



DISTRICT 36 PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL
14033 – 92 AVENUE, SURREY, BC, V3V 0B7

February 27, 2018

K-12 Public Education Funding Model Review Committee
VIA EMAIL: k12fundingreview@gov.bc.ca

Dear Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input/ feedback on the current education funding formula to ensure BC's K-12 public education system receives stable and predictable funding.

We believe that, while no formula is perfect. The current per-student funding formula works generally well and strikes a good balance between funding allocated on a per-pupil basis and other factors such as average educator salary changes and unique geographic factors. We also agree with the Terms of Reference principles of equity, efficiency, consistency, transparency, flexibility, autonomy and stability/ predictability. In practice, we did not observe all the principles being applied. Going forward, the formula needs to adhere to all the aforementioned principles and most importantly be nimble in its approach in addressing new and emerging issues. The formula need not require an "Applied Science" degree to understand it.

While reviewing Surrey District's operating budget, we concur with the Surrey Board of Education that these cost components should be recognized and funded in a revised funding allocation system:

1. Portable costs (see attached Backgrounder):

Costs incurred by fast-growing districts which are operating at a level of student enrolment beyond designed building capacities and that additional funding be provided for the unique and significant costs of:

- Acquiring, placing, outfitting, operating and maintaining portable classrooms (estimated at about \$10 million for the 2018/2019 year for the Surrey School District),
- Surrey's portable costs should be paid out of a "Special Fund" while waiting for new schools to be built,
- Increased maintenance and operating costs for overcrowded school buildings operating on an extended day schedule;

2. Annual inflation costs: Annual inflation costs for such things as supplies, services, energy and employee benefits;

3. Special needs costs: The full cost of supporting services for students with special needs and indexed to their respective collective agreements. For example, the full cost of a worker for a Level 1 special needs student, requires a 1:1 worker is approximately \$55K and is currently being funded at \$38,140 resulting in a shortage of approximately \$17K.

4. Community Link Services: The full cost of supporting Community Link Services such as school meals and other programs supporting services for our most vulnerable and high-need students and communities. Surrey district is the destination of many young families and in application of fairness and equity principles, these programs need to be reassessed with their neighbouring cities.

5. Technology: Technology infrastructure, hardware, software and support services;

6. Salary increases: Salary increases for non-unionized employee groups;

7. Assets: The full costs required to appropriately maintain district facilities (AFG funding) to ensure these assets are kept to a standard that fully meets the operational and educational needs of our students.

Overall, the new funding formula needs to address all the cost components as discussed above. Most importantly, for Surrey and growing districts, the formula needs to include dollars to address growth (similar for declining enrollment) and the unique characteristics of portables and its related costs. Capital Funding must be set aside for

new schools/ additions/ expansions (Five Year Capital Plan) and not be placed in the same pool as that of school replacement, building envelope program, school enhancement program, carbon neutral capital program, or seismic mitigation program.

We understand that the terms of reference for this Committee do not indicate that there is an availability of new education funds. We urge the Committee to advocate for an increase to education funding grant from the government for both operating and capital funding. If we only re-allocate or recut the existing pie (education funding) with no new money, some programs will have a reduction in funds while another area realize an increase in funding.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide constructive feedback and are hopeful the new formula will address some of our concerns.

Should you have any questions or require clarification, please feel free to contact me via email at president@surreydpac.ca

Sincerely,



Karen Tan
President and Chair, Surrey District Parents Advisory Council (Surrey DPAC)
E: president@surreydpac.ca

Attachments:

1. Backgrounder
2. Surrey DPAC Submission (Fall 2017) to Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services
3. Picture video explanation of new school funding and approval: https://youtu.be/ur85GAQ_geo
4. Surrey District's Five Year Capital Plan 2018/19



DISTRICT 36 PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL
14033 – 92 AVENUE, SURREY, BC, V3V 0B7

Backgrounder: Surrey School District's Growth and Case for New Schools

Prepared by: Karen Tan, President and Chair

The Surrey school district (SD36) is the fastest growing and largest school district in British Columbia (BC) with student population in excess of 72,000 students with an average per student funding of \$8,657 for the 2017-18 school year, compared to the provincial average of \$9,099 per student. For 2017-18 fiscal year, Surrey is expected to spend over \$4.2 million out of its operating budget on its 325 portables. The plethora of portables is unique to Surrey in that the population of approximately 8000+ students in Surrey's portables exceed the whole student population of the New Westminster school district.

