

NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS BUSINESS COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION SHEET

DATE: October 11, 2023
TO: Business Committee

FROM: Jacquie Poulin, Assistant Superintendent

SUBJECT: Feeding Futures Fund

Background

On June 14, 2023, staff provided the Business Committee an initial overview of the steps taken with respect to the planning for the Feeding Futures Fund. This Information Sheet is intended to provide an update on the status of that fund.

Discussion

The chart below outlines the allocations of the Feeding Futures Fund for the 2023-24 school year.

Feeding Futures Fund Budget

Fiscal Year			2023/24 1,663,981
Total Revenue			
Ехре	enditures		
4	Chef's Education Assistants	2.743 FTE	162,491
4	Cafeteria Attendants	2.286 FTE	126,476
4	Partial Teaching Assignments	1.001 FTE	124,820
	NLSF Contract for Services for Elementary Program		775,000
	Cedar Secondary Program (5 hr EA/Supplies)	0.143 FTE	45,000
	Wellington's Program - TBD (Contract for Service)		75,000
	Secondary Programs (ND/JB/DOVER/LSS)		125,000
	Learning Alternative Program		10,000
	Elementary Program		75,000
	Elementary supplies/small equipment		100,000
	Programming/Food/Supply Reserve		45,194
Total Expenses		-	1,663,983
Surplus/Deficit			

Secondary Programs

Secondary programs are mainly running as is. Additional funds have been allocated to four of the secondary schools for the purchase of food in the existing programs. For Cedar Secondary, a staffing and supplies allocation has been provided and for Wellington Secondary the service will be with an external provider while the District applies for funding to expand capacity within the school itself at such time the programming will be reviewed.

Elementary Programs

At the elementary level, the District has partnered with the Nanaimo Ladysmith Schools Foundation to provide prepared breakfast and lunch items to schools. This partnership is building on a relationship already established through the Food4Schools program and expands on an infrastructure already providing some services.

The District has been working with the Nanaimo Ladysmith Schools Foundation to create a space for food preparation at Woodlands. Funding for additional equipment and minor renovations was approved through the Food Infrastructure Program which will be ensuring there is refrigeration storage and proper food prep tables and shelving.

At this time, breakfast and lunch specific food delivery has begun for three of our schools in the initial rollout of this program, with a goal to expand by two to five schools every one to two weeks. We wanted to start with a small number of schools to work through any challenges that may arise and to develop an efficient and effective system. Also, the ability to expand will be partially dependent on the arrival of the above mentioned equipment as currently food storage is a significant challenge.

For the schools who have been part of the initial pilot, we have already received positive feedback and appreciation for the food they are receiving. Having nutritious, prepared breakfast and lunch options arrive ready to hand out has been welcomed.

The intention is to provide the Board with regular updates as the program rolls out.