

**School District #75 (Mission)  
Special Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

June 11, 2024, 3:30 pm  
ZOOM + District Education Office  
33046 Fourth Avenue, Mission, BC V2V 1S5

**Members Present:** Board Chair, Shelley Carter  
Board Vice-Chair, Linda Hamel  
Trustee, Tracy Loffler  
Trustee, Jash Bains  
Trustee, Randy Cairns

**Staff Present:** Superintendent of Schools, Angus Wilson  
Secretary-Treasurer, Corien Becker  
Assistant Superintendent, Karen Alvarez  
Director of Finance, Derek Welsh  
Director of Operations, Dana MacLean  
District Principal of Early Learning, Childcare, Karen Greaux  
MTU President, Shannon Bowsfield  
MSS Principal, Jim Pearce  
Executive Assistant, Ilona Schmidt (Recorder)

**Others Present:** DPAC Chair, Jacquelyn Wickham, DPAC Vice Chair, Cheryl Blondin, Make Projects Consultant, Alan Nicholson, Make Projects, Cristina Baci, Christine, Team Mission

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by the Chairperson.

Mission Public School District is located on the Traditional, Ancestral, Unsurrendered, and Shared territories of Stó:lō people, of Leq'á:mel, Semá:th, Máthxwi, Sq'éwlets and Qwó:lt'el First Nations, stewards of this land since time immemorial.

Halq'eméylem is the language of this land and of Stó:lō ancestors. The place from where Halq'eméylem (Upriver dialect) originates is Leq'á:mel. The language comes from the land, and it has been this way since time immemorial.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOVED and Seconded THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

**4. CURRICULUM**

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

5.1 Final Draft Budget Bylaw Review

**MOVED and Seconded THAT the following resolutions be forwarded to the June 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting for consideration.**

**THAT the required three (3) readings and adoption of School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2024/2025 be carried out in one meeting.**

**THAT School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2024/2025 be approved as read a first time.**

**THAT School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2024/2025 be approved as read a second time.**

**THAT School District No. 75 (Mission) Annual Budget Bylaw for the fiscal year 2024/2025 be approved as read a third time and finally adopted.**

**CARRIED**

Cultural Days should be funded from operating funds, not from targeted funding. Will this be reflected in the budget? There is enough flexibility within the operating funds, that staff can take direction from the board. It is not a significant expense. Will be noted in the amended budget.

Playground for Middle schools - would like to note the discussion, and the board to consider allocating some funds towards playgrounds, as we keep being told our middle school students are older, and do not qualify for a playground funded by the Ministry.

The bylaw supports the balanced budget, including the adjustment requested by the board.

The Budget Document is the same as previously presented.

**6. STAFF REPORTS**

**6.1 MSS Replacement Project Progress Review**

The Make Projects Consultant reported that in in March, the ministry approved 1500 student school (not 1650), and funding for 80% greenhouse gas reduction. We are planning to be able to increase capacity by adding classrooms at a later time. The common spaces will be designed for 1650. Not approved for the project was the use of mass timber.

Public Architecture is creating the main design. Key themes were extracted from the Strategic Plan, that will be weaved into the design.

Previously requested: robust staff & student consultation. Should include childcare, Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Community amenities (gym, rentable offices, etc).

More updates to come.

**ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

Finalizing scope. We do not have architectural renderings yet. We are getting the permits in place... there will be 4 key moments when engagement will be needed.

Students, department heads and staff, union reps, PAC, parents, First Nations, Siwal Si'wes, process meeting with the City of Mission, coordinating with

potential daycare operator. Before finalizing, the consultants will circle back with all the groups (likely in October - November).

PROCUREMENT - design build - specific process

BC Bid will search for teams to put together a plan. With Infrastructure BC, 3-4 teams are interested, which all look very strong. Competence and design portfolio of the architects are the priorities. Then, Request for RFP will be issued. Technical and financial plans will be submitted.

July 2025 - we should have designs and renderings to review and select.

The consultants will reach out to all First Nations and groups. The District Principal will immediately start to reach out and will take the lead on this consultation.

Daycare operator - no decision has been made yet. We have to apply for separate funding. We have a Not-For-Profit daycare at HPCC. We have asked them to consult with us along the way.

DPAC: Communicating with parents during the Summer is hard. End of June, early July. Will be done asap.

CUPE: intention to talk to CUPE staff about requirements - custodial, EAs, ILWs' needs. Staff identified staff union representation.

Budget for the project was put together with standard envelope. Steel structure. Provision for mass timber (added to base cost). Mass timber would add tens of millions of dollars. Acoustics are important. 90% of the school will be a steel structure. Wood will be used in the atrium. Mission is lacking in places for community use (hub).

Formal board motions are not necessary at this moment. The Engagement plan seems quite robust and trustees are pleased with the thoroughness.

Rightsholders - cedar is very important, would like to incorporate.

Considering after-hours cultural use of space, cultural theming of the school.

Language - a big element of most cultures - some First Nations requested signage in their language.

Naming of the school - we have a policy/procedure; however, following the procedure is would not do full engagement. We need to do this meaningfully, in the spirit of reconciliation and do this differently. We will look at how other schools have proceeded.

Language is tied to the land. *"The land is lonely, because no one is speaking to it. Halq'emeylem is the local language."* Xa:ytem is 10,000 years old, and not far from the school site.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

## **8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

- 8.1 Special Committee of the Whole RE:2024-25 Budget Meeting Minutes, May 28, 2024

**MOVED and Seconded THAT the Special Committee of the Whole RE:2024-25 Budget Meeting Minutes dated May 28, 2024, be approved**

**CARRIED**

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED and Seconded that the Board adjourn the meeting.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 4:17 pm.

Original signed by T. Loffler

Original signed by C. Becker

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Chair, Board of Education

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Secretary-Treasurer

The minutes were approved on  
November 5, 2024, at the Public  
Committee of the Whole meeting.