

**SB Budget getting tighter**

What does the budget tightening look like in SD53? This year, there were cost pressures on a few main budget lines.

- 1. During the winter, the board had to move approx. \$400,000 from another fund to cover TTOC/Relief deficit.
- 2. The district calculated the average teacher cost lower than the actual cost. This caused an approx. \$700,000 shortfall. How did this happen? Over the last number years, we have continued to hire more experienced teachers who cost more rather than early career teachers. This has crept into budget planning where the district was using inaccurate cost forecasting for average teacher base salary.

Now, these cost items will be more accurate / transparent as to the exact amount for sick time and average teacher costs have been adjusted for proper projections. Relief costs will be split into 2 groups: Relief and TTOC.

Thus far (last week) this is what it looks like.

A couple of divisions will be cut, along with admin & teaching FTE have been reduced through attrition, transfer language within district has been utilized, district aggregate averages will be increased by one in secondary classes, to 25 students for grade 8-10 and 24 students for grades 11-12. This is the definition of tightening; the pendulum may have started to swing back.

Spaces Survey will be sent to your private email address next week.

This feedback is part of our ongoing dialogue on reporting with the district.

Results will be shared with staff reps.

More to come

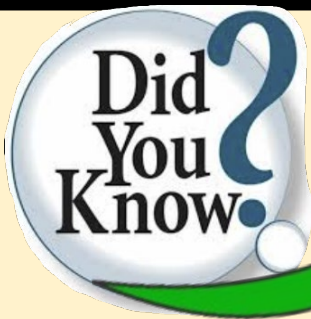
**Further Clarification**

**CRC Requirements for Certificate Holders**

The *Criminal Records Review Act* requires all certificate holders to undergo a criminal record check (CRC) every 5 years. I have tried to summarize; please do the following:

- 1. Get a BCeID username / password
- 2. Link your BCeID to your TRB (certification)
- 3. **Provide a private email that you check** and omit older web-based email like Hotmail, Yahoo and those seem to cause the most bounces / spam folder / Gmail remains the standard for acceptance
- 4. **Record / Remember when your 5-year rotation for CRC occurs**

Account Link is at the bottom of the email.



**SOSTU President Nominations Close April 16<sup>th</sup>**

- If interested, a nomination form for the position of president is attached and must be submitted to [sostu@telus.net](mailto:sostu@telus.net) by Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- **This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> call for nominations for the position of SOSTU President. This is the last call (email) for nominations.**
- **It has been also posted on the SOSTU website since April 1<sup>st</sup>.**
- Nominations will close at the end of the day on Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- If necessary, an election would follow and be conducted before April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- I will let my name stand for SOSTU President for next year (2025-2026)

\* Other SOSTU positions will be determined by / at May15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 AGM