



Office of The Superintendent of Business

Jim McCuaig Education Centre
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BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Jim McCuaig Education Centre

Marg Arnone
Chair

Karen Wilson
Vice Chair

AGENDA

PUBLIC SESSION

5:00 p.m. – in the Board Room

	<u>Resource Person</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1. Call to Order		
2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest		
3. Approval of the Agenda		
4. Delegations		
5. Confirmation of Minutes		
5.1 Budget Committee Meeting - June 2, 2015	M. Arnone	1-2
6. Business Arising from the Minutes		

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION:

7. Information Reports
8. First Reports

MATTERS FOR DECISION:

9. Postponed Reports
10. Ad Hoc and Special Committee Reports

Trustees (Chair and Vice-Chair) and presenters of reports will be available for comment after the Meeting.

		<u>Resource Person</u>	<u>Pages</u>
11.	New Reports		
11.1	2015-2016 Budget (063-15)	D. Wright	3-7
	<i>It is recommended that Lakehead District School Board approve the 2015-2016 operating and capital budget of \$133,189,229 as presented.</i>		
12.	New Business		
13.	Notices of Motion		
14.	Information and Inquiries		
15.	Adjournment		

Trustees (Chair and Vice-Chair) and presenters of reports will be available for comment after the Meeting.

LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF BUDGET COMMITTEE

Board Room
Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2015 JUN 02

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Marg Arnone (Chair)
Ellen Chambers
Deborah Massaro
Ron Oikonen

Jack Playford
George Saarinen
Trudy Tuchehehagen

TRUSTEES ABSENT, WITH REGRET:

Karen Wilson (Vice Chair)
Hannah Smith (Student Trustee)

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION:

Colleen Kappel, Superintendent of Education
Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Superintendent of Education
David Wright, Superintendent of Business

RESOURCE:

Kirsti Alaksa, Manager of Financial Services

PUBLIC SESSION:

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Arnone called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

There were no disclosures of Conflict of Interest.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Trustee Saarinen

Seconded by Trustee Massaro

“THAT the Agenda for the Budget Committee Meeting, June 2, 2015 be approved.”

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Trustee Playford

Seconded by Trustee Massaro

“THAT the Budget Committee approve the Minutes of the Budget Committee Meeting May 19, 2015.”

CARRIED

5. 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget (055-15)

David Wright, Superintendent of Business, presented the report.

Trustees reviewed the preliminary budget.

Trustee Oikonen inquired about how long Restraint Savings would be expected to continue. David Wright, Superintendent of Business, indicated he will follow up with the Ministry of Education Finance Officer.

Trustee Massaro inquired about the increase in revenue for the Trustee Association revenue line. David Wright, Superintendent of Business, explained the process for the revenue and expenditure, but will obtain more detailed information to provide to Trustees at the June 16, 2015 Budget Committee Meeting.

All other Trustees questions were addressed.

6. Adjournment

Moved by Trustee Saarinen

Seconded by Trustee Tuchenhausen

“THAT we do now adjourn at 7:25 p.m.”

CARRIED

LAKEHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

2015 JUN 16
Report No. 063-15

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE
BUDGET COMMITTEE – Public Session

RE: 2015-2016 BUDGET

1. Background

- 1.1 On an annual basis, the Ministry of Education requires school boards in Ontario to submit a budget in accordance with Grants for Student Needs legislation.
- 1.2 The funding regulation for the 2015-2016 fiscal year was released by the Ministry of Education on March 26, 2015. Budget submissions are due to the Ministry by June 30, 2015.
- 1.3 Administration presented the preliminary 2015-2016 draft budget to the Budget Committee on June 2, 2015 for Trustee input and consideration.

2. Situation

Administration has concluded the preparation of the 2015-2016 budget. Details of the budget process and investments in student programs and services are included in Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Lakehead District School Board approve the 2015-2016 operating and capital budget of \$133,189,229 as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRSTI ALAKSA
Manager of Financial Services

DAVID WRIGHT
Superintendent of Business

IAN MACRAE
Director of Education

**LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
2015-2016 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGET**

2015-2016 BUDGET PROCESS

The development process of the 2015-2016 budget highlights first and foremost that Lakehead District School Board is ever mindful of its mission; commitment to the success of every student. The 2015-2016 budget process focused on reducing the impact of budget constraints on classrooms, and working to align our expenses with our funding while ensuring our system is still able to function at the high level our stakeholders expect. The budget was built through a collaborative process, and demonstrates a commitment for fiscal responsibility.

In order to prepare a budget with a shared vision consistent with the multi-year strategic plan, Senior Administration updated “Guiding Principles” for budget development, with input from Trustees. These principles formed the framework that guided decision-making throughout the budget development process. The guiding principles for the development of the 2015-2016 budget are:

Lakehead Public Schools is committed to the success of every student.

