

DATE: June 22, 2021

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Nathan Ip, Caucus Committee Chair

SUBJECT: Report #25 of the Caucus Committee (From the meeting held October 20, 2020)

ORIGINATOR: Karen Mills, Director Board and Superintendent Relations

REFERENCE: [Trustees' Handbook](#) – Caucus Committee - Section 5.4

ISSUE

The Board approved the following recommendations at the March 3, 2015, Board meeting: That a resolution be approved directing that Section 5.4 of the Trustees' Handbook be revised to give the Caucus Committee final decision-making power on certain types of matters, and yet constrain that power so it is used only when absolutely necessary.

The following recommendation was approved at the October 6, 2020, Special Caucus Committee meeting:

Capital Reserves – Construction Bridging Costs

That authorization for the Superintendent to proceed with the utilization of up to \$3,800,000 of Capital Reserve funds, previously approved as part of the \$4,200,000 for Growth Accommodation in the 2020–2021 Capital Reserve Plan, to acquire additional modular classrooms not funded by the province be approved.

BACKGROUND

The Division requested 10 new modular classrooms, including evergreening of four units, and funding for two modular classroom relocations as part of the provincial 2021–2022 Modular Classroom Program. Given the timelines to procure, install, and prepare units for occupancy, administration recommended proactively determining whether Capital Reserve funds could be accessed to acquire these needed new modular classrooms that may not be funded by the province.

The Province requested a resubmission due to program funding expansion included in the provincial budget announced in late February. The Division's request changed from 10 units in the fall submission to 30 units in the March submission. Alberta Education has now approved funding for 25 of 30 modular classrooms requested as part the Division's resubmission of the request in late March.

The resubmission has caused a delay in installation. Implications for occupancy will be determined on a site-by-site basis over the coming weeks. The timelines are being developed in collaboration with the impacted schools; however, it is likely that occupancy in many instances will occur after the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

KM:sj