



# Memorandum

**Date:** May 15, 2020  
**To:** Finance and Audit Committee  
**From:** Alan Lalonde, Assistant Superintendent

**Action Item: 2020/2021 CommunityLINK Allocations**

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**1.0 RELEVANT BOARD MOTION/DIRECTION**

The Board of Education approves the distribution of CommunityLINK Funding on an annual basis.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

CommunityLINK (learning includes nutrition and knowledge) provides over \$54 million in funding to all sixty school districts in the province to support vulnerable students in academic achievement and social functioning. The funding helps school districts provide services such as breakfast and lunch programs, inner city and community school programs, school-based support workers, and counselling for at-risk children and youth. CommunityLINK defines “vulnerable students” as those who may be at risk in terms of academic achievement and social functioning. These students primarily come from less affluent socio-economic backgrounds.

Historically, the Central Okanagan School District has received just over \$1.2 million from this fund each year. In early May, \$1,252,296 was confirmed for the 2020/2021 school year. Over 61.7% of the funding has gone directly into the school meals program. The District has also been able to impact students through elementary focused mental health initiatives, the Health Promoting Schools program and the Young Parent program.

In 2012/2013, the Ministry of Education created a Vulnerable Student Supplement to provide additional support for vulnerable students in our District. In 2020/2021, a new supplement called the Equity of Opportunity Supplement was introduced that is meant to recognize B.C's children and youth in care. This change will also expand priority funding to more children with mental-health challenges and those living in low-income families.

### **3.0 STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- 3.1 The school meals program allocation be set at \$800,000 (61.7% of funding).
- 3.2 Maintain the support for District programs (Young Parent program at KSS, mental health initiatives) in partnerships with the Ministry of Children and Families and ARC Programs.
- 3.3 The Health Promoting Schools initiatives will receive \$40,030 as a resource grant. (Added support for the 1.3 FTE Health Promoting Schools Coordinators may be provided for 2020/2021 through a continued Interior Health Authority grant and the general operating budget of the District.)
- 3.4 Continue to support expanding our school-based Mental Health Clinicians in our elementary schools.

### **4.0 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

The recommended allocation of funds meets CommunityLINK expenditure guidelines. It also supports the District's mission, vision, and value statements. The programs provide an excellent range of services to help support our most vulnerable students and are a valuable supplement to our operating funding. The District's Health Promoting Schools Committee, at the end of this year and throughout next year, will review plans to implement the CommunityLINK expenditures.

### **5.0 NEXT STEP**

The Assistant Superintendent will work with the District Principal – Learning Support Services, District Social Emotional Learning team and Health Promoting Schools Coordinators to continue to plan a series of networking and learning sessions for the 2020/2021 school year.

### **6.0 STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT: The Finance and Audit Committee recommends to the Board:**

**THAT: The Board of Education approve the recommended CommunityLINK Allocation for 2020/2021, as attached to the Agenda, and as presented at the May 20, 2020 Finance and Audit Committee Meeting.**

### **7.0 APPENDIX**

A. CommunityLINK Allocation 2020/2021.

**School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan  
Recommended CommunityLink Allocation  
June 30, 2021**

Appendix A

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	Projected 2019/2020	Budgeted 2020/2021
Carryforward	94,382	17,523	25,988	40,221	14,745	50,000
Interest	1,861	440	898	1,581	1,581	1,500
MOE Dist Cap Build (Mental Health)	0	0	0	0	24,500	
Annual Funding	1,234,832	1,236,689	1,239,231	1,241,934	1,244,780	1,252,296
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>1,331,075</b>	<b>1,254,652</b>	<b>1,266,117</b>	<b>1,283,736</b>	<b>1,285,606</b>	<b>1,303,796</b>
Schools Meals	889,728	768,930	803,170	804,296	763,452	800,000
Min of Children and Families	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
ARC Programs	32,543	68,355	34,550	126,920	123,410	178,969
Healthy Schools Initiative	25,000	51,599	40,891	39,000	39,601	40,030
Other	20,500	0	20,500	20,500	45,000	20,500
Young Parent Program	41,281	41,280	28,285	28,275	14,143	14,297
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>1,313,552</b>	<b>1,228,664</b>	<b>1,225,896</b>	<b>1,268,991</b>	<b>1,235,606</b>	<b>1,303,796</b>
<b>Net (Agrees to Schedule 3A)</b>	<b>17,523</b>	<b>25,988</b>	<b>40,221</b>	<b>14,745</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>(0)</b>