



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Finance and Facilities Committee Minutes

Monday, March 8, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
Boardroom, Administration Office

Present: S. Bambridge C. Ekenna
K. Fallis B. Foley
J. Gobeil D. Kejick
L. Letain J. Murray
L. Ross

Also Present: D. Labossiere M. Gustafson
E. McFadzen

1. COMMITTEE ITEMS

A. Request for Proposal – Supply of Laptop Computers

Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, reviewed the Request for Proposal regarding the Supply of Laptop Computers. In accordance with the current COVID-19 restrictions, physical distancing has necessitated the removal of most desktop computers in the classroom. To ease the strain the reduction of technology has created, the tender for the Supply of Laptop Computers was posted on Friday, January 25, 2021, with the units to be deployed in the schools to aid both in-class and remotely.

Mr. Labossiere reviewed the tender summary, advising that seven (7) firms submitted proposals. A total of 1,000 laptop computers will be funded from the 2020-2021 Operating Budget to meet the needs presented by COVID to support students in a blended/remote learning environment.

Trustees asked questions for clarification.

The Committee agree to the recommendation as presented.

Recommendation:

That the Tender from Powerland Computers Ltd. in the amount of \$813,332.80 (including taxes) to supply 1,000 Laptop Computers, funded through the 2020-2021 Operating Budget, be accepted.

B. Confirm Payments of Account (February)

The payments of account for the month of February were provided for information.

The reports were accepted as circulated.

C. Review Monthly Reports (January)

The Monthly Reports for the month of January were provided for information. The Secretary-Treasurer also reviewed the Summary of Forecasted Variances for the 2020-2021 School year as of January 31, 2021.

The reports were accepted as circulated.

COVID-19 update:

The Secretary-Treasurer provided an update on additional COVID-19 Expenditures that have already been incurred or will be incurred going forward. As of January 31, 2021, current incremental expenditures for COVID-19 are \$3.2 million.

Mr. Labossiere reviewed the December 2, 2020 correspondence from Sarah Whiteford, Assistant Deputy Minister, regarding the Manitoba Government's commitment to ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment for all students, teachers and staff by confirming allocations of the \$185.4 million under the Safe Schools Fund.

The letter highlighted the following:

- Safe Restart Contingency fund
 - Health and Safety
 - Learning and Technology
 - Staffing
- Reporting and Accountability

Mr. Labossiere reviewed the Safe Schools Funding Allocation Document, which is based on September 2019 enrolment. Out of the \$76 million allocated to school divisions and independent schools on a per pupils basis, Brandon School Division's allocation is \$3.3 million, of which \$1.6 million was received in December 2020.

Additional correspondence was received from Sarah Whiteford, Assistant Deputy Minister, on February 25, 2021, confirming in advance that any unspent Safe School funding from the current school year will be allocated on a per pupil bases for the 2021-2022 school year. This includes any remaining funding under the Safe Restart Contingency Fund. The funding will continue to be focused on meeting public health guidelines and addressing unique learning needs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Trustees asked questions for clarification.

2. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

- The Secretary-Treasurer provided an update on the following:
 - Maryland Park School – Additional Project Support
 - Riverview School – Grooming Room Design Authorization
 - JR Reid School – Grooming Room and Exterior Ramp Design Support
 - Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School – Roofing Replacement Design Support
 - Tender/Quotation Summary – Under \$50,000:
 - Cargo Van

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 12, 2021, 6:00 p.m., Boardroom.

Respectfully submitted,

L. Ross