



Memorandum

Date: May 10, 2024
To: Finance and Audit Committee
From: Kate Cumming, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Prepared by: Raquel Steen, Assistant Superintendent

Information: **Financial Update – International Education Program**

1.0 BACKGROUND

On an annual basis, the Board of Education requests information on the distribution of revenue from the International Education program within Central Okanagan Public Schools.

2.0 RELEVANT BOARD MOTION/DIRECTION

None.

3.0 INFORMATION STATEMENT

The International Education program continues to meet the mandate to generate revenue for the District resulting in funds being utilized to support additional staffing, initiatives, and programs within the District. Since inception, the International Education Program has generated approximately \$40.7 million of net income to subsidize the District's operations.

Appendix A provides a four-year report of the actual student FTE, total revenues, expenses, and net income as well as the projected financial position for the current school year (2023/2024). It also illustrates the fifteen-year cumulative values that support the \$36.7 million of net income the International Education Program has generated.

For the 2023/2024 school year, it is anticipated the program will collect revenues of \$6,152,110 with an estimated total of \$2,860,201 required to operate the program for the year. The remaining balance of \$3,291,909 was utilized to fund enhancements throughout the District including adding teachers to reduce class size, additional teaching time for support in middle and secondary schools and some discretionary funding for schools. With the remaining profit collected during the 2023/2024 school year, the International Education Program could fund approximately 25 FTE teachers in our system. *Appendix B* provides more detail.

The funding distributed to schools continues to enhance the student experience for all students including many of our most vulnerable.

Secondary principals continue to assert that the schools would not be able to offer the number of options and blocks, or the levels of support, without the funding that is received through the International Education Program. At middle and elementary schools, additional funds provide support, and/or create additional opportunities for field studies and activities for all students as funds are shared between schools and host classrooms. In addition, additional support for English Language Learners (ELL) newcomers is provided through this program.

Funding from the International Education Program continues to supplement support across the District for students with exceptional needs as well as those students and families who have recently arrived in Canada and our community.

The District continues to be successful in attracting students due to strong relationships with consultants around the world. For the current year, the International Education Program has 548 (2022/2023 – 594) students registered for a total of 401 student FTE. Of this total, 327 (2022/2023 - 511) students are new to the District and 96 (2022/2023 - 83) are returning students from last year. The wildfires in the Fall of 2023 directly accounted for 16 student registration cancellations.

By design, Central Okanagan Public Schools continues to operate our International Education Program as a mid-sized boutique program. This attracts students from many areas of the world. Students in our program represent 29 countries and jurisdictions for the 2023/2024 school year. This diversity supports the secondary objectives for the program of creating cultural awareness and enhancing diversity in our schools. This approach has provided a balance between generating funds and infusing culture into the District. The District's approach is different than other similar sized districts where there is a heavy reliance on only one or two markets to create a large program. As shown in *Appendix C*, large programs do generate significant financial resources for those districts.

4.0 STAFF COMMENTS

The Central Okanagan International Education Program continues to contribute financially to the District and schools, providing additional support and opportunities to students. The balanced approach to the distribution of funds between schools and the District has resulted in a very positive environment for local students with significant enhancements to opportunities and support. Schools continue to develop programs and opportunities for International students and local students to authentically engage in their learning together. The District continues to leverage International Education Program staff and services to support schools and to increase supports to immigrant and refugee students and their families, in addition to operating a program that is highly regarded by International students and consultants. Despite the uncertainties that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought over the past few years, the International Education Program remains well positioned to be able to support District priorities.

