's first ever Math Olympics on May 15 at Shuswap Middle School. Students took part in various math stations which tested their math skills.



# BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK

May 28 – June 3, 2018

For Fitness

For Fun!

Give it a try!

Bike with Friends & Family



**Bike to Work** REGISTER FREE AT [biketowork.ca](http://biketowork.ca)  
& enter to win a Trip to Portugal!



f BiketoWorkBC @BiketoWorkBC #Bike2WorkWeek #Bike2SchoolWeek



## HOW TO TALK AND DEAL WITH SUBSTANCE USE and your YOUTH

**Wednesday, May 30th  
6:30PM - 8:00PM**  
SD83 District Education Centre  
341 Shuswap Street SW  
Salmon Arm, BC

*Topics to be discussed...*

- What are the substance use issues in our SD83 communities
- What are the drugs our teens are using
- Fentanyl
- What will happen when pot is legalized
- What parents can do
- Community services/supports

*Presenters...*

TERRI DOUSSELE, IH Mental Health & Substance Use Youth Clinician  
CHRIS JOHNSON, SD83 Healthy Living Coach  
SALMON ARM RCMP



School District #83



Interior Health



Coming up, he reported that many of our students will be taking part in Bike to School Week from May 28 to June 3, and the district elementary track meet at Little Mountain Park on June 5.

He also invited parents and interested community members on "How to Talk and Deal with Substance Use and your Youth" on Wednesday, May 30 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the District Education Support Centre (DESC).

"This is a free workshop and we encourage all those with an interest to attend." The workshop is sponsored by DPAC, the SD83, Interior Health and the RCMP.

### Next meeting

The next regular public meeting of the board will be on Tuesday, June 19 at 6 p.m. at the DESC.



## Drumlines claim awards at provincials

The junior and senior drumlines from A.L. Fortune Secondary competed in the Canadian Drumline Association's BC Championships at Bateman Secondary in Abbotsford on May 4.

A total of 15 drumlines competed with 13 from B.C. and two guest groups from Ontario.

Music teacher Michelle Honcoop explains there are three performance classes and both of her ensembles competed in the 'concert class'.

Of the seven ensembles in that class, the senior drumline placed second and the junior line captured fourth. Honcoop comments she was very proud of the students' performance and ambassadorship.

"As the only active Drumline in the Okanagan area we would love to see the activity grow locally. In an effort to help bring awareness and expose teachers and students to Drumline, ALF will be sponsoring an event in October with Yamaha Music Canada and the Canadian Drumline Association that will provide introductory workshops in Okanagan schools." If you would like to have a workshop in your school please contact Michelle Reed ([mhoncoop@sd83.bc.ca](mailto:mhoncoop@sd83.bc.ca)).

## Schools receive grants from Everything Shuswap

Director of Instruction Carl Cooper is pleased to announce that grants from the proceeds of the book "Everything Shuswap" are being given out to schools.

"Through the generosity of Jim Cooperman, we were able to give out \$8,845 worth of grants to support students with outdoor learning opportunities,"

"Also, 1,113 students will directly benefit from these grants supporting outdoor focused field trips to destinations such as Kingfisher, the watershed, Larch Hills, Raven Trail, Adams Lake, North Fork and more.

Copies of the book can be purchased at local bookstores, Askew's, Blind Bay Village Grocer and other local stores, the book is also available in community and school libraries. "We thank Jim for his partnership, support of students and his advocacy for education about nature and our local community"