Due to the diversion of \$4.2 million out of Surrey district's operating budget annually to maintain and operate portables, Surrey students are unjustly and inequitable treated compared to the rest of BC. Some common problems/ concerns attributed to overcrowding and extended bell system are:

- No dedicated technology/ computer room, music room in some schools, etc.
- No teachers available before and after class (Parents now paying for tutors!)
- Unable to get core classes for graduation
- Forced or encouraged to graduate early after all core classes were taken
- No opportunity/ increased competition to be on sports teams, band, etc.
- Health and safety issues relating to waiting for washrooms, air circulation, and germs/ bacteria

Additionally, there are 187 portables in Surrey's highest growth catchment areas (33 elementary schools feeding into 5 secondary schools: Sullivan Heights Secondary, Clayton Heights Secondary, Ecole Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary, Semiahmoo Secondary, and Ecole Earl Marriott Secondary School) have total enrollment of 22,907 students (enrolled 5,005 more students than their total capacity of 17,902 students). An average of 128% of its capacity. For comparison purposes, the entire Langley school district had 21,586 students in 41 schools in the 2016-17 school year.

New school builds or expansions to existing schools did not grow in tandem to its student population. New school builds are eight years behind schedule.

Just to keep up with annual growth of 1000 students (based on estimated 10% of 100,000 City population growth), Surrey needs new schools now! It needs two new elementary schools every year and one new secondary school every two to three years.

The Funding Formula Review Committee must address population growth and unique costs due to proliferation of portables.

Five Year Capital Plan 2018/19

Expansion

Project Priority	Facility Name	Project Code	Project Description	Estimated total project value
1	GRANDVIEW: EDGEWOOD DRIVE AREA ELEMENTARY – SITE #206	NEW	NEW 655 + NLC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	\$23,960,236
2	SOUTH NEWTON AREA ELEMENTARY SITE & NEW SCHOOL – SITE #115	NEW	SITE ACQUISITION (3.3 Ha) & NEW 655 + NLC ELEMENTARY*	\$52,143,480
3	SULLIVAN HEIGHTS SECONDARY	ADD	INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 1,000 TO 1,700	\$40,000,000
4	PACIFIC HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY	ADD	INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 330 TO 630	\$8,800,000
5	GRANDVIEW: SW GRANDVIEW AREA ELEMENTARY SITE & NEW SCHOOL – SITE #207	NEW	SITE ACQUISITION (3.3 Ha) & NEW 655 + NLC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL*	\$53,000,000
6	FLEETWOOD AREA ELEMENTARY CAPACITY (WILLIAM WATSON AND FROST ROAD ELEMENTARY)	ADD	ADD 365 SEATS TO FLEETWOOD AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	\$13,000,000
7	NEW DOUGLAS AREA ELEMENTARY – SITE #180	NEW	NEW 605 + NLC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	\$27,000,000
8	GRANDVIEW: REDWOOD HEIGHTS AREA ELEMENTARY – SITE #208	SITEACQ	SITE ACQUISITION (3.3 Ha) FOR FUTURE 655+NLC ELEMENTARY	\$23,500,000
9	GRANDVIEW: DART'S HILL AREA ELEMENTARY	NEW	SITE ACQUISITION (3.3 Ha) & NEW 655 + NLC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL*	\$53,000,000
10	CLAYTON ELEMENTARY SITE EXPANSION (SITE #013) & ADDITION	ADD	SITE EXPANSION TO CLAYTON ELEMENTARY (+1.2 Ha) & INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 160 TO 605+NLC	\$33,000,000
11	KB WOODWARD ELEMENTARY	ADD	ADD 8 CLASSROOMS INCREASING SCHOOL CAPACITY FROM 465 TO 655 TO ACCOMMODATE CITY CENTRE GROWTH AND IMPACT OF RESTORED CLASS SIZE AND COMPOSITION	\$8,000,000
12	SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY	ADD	ADD 8 CLASSROOMS INCREASING SCHOOL CAPACITY FROM 450 TO 650 TO ACCOMMODATE GROWTH AND IMPACT OF RESTORED CLASS SIZE AND COMPOSITION	\$10,000,000
13	NORTH SURREY SECONDARY	ADD	INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 1175 TO 1500	\$20,000,000
14	MARTHA CURRIE ELEMENTARY	ADD	ADD 4 CLASSROOMS TO INCREASE SCHOOL CAPACITY FROM 510 TO 610 TO ACCOMMODATE GROWTH AND IMPACT OF RESTORED CLASS SIZE AND COMPOSITION	\$4,000,000