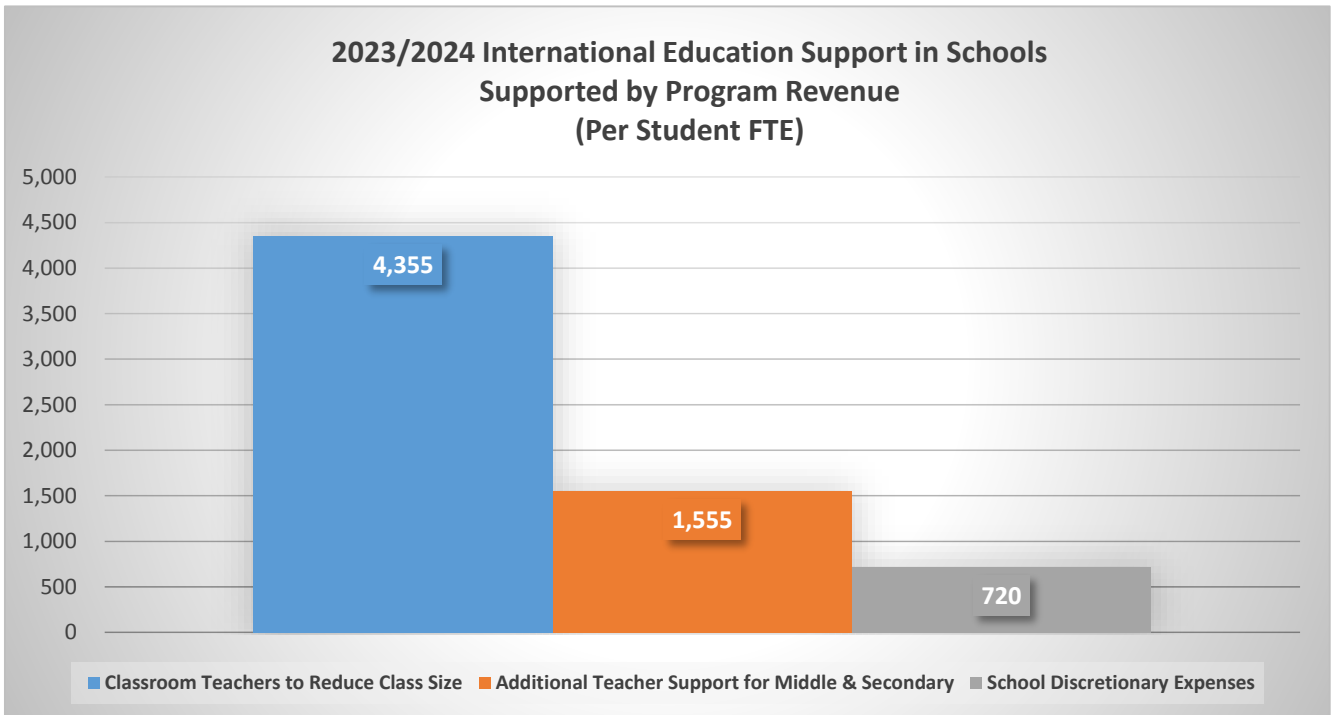
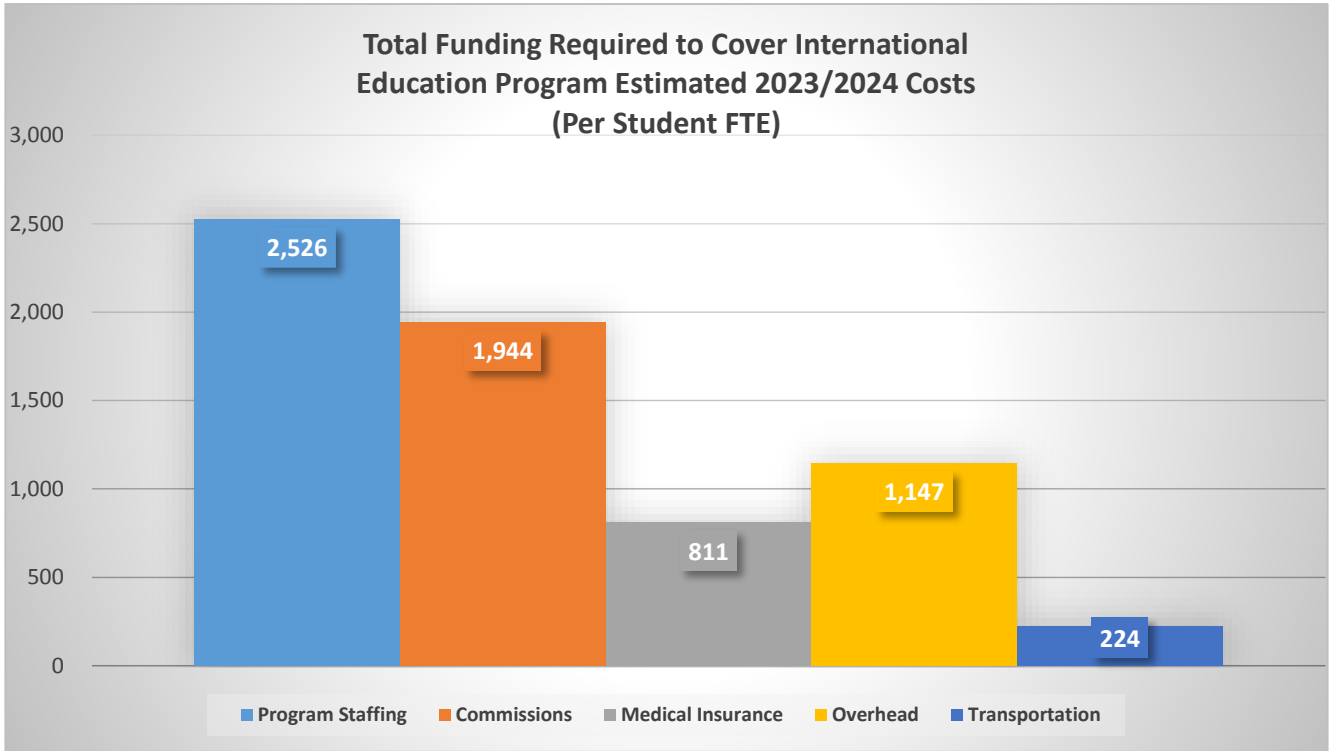
5.0 APPENDICES

