COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 41 - BURNABY AGENDA

Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 4:00 pm Video Conference

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Committee of the Whole Report

Date:October 15, 2024To:Committee of the Whole – Public MeetingFrom:Richard Per, Assistant SuperintendentSubject:Feeding Futures Fund Update

<u>Background:</u>

The Burnaby Board of Education's 2019-2024 Strategic Plan contains the following objective under the key priority "**An Inclusive and Caring Community**", Goal 1 – Create Supportive, Inclusive and Caring Learning Communities:

iii) Review supports, services, and program options for vulnerable students and adjust to meet emerging needs.

The Government of British Columbia announced a **Feeding Futures Fund** on April 4, 2023, to support the building, developing, and expanding of local school food programs. For 2024/2025, the allocation to the Burnaby School District is \$2,953,560.

Introduction:

The following section outlines the original District plan as well as current and proposed additions that have been made to expand and increase access to food security.

Through individual consultation with schools, Food Security Survey results (February 2024), feedback from the School Meal Coordinator, Food Service Workers, Parent Advisory Councils, students, and staff, District staff have helped to support the implementation of informal and formal school food programs across the District.

District Plan- Update

 Work with the third-party food service provider in elementary schools to expand the current elementary School Meal Program to schools that are currently feeding 10% to 20% of their student population to meet food security needs. This program is a voluntary, fee for service option with partially and fully subsidized plans. The intent is to initially expand the School Meal Program to six additional sites. All new school meal sites will hire a 3-4 hour on site Food Service Worker to run the School Meal Program with trained grade 6 and 7 volunteers.

Current School Meal Sites:

- 1. Armstrong Elementary
- 2. Cameron Elementary additional breakfast program
- 3. Capitol Hill Elementary additional breakfast program
- 4. Edmonds Community additional breakfast program
- 5. Kitchener Elementary additional breakfast program
- 6. Maywood Community additional breakfast program

- 7. Morley Elementary additional breakfast program
- 8. Second Street Community
- 9. Stoney Creek Community
- 10. South Slope Elementary
- 11. Stride Avenue Community additional breakfast program
- 12. Taylor Park Elementary
- 13. Twelfth Avenue Elementary additional breakfast program
- 14. Windsor Elementary
- 15. Douglas Road Elementary New Program additional breakfast program
- 16. Nelson Elementary New Program

Proposed School Meal Programs – Current Programs:

- 1. Gilmore Community
 - Universal, Individual School Meal Hot Lunch Program
- 2. Lochdale Community
 - Has created a new breakfast program and currently subsidized targeted lunches through PAC Hot Lunches, targeted lunch program, and healthy snack program
- 3. Forest Grove Elementary
 - Currently subsidized targeted lunches through PAC Hot Lunch, targeted meal options, and healthy snack program
- 4. Clinton Elementary
 - Currently targeted lunch program and healthy snack program
- 2. Work with the third-party food service provider in elementary schools to supply targeted meals to schools that are currently supporting less than 10% of students identified in need of additional support for food security. These meals will be partially or fully subsidized to families who are unable to afford them and available to all identified students.

Targeted Food Programs:

- 1. Brentwood Park Elementary
 - Universal, Individual School Meal Hot Lunch Program
- 2. Glenwood Elementary
 - targeted lunch program and healthy snack program
- 3. Lakeview Elementary
 - subsidized targeted lunches through PAC Hot Lunch, targeted meal options, and healthy snack program
- 4. Marlborough Elementary
 - Universal, Individual School Meal Hot Lunch Program
- 5. Rosser Elementary
 - healthy snack program in place, continuing to monitor need of community
- 6. Sperling Elementary
 - subsidized targeted lunches through PAC Hot Lunch, targeted meal options, and healthy snack program in place
- 3. Work with the third-party food service providers in secondary schools to provide students identified in need of additional support for food security with cafeteria meals for breakfast and lunch. These meals will be partially or fully subsidized for families who are unable to afford them and are available to all identified students. This is currently in place.