Project Priority	Facility Name	Project Code	Project Description	Estimated total project value
15	WHITE ROCK ELEMENTARY	ADD	ADD 4 CLASSROOMS TO INCREASE SCHOOL CAPACITY FROM 460 TO 560 TO ACCOMMODATE GROWTH AND IMPACT OF RESTORED CLASS SIZE AND COMPOSITION	\$4,000,000
16	SOUTH PORT KELLS: TYNEHEAD AREA ELEMENTARY – SITE #216	SITEACQ	SITE ACQUISITION (3.3 Ha) FOR FUTURE 605+NLC ELEMENTARY	\$ 12,000,000
17	CLAYTON HEIGHTS SECONDARY	ADD	ADDITION TO INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 1,000 TO 1,500	\$22,000,000
18	TAMANAWIS SECONDARY	ADD	INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 1,125 TO 1,500	\$ 20,010,035
19	FRANK HURT SECONDARY	ADD	ADDITION TO INCREASE CAPACITY FROM 1,100 TO 1,500	\$21,000,000
20	SEMAIHMOW SECONDARY	ADD	INCREASE CAP. FROM 1,300 TO 1,500	\$17,000,000
21	CLAYTON NW AREA ELEMENTARY – SITE #217	NEW	NEW 605+NLC CAPACITY ELEMENTARY	\$26,000,000
22	SOUTH PORT KELLS: 184 th STREET AREA ELEMENTARY – SITE #204	NEW	NEW 605+NLC CAPACITY ELEMENTARY	\$26,000,000
TOTAL				\$517,413,751

All project values, scope and priority subject to change during Project Definition Report phase

* Request includes land and the associated new school or addition

School Replacement (REPL)

Project Priority	Facility Name	Project Code	Project Description	Estimated total project value
HIGH	RIVERDALE ELEMENTARY	REPL	Replace with 80K/400 Elementary School	\$20,000,000
MEDIUM	MOUNTAINVIEW MONTESSORI	REPL	Replace existing modular (40K/325) with New school building.	\$15,000,000
MEDIUM	PORT KELLS EEMENTARY	REPL	Replace school with 80K/525 + NLC elementary - site expansion may be required to accommodate expansion	\$26,000,000
TOTAL				\$61,000,000

Building Envelope Program (BEP)

