



# School District 72

Campbell River, B.C.

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September 26, 2017

Christina Zacharuk  
President and CEO  
Public Sector Employers' Council Secretariat  
Suite 201, 880 Douglas Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 2B7

Dear Ms. Zacharuk:

This will confirm that the Board of Education of School District No. 72 (Campbell River) is aware of the total compensation paid to executive staff during the 2016-2017 fiscal year and further, that we verify the amount of compensation paid was within the compensation plan as approved by the Board and as reported in the Summary Compensation Table .

Yours truly,

Susan Wilson,  
Board Chair

## **Public Sector Executive Compensation Report SD 72 Compensation Philosophy**

The Board of Education encourages and adopts practices that enable the district to attract, retain, incent, and reward qualified, high-performing employees who are critical to the delivery of quality public education programs to students in School District No. 72 (Campbell River).

A key component of this approach is the development and maintenance of a framework for executive and exempt staff compensation that is rational, defensible, competitive and able to be effectively administered.

### **Compensation Philosophy**

The Board's compensation philosophy aligns with the statutory system of exempt staff compensation administration in the K-12 public education sector and the BC Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA) exempt staff compensation management plan (BCPSEA Policy 95-06, *Compensation and Employment Standards for School District Employees Not Subject to a Collective Agreement*), which is an approved compensation plan under the *Public Sector Employers Act*. Compensation mandates adopted by the Public Sector Employers' Council from time to time are the official policy of BCPSEA and any adjustments to exempt staff compensation levels are considered within the context of the applicable compensation mandate.

The Board's philosophy is based upon a set of principles that guide development, maintenance, and decision-making with respect to salary structures and total compensation packages and programs.

At its core is an integrated view of compensation and rewards — not only traditional, quantifiable elements such as salary and benefits (compensation), but also more intangible elements such as career opportunities, learning and career development, work challenge, and supportive culture (rewards). This total rewards model further integrates with plans that establish the Board's overall education, business, and human resources strategies and objectives to facilitate the attraction and retention of qualified, experienced, motivated and high-potential employees who are committed to the board's overarching goal of delivering a high quality public education experience to BC students.

Inherent in the Board's compensation philosophy are the following objectives:

- **Performance:** The compensation structure and administration of the structure supports and promotes meaningful career growth and development opportunities, and a performance-based (merit) organizational culture.
- **Differentiation:** Differentiation of compensation is supported where there are differences in the scope of the position within an organization, and/or due to superior individual/team contributions.
- **Accountability:** Compensation decisions are objective and based upon a clear and well documented rationale that demonstrates the appropriate expenditure of public funds.
- **Transparency:** The compensation program is designed, managed, administered, and communicated in a manner that ensures the program is clearly understood by employees and the public while protecting individual personal information.

## Labour Market Comparators

Key to the compensation philosophy is the need to maintain a meaningful level of competitiveness with the external labour market. Consistent with industry standards, “labour market” is defined in the British Columbia Public School Employers’ Association (BCPSEA) sectoral exempt compensation management plan (Policy 95-06, *Compensation and Employment Standards for School District Employees Not Subject to a Collective Agreement*) as:

- The recruitment pool for these employees
- The destination sector for these employees.

The following considerations guide articulation of the relevant labour market:

- Degree of recruitment from these jurisdictions
- Geographic location
- Transferability of skills
- Comparability of qualifications and experience
- Comparability of authority and consequence of error.

For executive and exempt staff positions in the BC K-12 public education sector, the relevant labour market is:

1. Other BC school districts (primary labour market)
2. Other BC public sector organizations
3. Other Canadian school districts (To the extent that BC school districts recruit from and lose employees to these jurisdictions, this segment of the labour market is weighted to Alberta and Ontario (and to a lesser extent, Saskatchewan) consistent with the industry-standard definition of labour market)
4. Selected private sector organizations.