- 4. The District's Indigenous Education Team and Safe Schools Team has further identified families who need support.
- 5. Allocated Feeding Futures funds to schools to support the individual needs of students identified in need of additional support for food security. These funds are used to subsidize program-based meal programs, PAC hot lunches, snack packs, cold lunch options, frozen lunch options, food cards, and emergency food services for all identified students. This currently includes times where school is not in session through the use of the Family Affordability Fund.
- 6. The plan will continue to be reviewed and adjusted as necessary.

Considerations:

The District has a carry forward balance from the 2023/2024 school year of \$354,815. Additionally, the grant to the District from the Government has seen a modest increase of \$27,765. Initial reports from secondary and elementary schools indicate food security is being accessed by more students than the 2023/2024 school year. As food prices increase due to inflation and more students access the program, decisions may need to be made regarding fees for our voluntary school meal programs.

Recommendation:

THAT the Board of Education receive this information.

Student and Family Affordability Fund



Janice Nakatsu, Director of Instruction Committee of the Whole Tuesday, October 14, 2024



<u>Student and Family</u> <u>Affordability Fund</u>

The Province is replenishing funding that helps families who need it most to cover the extra costs of school activities or buying school supplies for their children.

The Student and Family Affordability Fund will add an additional \$20 million from the Province to help schools provide support directly to families within their school communities.

Our allocation for 2024/25 is \$740,000.





Spending must offset costs for parents, guardians, and students. Funding use includes, but <u>is not limited to:</u>

- Providing basic school supplies that might otherwise be purchased by parents/guardians and students (e.g., pens, paper)
- Waiving education-related fees (e.g., additional supplies for shop, culinary and craft classes, workbooks, camps, fieldtrips, relevant cultural activities)
- Supporting with clothing/footwear required for school sports and other school activities

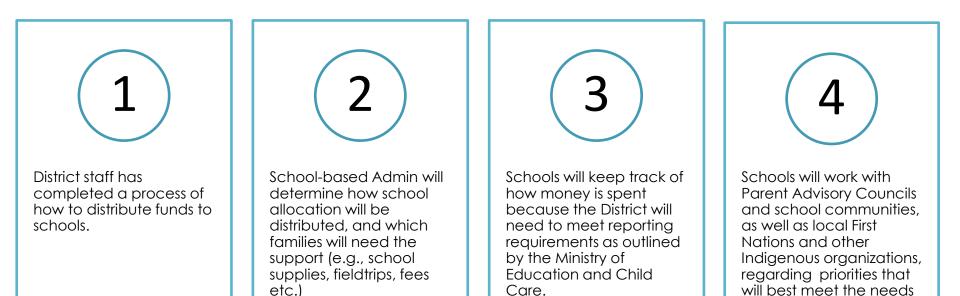




This fund no longer provides support for food security, as this responsibility has shifted to the newly established Feeding Futures Fund.



Local Process





of the school.

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District Allocations

Indigenous Education Team

Mental Health Team

District PRPs

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Reconciliation

Careers

Refugee Support

Learning Pathways

Contingency



<u>Suggested Ways to Support</u> <u>Partner Groups</u>



Clothing



Transportation (transit passes, taxis, ferry pass)



Small stipends may be helpful. Families could decide how best to use the funds.



Graduation expenses (grad fees, photos, grad dinner)



Medical support (eyewear, dental work)



Backpack program



Rainy day fund for emergencies (temporary housing, emergency food)



End of year fieldtrips (Gr. 7 camp)



Reporting and Tracking



Tracking numbers of students supported with the above initiatives



These funds **MUST** be spent by June 30



Gift cards must be tracked at the individual student level



Reporting to the Ministry in January & July 2025



Thank you





LIAISON TRUSTEE REPORT

Name of Committee/Organization: Transportation Committee – City of Burnaby (COB)

Liaison Trustee: Larry Hayes

Date of Meeting: October 10, 2024

Topics Discussed Most Relevant to the School District:

- A report was presented by COB staff focusing on improving traffic safety in the City. A number of priority areas were focused on, providing a variety of initiatives. Approval was given for staff to implement short-term measures and to proceed to detailed design for the medium-term and long-term measures.
- A report was presented by COB staff providing an overview of the New Sidewalks Program in the City. The Committee asked that priority be given to areas around school properties, with emphasis on elementary schools.

Committee/Organization Actions:

Next meeting of the Transportation Committee is November 21/2024