Project Priority	Facility Name	Project Code	Project Description	Estimated total project value
HIGH	COYOTE CREEK ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,101,746
HIGH	FROST ROAD ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,296,474
HIGH	WESTERMAN ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,060,750
HIGH	HYLAND ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE 1993 ADDITION	\$1,767,918
HIGH	OCEAN CLIFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,032,566
MEDIUM	BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$5,247,386
MEDIUM	BAYRIDGE ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,783,292
MEDIUM	DOGWOOD ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$3,031,170
MEDIUM	NORTH RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$3,653,698
MEDIUM	NORTH SURREY SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,906,276
MEDIUM	FLEETWOOD PARK SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$8,058,120
MEDIUM	COUGAR CREEK ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$6,144,156
MEDIUM	CINDRICH ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$2,585,260
MEDIUM	TAMANAWIS SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$5,303,754
MEDIUM	ELGIN PARK SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$5,716,268
MEDIUM	L A MATHESON SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$3,610,140
MEDIUM	SEMAIHMUO TRAIL ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,327,220
MEDIUM	EARL MARRIOTT SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE 1985 & 1999 ADDITIONS	\$868,586
MEDIUM	LORD TWEEDSMUIR SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$3,507,652
MEDIUM	JANICE CHURCHILL ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$5,448,840
MEDIUM	KIRKBRIDE ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE 1993 ADDITION	\$1,266,426
MEDIUM	SUNRISE RIDGE ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$1,327,220
MEDIUM	ROYAL HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$986,448
MEDIUM	QUEEN ELIZABETH SECONDARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE	\$8,544,938
MEDIUM	BEAVER CREEK ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE 1993 ADDITION	\$2,946,530
MEDIUM	MARTHA JANE NORRIS ELEMENTARY	BEP	BUILDING ENVELOPE UPGRADE 1993 ADDITION	\$1,045,378
TOTAL				\$80,568,212

School Enhancement Program (SEP)

Project Priority	Facility Name	Project Code	Project Type	Estimated total project value
HIGH (Urgent)	Various Schools	SEP	Health & Safety Upgrades including portable classroom remediation. HVAC and associated work. Access and code requirement upgrades at 32 sites.	\$3,000,000
HIGH	David Brankin Elementary	SEP	Heating and Ventilation Upgrades	\$1,203,375
HIGH	Holly Elementary	SEP	Heating and Ventilation Upgrades	\$715,250
HIGH	Peace Arch Elementary	SEP	Heating and Ventilation Upgrades	\$963,250
HIGH	Bear Creek Elementary	SEP	Heating and Ventilation Upgrades	\$672,000
Total				\$6,553,875

Carbon Neutral Capital Program (CNCP)

Project Priority	Facility Name	Project Code	Project Type	Estimated total project value
HIGH	Panorama Park Elementary	HVAC	Heating and Ventilation Upgrades	\$392,955
HIGH	District Facility Centre	HVAC	Heating and Ventilation Upgrades	\$411,328
HIGH	HT Thrift Elementary	HVAC	Heating and Ventilation Upgrades	\$384,860
Total				\$ 1,189,143

Seismic Mitigation Program (SMP)

Project Priority	Facility Name	Project Code	Project Description	Estimated total project value
HIGH	Bear Creek Elementary (H1)	SMP	SEISMIC UPGRADE GYM RATED H1	\$3,110,000
HIGH	Mary Jane Shannon Elementary (H1)	SMP	SEISMIC UPGRADE GYM RATED H1	\$7,300,000
MEDIUM	Holly Elementary (H3)	SMP	SEISMIC UPGRADE OLDER BLOCK RATED H3	\$2,977,703
MEDIUM	Queen Elizabeth Secondary (H3)	SMP	SEISMIC UPGRADE SHOPS & OLDER BLOCK RATED H3	\$2,785,197
MEDIUM	Prince Charles Elementary (H3)	SMP	SEISMIC UPGRADE OLDER BLOCK RATED H3	\$3,244,906
MEDIUM	George Greenaway Elementary (H3)	SMP	SEISMIC UPGRADE GYM RATED H3	\$1,662,611
MEDIUM	David Brankin Elementary (H3)	SMP	SEISMIC UPGRADE GYM & OLDER BLOCK RATED H3	\$7,550,590
Total				\$28,631,006

Requested New Buses

Project Priority	Bus Type	Project Code	Project Description	Estimated total project value
HIGH	C76	New School Bus	New Route - Earl Marriott catchment	\$150,000
HIGH	C76	New School Bus	New Route - Earl Marriott catchment	\$150,000
HIGH	C76	New School Bus	New Route - Earl Marriott catchment	\$150,000
HIGH	C76	New School Bus	Replace end of life bus	\$150,000
HIGH	C76	Annual Maintenance Cost	Annual Bus Maintenance (10 buses)	\$220,000
Total				\$820,000

Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services

Budget 2018 Consultations

Presentation Submitted by
Karen Tan, President & Chair



Surrey District Parents Advisory Council



Quick Statistics

- Student Population: 72,000 learners
- Surrey (SD36) is largest school district in BC
- Estimate to grow by 800 to 1,000 students but September 2017 count indicates **growth by 1,100 students**
- **168 new classes**, 30 are due to normal enrolment growth; 138 due to restoration of class size & composition to pre-2002 levels as a result of Nov2016 Supreme Court of Canada decision (equiv to 5 years of typical SD36 growth).



What does overcrowding look like?

- Portables
- Double-Bell Schedules
- Less play-space
- Less choice programming



Portables – Aren't they temporary?

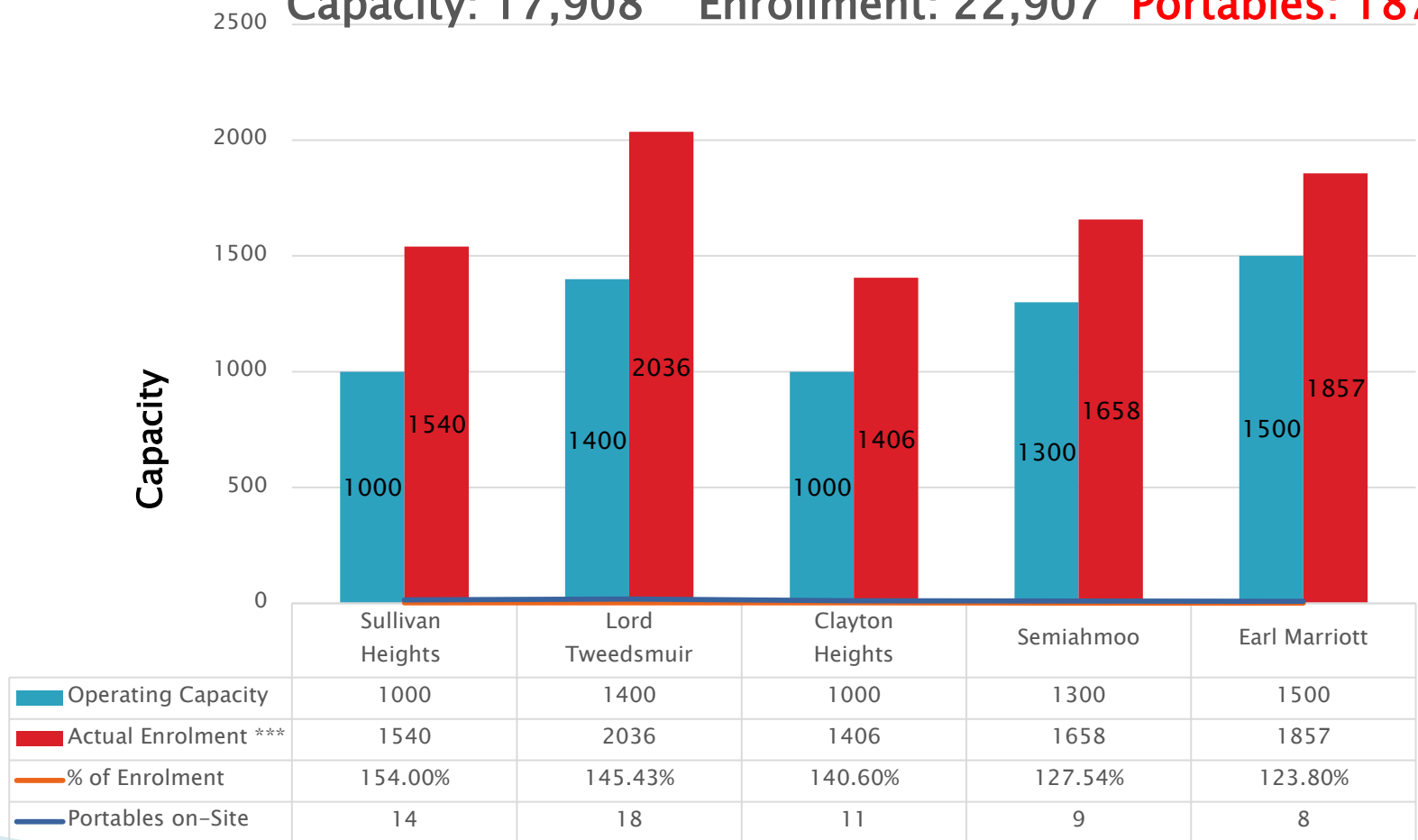
- 325 portables, increase of 50 from 275 portables,
- Over 8,500 students in portables (more than New Westminster District's whole enrolment); making students in portables equivalent to the 24th largest school district
- SD36 spent about \$4M out of its operating budget in 2016-17 and likely will increase to \$4.2M in fiscal 2017-18



