



The Board of Education of School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)

BUDGET COMMITTEE

2021 - 2022 BUDGET GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Board of Education of School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)'s mission is to engage all students in meaningful and relevant learning experiences that develop their knowledge, skills, attributes, creativity and the pursuit of personal success.

In its development and approval of the school district budget, the Board shall ensure that the district's Strategic Plan and the priority given to support all students shall be central in budget decisions.

Throughout the Board's collaborative budget development process, decisions will be guided by the following principles:

- Maintenance or enhancement of quality programs and services for students;
- Preservation of diverse and inclusive programs that ensure equal access and opportunity for all students to succeed;
- Delivery of effective, efficient and culturally appropriate programs and services;
- Maintaining a safe and healthy learning and working environment, one which includes attention to environmentally sustainable practices;
- Maximizing the use of school district facilities and time within the school day and throughout the calendar year;
- Protecting any funds held in reserve for which there is a well-established and appropriate plan for use;
- Establishment of a contingency fund so that unforeseen budget pressures can be dealt with in a responsible and timely manner;
- Long-term financial planning including effective management of surplus funds or of potential budget deficits;
- Effective and transparent communication with partner groups and with the broader public so that budget decisions are finalized following consideration of a wide range of perspectives and suggestions;
- Consideration of, and adherence to, laws, regulations, collective agreements, etc.;
- Exploration of revenue-generation options to supplement the annual operating grant from the province; and
- District specific advocacy for stable, predictable and adequate funding so that programs and services can be maintained and enhanced over time.