- A. Financial Summary of International Education Program (15 Year Cumulative)
- B. Student Per FTE Analysis (2023/2024)
- C. District Funding Comparisons (2023/2024)

APPENDIX A
Financial Summary of International Education Program

	Actual Spending				Projected Spending	15 Year Cumulative
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	
FTE	410	260	415	430	430	3,731
Tuition	5,249,607	3,266,461	5,637,565	5,608,563	5,567,623	53,127,012
Application Fees	87,795	59,663	84,028	104,852	24,202	606,587
Homestay Placement Fees	172,396	69,531	140,406	195,370	65,239	1,109,260
Student Insurance Fees	338,780	321,616	479,762	470,905	495,046	2,968,860
Optional Student Activity Fees	45,239	9,285	0	96,220	0	545,713
Total Revenue	5,893,817	3,726,557	6,341,761	6,475,910	6,152,110	58,357,432
Commissions	620,136	375,735	743,409	800,925	835,768	6,146,804
Recruitment	46,211	15,900	76,965	138,507	165,536	724,173
Services & Supplies	108,422	94,204	163,977	208,749	179,001	3,036,957
Student Activities	120,325	82,637	151,595	244,178	148,494	1,254,899
Student Insurance	335,110	233,258	385,822	383,815	348,781	2,414,388
Transportation (bussing)	71,878	44,100	83,690	96,649	96,406	540,178
Wages & Benefits	659,082	581,754	891,558	908,472	1,086,215	7,484,321
Total Expenses	1,961,164	1,427,589	2,497,016	2,781,294	2,860,201	21,601,720
Net Income	3,932,653	2,298,968	3,844,745	3,694,615	3,291,909	36,755,712

**APPENDIX B
Student Per FTE Analysis**



APPENDIX C
District Funding Comparisons
Fiscal 2023/2024 Data