Highest Growth Catchment ONLY

Over by **5,005** Students, @**128%** overcapacity

Capacity: 17,908 Enrollment: 22,907 **Portables: 187**





“Portable City” at Ecole Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary





Impacts on students

- Extended 5th Block – 2 bell schedules at:
 - Sullivan Heights Sec (capped, no in-catchment)
 - Ecole Lord Tweedsmuir Sec (capped, no in-catchment)



Play spaces?





Which school will your child go?

- Overcrowding creates uncertainty and chaos for families
- Cannot attend neighbourhood school
- 37 of Surrey's elementary and secondary schools are closed to out-of-catchment enrolment, no waiting lists are being maintained, <https://www.surreyschools.ca/K-12Schools/StudentRegistration/Pages/default.aspx>
- Catchment Boundaries are changing
 - Cloverdale/ Clayton – September 2018<https://www.surreyschools.ca/Publications/Cloverdale-Clayton%20Catchment%20Boundaries%202018-19.pdf>





Funding Formula

- Current:
 - Seismic upgrades (Van, Richmond, New Westminister): 100% funding Eg: New Westminister Secondary
 - Expansions – SD36 must match a percentage to expand or add to school
 - New schools – takes about 2-3 years from announcement. SD 36 must match a percentage upto 50% to expand or add to school
 - Eg: Clayton Village announcement of \$26M (SD36 matched \$4.3M, Province \$21.7M)



PACs and DPACs

PACS are the parent voice at the school level.

Main activity is fundraising for:

- Playgrounds
- Wish – lists
- Extracurricular activities
- Gaming Fund: \$20/ student

DPACs are the parent voice at the school district level



Playgrounds

Good





Playgrounds

Old

- K. E. Kinvig Elementary





Recommendations

- Immediately

- **Write \$217 million cheque** to Surrey School District **now**
- Retain & work with **Surrey Project Office** to expedite projects
- Consider “**batching**” construction of schools



Recommendations

- Short term (Year 1 to 3)

- Set-up **special “growth fund”** to pay for portables, ie, \$4.2M for Surrey
- **Fully commit and fund \$250M to \$350M** of capital projects in the next 3 years for Surrey.
- **Waive district financial contribution** on new schools or expansions just like seismic upgrades
- **Increase the Gaming per student funding** from \$20 to \$25
- Provide grants to schools to replace/ revitalize playgrounds.



Recommendations

- Long term (Year 3 to 5)

- A new funding formula for high-growth areas to ensure that other cities do not face this situation in the future.
- A Ministry of Education **priority list of all capital projects** to ensure transparency & consistency.
- **DPAC Gaming Funds** need to be revisited:
Funding = \$2500+ \$/student



Final Comments

- Surrey has been growing the last twenty plus years and school construction needs to keep pace.
- Overcrowding in Surrey has reached crisis point.
- The Province, the City, and the District must work together to address this.
- The wait for schools has been too long.
- Let's just build them!



Contact Details

Karen Tan

President and Chair

Surrey District Parents Advisory Council

E: president@surreydpac.ca

C: 778-688-0968



Surrey District Parents Advisory Council