

February 6, 2009

# **Chilliwack School District BUDGET FORUM #2**

February 5, 3:30-5:00pm Kipp Conference Centre

## ***Summary of “Work-a-Like” Table Discussions***

**CUPE - \$\$\$ needs to be in the classroom – for those people who work directly with students.**

### Technology

- Provide the training and up-to-date equipment for all groups (provide all staff with computer access, email addresses, etc.)

### Replacement

- More casuals/spares to be hired to cover the required hours. If it is a 6-hour shift, we need a 6-hour replacement.

### Programs

- Early Intervention and Shelter programs are good programs that we should keep as we are already seeing the benefits.

## **COMMUNITY**

Vulnerable kids at the middle school level – struggling learners (at-risk of not graduating)

- Apprenticeship/alternative learning (be creative)
- Pregnant and parenting teens

### City Partnerships

- What % of budget supports partnerships? Quantifiable monetarily (as well as anecdotally)

### Early Learning & Full Day K

- language acquisition (include 2<sup>nd</sup> language)
- social/emotional skills as well as academic

#### EA's

- children challenged in schools (Aboriginal)
- language and literacy development
- oral language development
- Aboriginal learning native tongue

#### Full-Day K & Early Intervention

- full-day kindergarten brings whole child development to the forefront of education (children's overall development is fostered for future success in school)

#### Early Learning

- proactive and preventative strategies to prepare children and their families for success in school
- EDI results (2008) reflect the impact of early learning opportunities

### **DISTRICT STAFF/STUDENTS**

#### Technology

- career choices require technological skills
- on-line curriculum & resources
- communication tool for parents/students/staff
- student engagement

#### Early Learning

- off to a good start
- engagement and involvement
- research supported

#### Social Responsibility

- life skills is the foundation
- emotional literacy
- research supported
- restorative practices

#### Program Diversity & Flexibility

- one size doesn't fit all
- engage students and keep them in school (ie guitar teacher @ Ed Ctr)

#### Collaboration/Leadership

- improves practice
- teamwork
- share successes & challenges
- opens communication

## **CAA**

### Early Learning Initiatives/Interventions

- research supports success of these initiatives (and need for focusing in this area)

### Collaboration Time

- good use, good success, good growth so far
- promote more effective transitions for students (3-4, 6-7, 9-10)

### How we support students in grades 4-9?

### Collaboration – PLC's Transitions

- in school vs after school
- need to focus on product not process

### Formative assessment & instructional practice

## **CTA**

### Early Intervention (Ready Set Learn, Strong Start, Talking Tables, Moe the Mouse)

- Pre kindergarten development of good oral language is critical to success

### ESD (Aboriginal) & ESL

- language is the foundation of all learning

### Apprenticeship & Work Experience Programs

- not just preparing students for university
- diverse learners, diverse opportunities after graduation

### Grey-Area Students (CLAS – behaviour support)

- train teachers
- collaboration time
- smaller classes
- mentoring
- community resources

### Class Size

- easier to meaningfully interact with and teach each student in classes that are manageable
- intermediate/middle school class sizes

### Technology

- as an embedded teaching/learning tool rather than expensive computer labs

## Green Initiatives

- eventually save money

## **PARENTS**

### Apprenticeship, EDI, Early Literacy

- key for success – partnerships with business, agriculture, Stream
- need to simplify early programs – be more inclusive – what’s working?
- new projects NO! – look at what’s already in place
- access the pilot programs with a long term goal – consistent with the goal

### Enriched Programs

- kids in the middle get neglected
- are schools making best use of curricular time (movies, etc)
- better teachers make better students

### Collaboration Time

### Technology

- keep current with technology and use for effective communication between parents & teachers

### Prevention Programs

- more police presence – stronger and more presentations
- increase RCMP liaison program
- community policing

### Other Avenues for Revenue

- community schools make better use
- parents get more involved (ie 4-H mtgs)