Student success is our number one priority. The allocation of budget resources will be aligned with the overall goals and priorities identified in the Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

- 1. Students come first. The evidence will be reflected in targeted improvements in student achievement and well-being, and by providing safe, inclusive and equitable learning environments.*
- 2. We will invest in the future of the organization by focusing on innovation, engagement, partnerships and professional learning that supports student success.*
- 3. The allocation of financial resources will be driven by data, supported by evidence, and aligned to match system and operational goals.*
- 4. The engagement of stakeholders in a consultative budget process will assist in setting priorities.*
- 5. Budget decisions will ensure strong fiscal responsibility into the future.*

Using these principles as the context for consultation, our education partners were asked to provide the Budget Committee with their priorities, in terms of budget allocation, that would improve student success. They were also asked how they might adjust the budget to fund their stated priorities.

Seven different groups participated, all providing valuable information and insight for the upcoming school year. Several of the identified priorities have been reflected in the upcoming budget.

On April 7, 2015, the Budget Committee received presentations from the following stakeholder groups:

- Special Education Advisory Committee;
- Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee;
- Lakehead Elementary Teachers' of Ontario;
- Lakehead Ontario Principals' Council;
- Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation – Student Support Professionals' (OSSTF-SSPs);
- Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation District 6A Teachers' Bargaining Unit (OSSTF); and
- Parent Involvement Committee.

An option for public input was also provided on the Board website as part of a dedicated budget development link.

Senior Administration has met extensively to prepare a budget that supports the Guiding Principles presented above. The 2015-2016 budget represents the continuation of the strategic process referred to in the final budget report of 2013-2014, reviewing school and system departments and supports, as well as senior and school administration. We continue to move towards right-sizing the organization to match forecasted enrolment, and aligning expenses with funding to ensure that Lakehead District School Board is able to continue maintaining the focus on our core business: student achievement and well-being. Over the next few years, it will allow budgets to be delivered that best support the strategic plan, and ensure effective stewardship of resources.

The Grants for Student Needs announcement for the 2015-2016 school year showed static per-pupil funding overall, with revisions to several of the grant calculations, resulting in a reallocation of funds amongst boards. The Ministry continues to apply pressure on the sector to eliminate underutilized space and to adapt more quickly to changes in enrolment.

On the heels of significant change in the approved 2014-2105 budget, the budgeting process this year had to consider the time it is taking to adapt to that change. Though the Board continues to project a further decline in enrolment over the next few years, the system is still recovering from some of the staffing changes implemented this year, and therefore no new significant changes are being proposed in this budget.

Lakehead District School Board continues to make a concerted effort to align with Ministry of Education – Education Program Other (EPO) funded initiatives. This alignment has assisted the Board maintain a high level of programming and supports. That being said, maintaining programs and services that are mandated by the

government and expected by our constituents, while respecting our level of funding will remain a challenge. Finding efficiencies will continue to ensure that students come first and that student success and well-being remains our number one priority.

The 2015-2016 budget is due to the Ministry of Education by June 30, 2015.

PRIORITIES – 2015-2016 BUDGET

Highlights of the 2015-2016 budget include:

- The commitment to reduce the impact of budget constraints on classrooms;
- A commitment to continuing professional development for incorporating Information Technology into schools, further advancing Lakehead Public Schools students as 21st Century Learners;
- Continued support for Tutors in a Cultural Environment;
- Continued support for the French as a Second Language resource teacher and to core French in all secondary schools;
- Continued support for the positions of Aboriginal Community Liaison & Partnership Officer and Aboriginal Resource Teacher;
- Expanded support to Native Language and Native Arts programs in elementary and secondary schools;
- Continued support for Aboriginal Student Success and Professional Development, maintaining a commitment to ensure sustainability for the successes achieved by the Urban Aboriginal Education project;
- Support for continued e-Learning opportunities for secondary students;
- The commitment to provide schools access to Social Workers, and provide pathways to community partners;
- Expanded support to schools in an effort to reduce absenteeism, with the introduction of Child and Youth Workers as attendance counsellors;
- Continued investments in sound skills speech language pathology, and continued support for Grades 7 & 8 differentiated instruction; and
- Continued support for ongoing training for professional learning communities in schools.

CONCLUSION

Lakehead District School Board's 2015-2016 budget development process and Guiding Principles highlight first and foremost that we strive to ensure the success of every student. The resulting budget is a collaborative reflection of the priorities of stakeholders, which endeavors to maintain the programs and supports that stakeholders expect.

Administrative and system reviews will continue to be necessary to find efficiencies to ensure continued financial viability of the board, and the ability to focus on student achievement and well-being.

Despite declining enrolment and a challenging fiscal situation, Lakehead District School Board has built a responsible budget that supports the strategic plan.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the development of the 2015-2016 operating and capital budget.

Respectfully submitted,

KIRSTI ALAKSA
Manager of Financial Services

DAVID WRIGHT
Superintendent of Business

IAN MACRAE
Director of Education