

If you missed the Finance Committee Meeting, here are some of the comments from those who attended:

- Provide program and course opportunity for students
- Keep up with technology as a tool to further student engagement and achievement
- Need a balance to focus on equal learning of all skills
- Teaching for a balanced lifestyle
- Extra curricular attendance is down and coaching is not as available
- Ongoing professional development required for all staff
- Collaboration with colleagues is important
- Teachers need the latitude to build on strategies that will work for different styles of student learning
- Look at administration and special education
- Need input from students

Do you have any other comments and suggestions to help plan for our 2010/2011 budget?

Please specify:

Parent _____ Student _____ Staff _____ Community member _____

Send your responses to the District Office through your school mail or by mailing your written submission to School District No. 51 (Boundary) Box 640, Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0 or fax to (250) 442-8800.

E-mail to charlene.wiebe@sd51.bc.ca.

Please visit the District website at www.sd51.bc.ca

The next Finance Committee Meeting:

April 7, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at the School Board Office - Grand Forks

April 8, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at the Boundary Learning Centre - Midway



School District No. 51 (Boundary)

2010/2011 Budget Consultation

Each year School District No. 51 spends approximately 16 million dollars delivering a quality education system to over 1400 students throughout our Boundary communities. This spending has a direct impact on your children and their educational experience from Preschool through our Strongstart Centres to Grade 12 graduation.

Our student achievement results show performance significantly above provincial results on almost every measure. The District wants to continue to sustain and improve results for our students.

The District has a commitment to ensure that we are doing the best in offering quality programs and services to you. In order to help ensure this, we are asking for your thoughts, input and opinions on how the District is operating.



A budget plan is developed on a culmination of plans, discussions, commitments and feedback. Flexibility is achieved primarily by reallocating resources within the funding provided, spending smarter and more efficiently. An important piece of determining an effective distribution of funds is feedback from parents, staff, students and our communities.



For the 2010/2011 school year, committed expenses will exceed Ministry Funding Allocations. Estimates at this time are for a shortfall of 1 million dollars. A budget reduction of this size will impact all areas of the District and can best be accomplished through input from all affected partners.

We need to know what is important to you.

District funding is based primarily on (96%) on the Ministry of Education funding formula. This formula is enrolment-based with supplemental funding being provided to recognize unique student needs and District geographic factors. Due to our declining enrolment over the last 5 years, the Ministry also included a factor called Funding Protection. Funding protection has protected our District to receive the same level of funding as in 2005/2006 even though our enrolment has declined by 20% (357 students).

The Ministry is looking at the funding formula and the funding protection for the 2010/2011 school year. The funding for 2010/2011 will not be announced until the end of March 2010. There are a number of factors already known which will impact these allocations:

- ◆ The province is carrying a significant budget deficit (estimated at 2.88 in Sept/09)
- ◆ Education/Advanced education and healthcare comprise 72% of provincial spending
- ◆ Education is diminishing as a percentage of the overall budget
- ◆ Demands on healthcare are increasing and student enrolment is decreasing (9400 FTE students in 2009/2010)
- ◆ 90% of all new spending initiatives are committed to healthcare

The School District has commitments to increased costs in the following areas:

- ◆ The final year of the teachers' employment contract will implement a 2% increase in teacher salaries effective July 1, 2010
- ◆ Employee benefit packages continue to increase particularly in pension costs
- ◆ Expanded programs for full-day Kindergarten

These items together with our desire to continue to provide the same service levels and anticipated changes to the funding formula have led the District to project a \$1 million shortfall in 2010/2011. Work has already commenced with partner groups and staff to discuss how we will reduce expenses in order to achieve a balanced budget.

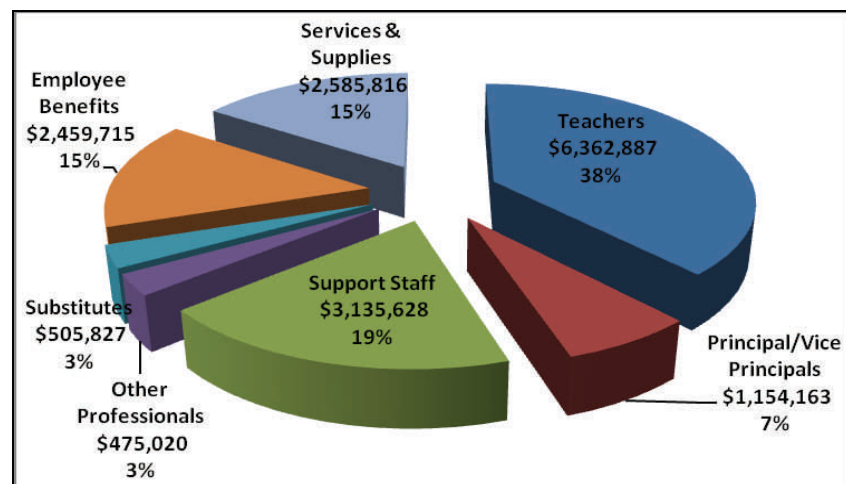
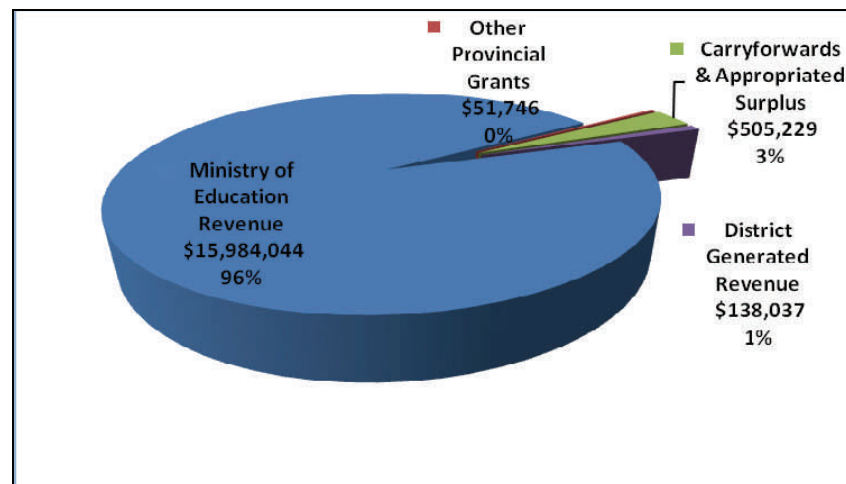
Parents have a voice in this process through discussions with their Principals, School Planning Council, and the Boundary District Parent Advisory Council.

In order to guide the Board of Education through the budget reduction process, budget development principles have been developed using our mission statement and values. These include:

- ◆ That all budget decisions be based on the principle that students come first;
- ◆ That all budget decisions be based on the principle that the District shall obtain the most effective results for the dollars spent;
- ◆ That all budget allocations be aligned to meet the District's Mission, Vision and Values;
- ◆ That school-based budget spending supports the goals of the school;
- ◆ That the Board ensures that the budget meets the legal and statutory requirements of the District and province;
- ◆ That the budget be balanced.

All of these documents can be found on the District website at www.sd51.bc.ca.

2009/2010 Budgeted Revenues & Expenditures



			Similar District Avg.
Teachers	\$ 6,362,887	38%	37%
Principal/Vice Principals	\$ 1,154,163	7%	7%
Support Staff	\$ 3,135,628	19%	17%
Other Professionals	\$ 475,020	3%	4%
Substitutes	\$ 505,827	3%	3%
Employee Benefits	\$ 2,459,715	15%	15%
Services & Supplies	\$ 2,585,816	15%	17%
Total	\$ 16,679,056	100%	100%