



Memorandum

Date: March 27, 2020
To: Finance and Audit Committee
From: Ryan Stierman, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO

Information Public Budget Survey Results

1.0 BACKGROUND

From the period of February 19 to March 6, 2020, the District sent out a survey directly to all parents and staff as well as included a link to the survey for the community on its website. These responses were reviewed and themed and the feedback was considered as the Superintendent of Schools/CEO Budget Recommendations were developed.

To review the detailed responses to the public survey, please go to:
<http://www.sd23.bc.ca/DistrictInfo/FinancialReports>.

2.0 INFORMATION STATEMENT

Survey Highlights

- 759 total responses, responses by group were as follows:

Community Member and Other	9
Parent	563
Staff	156
Student	31
Total	759

- Detailed responses from the survey have been included in Appendix A.
- A theming of the survey responses for questions 1 to 4 has been included in the next section.

Open Response Themes and Number of Times Mentioned

With regard to a child's education, what is most important to you and why?

Specialty teachers and staff to support students with special needs	98
Safe and respectful learning and work environments	98
Meaningful academic and real-world learning experiences, including life skills, to prepare for life after graduating	94
Smaller class size and composition	92
Robust programs to peak student interest and inclusion	80
Accommodate/Support individual learning styles/needs	66
Mental, physical, emotional and social health	58
Training and resources for staff	52

What changes to programs, services and/or activities would you like the District to consider as we develop the 2020/2021 budget?

Re-evaluate Service Delivery Model (more supports for mental health and non-designated students, with continued supports for designated students)	100
Focus on elective programming, including life skills and experiences	82
Hire and retain additional CEAs and specialty teachers (LAT, Counsellors, etc.) - competitive wages	78
Focus on Arts and Technology	52
Focus on sports and after school clubs	48
Class size and composition	32

Are there other efficiency measures or cost-saving ideas we should consider as we develop the 2020/2021 budget?

Administrative functions	88
More efficient buildings, better use of buildings and less exterior upgrades	74
Reduce Transportation Services	58
Changes to staffing levels and processes	44
Additional fundraising	30
Less Professional Development	22
Less Technology	22
Less food at meetings	20
Increase fees	18
Lobby the government for more funding	18
Changes to school schedules or calendars	18

If there is a budget shortfall, as a result of the Ministry of Education's budget announcement expected in March 2020, what programs, services and/or activities would you like to have the District prioritize?

Classroom supports	226
Special Education Supports	166
Diverse programming opportunities	124
Extra-curricular opportunities	26
Mental health supports	22
Transportation services	22
Technology	12