

**NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUSINESS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC MEETING
INFORMATION SHEET**

DATE: March 8, 2023
TO: Business Committee
FROM: Mark Walsh, Secretary-Treasurer
SUBJECT: Student and Family Affordability Fund

Background

On October 12, 2022, staff provided information to the Committee on the Ministry of Education and Child Care's "Student and Family Affordability Fund" (the "Fund"). A copy of that Information Sheet is attached for your reference.

This Information Sheet provides an update on how this fund has been spent to date.

Discussion

As previously reported the District has a working group to discuss the fund including DPAC, our unions and associations. While we no longer anticipate the funds will be clawed back if not spent, they continue to be one time in nature. Given this reality we are continuing to expend the funds in the current year.

Overall, there has been a benefit to our families. However, we note the one-time nature of them makes it a bit of challenge to support families and then that support will cease. Further, none of the funds are for staffing. This has left our school teams largely in the position of identifying needs and adding yet another administrative task to already busy schools.

The following chart highlights the spending to January 31, 2023.

Student Family Affordability Fund

Allocated To	Budget	Exp. To Jan31/23	Balance	% Left
Elementary School Allocation	558,200	257,664	300,536	53.8%
Secondary School Allocation	442,250	206,807	235,443	53.2%
Provided to First Nations	73,500	65,500	8,000	10.9%
Provided to NLSF	275,000	275,000	-	0
For Elementary Outreach	7,000	602	6,398	91.4%
Still in reserve for emergent needs	102,232	-	102,232	100.0%
Fund Totals	1,458,182	805,573	652,610	44.8%

Note1: Reserve TBD by Committee

Note2: First Nations and NLSF will provide spending report at Y-End; to date expended on Food Security

Note3: 5 Months left to spend funds so school balances are online to be fully spent at Y-End

Appendix A: October 12, 2022 Information Sheet