The Board’s approach includes:

- Consideration of all components of the total rewards model.
- Consideration of the relevant labour market for compensation comparison purposes.
- Linking pay ranges to neutral, relevant factors (e.g., required skill level, required competencies, job content, required qualifications).
- Ensuring appropriate relationships exist between positions in the district’s compensation hierarchy.
- Considering the ways in which appropriate organizational and individual performance measures may be linked to the administration of the compensation system.

In balancing external competitiveness with internal equity, the Board typically has determined that the reference point for executive and exempt total compensation is the median *75<sup>th</sup> percentile* of the relevant comparator labour market.

The Board's total compensation package for executive staff is comprised of the following elements.

### **Cash compensation**

Total cash compensation includes annual base salary and monthly vehicle allowance.

- Annual base salary

Annual base salary is considered in the context of the total compensation package. Generally, base salary is targeted at the *75<sup>th</sup> percentile* of the comparator labour market.

- Vehicle allowance

Due to the diverse geography of the district and the need to visit schools and other district worksites, the Board provides a monthly vehicle allowance to the Superintendent and other senior management positions. The monthly vehicle allowance is set at a level competitive with the vehicle allowances provided to Superintendents and other senior managers in districts of similar size and geography.

### **Non-cash compensation**

The non-cash elements of the total compensation package include:

- **Health and welfare benefits**, such as basic medical, extended medical, dental, group life, short-term and long-term disability, employee and family assistance program, etc. consistent with such benefits as offered in the K-12 sector generally.
- **Pension benefits** — executive employees are enrolled in either the Teachers' Pension Plan or the Municipal Pension Plan.

In addition, upon retirement executive employees are eligible to receive a long-service recognition award (or retirement allowance) based on the following criteria:

The Board shall pay a retirement gratuity to excluded staff members retiring before age 61 under the following terms and conditions:

#### Requirements

- a) The excluded staff member must have a minimum of fifteen (15) years' of service in the district.
- b) The excluded staff member must give twelve (12) months' notice of retirement.
- c) The excluded staff member must have a minimum of 150 accumulated sick days at the date of retirement.

#### Amount of Gratuity

The gratuity shall be calculated as a percentage of the exempt staff's current salary, in accordance with the following grid:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
58-60	20
55-57	30

### Method of Payment

The gratuity shall be paid in installments. The first instalment of \$10,000 shall be paid on January 1<sup>st</sup> to persons retiring December 31<sup>st</sup>. The first instalment of \$4,000 shall be paid on August 1<sup>st</sup> to persons retiring on July 31<sup>st</sup>. The remaining gratuity shall be paid in instalments of \$10,000 or the balance owing, whichever is less, on each successive January 1<sup>st</sup>.

- **Paid time off**, including an annual vacation entitlement based on years of service. Pursuant to the *Public Sector Employers Act*, carry forward of unused accumulated vacation is limited to two weeks. Unused accumulated vacation above two weeks is paid out.
- In addition, executive employees receive 5 days of paid time off annually, in addition to annual vacation entitlement, in recognition of attendance at meetings during evenings and weekends.
- **Other vehicle-related payments**

Exempt staff may claim

- Reimbursement for mileage for out-of-district travel
- Reimbursement for the cost difference in insurance from “to and from work” to “business use”.

### **Compensation Administration**

The Board engages in consistent and ongoing administration of the compensation structure to ensure that reality matches philosophy and that equity is maintained. An ongoing system of compensation review review conducted and managed through BCPSEA and the PSEC Secretariat ensures that total compensation levels are benchmarked externally against the appropriate labour market and internally against appropriate job evaluation criteria.

The Board works with BCPSEA to obtain information and advice relating to the executive and exempt compensation structures. In addition, the Board utilizes the *BCPSEA Report on Total Compensation Paid to Exempt Employees* — the results of BCPSEA’s triennial survey of total compensation paid to exempt benchmark positions in BC public school districts as well as school districts in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Ontario, and other relevant public sector employers.

- **Annual base salary administration**

The salary structure for the position of Superintendent of Schools is based on placement at the appropriate salary range in the structure reflective of labour market competitiveness and internal equity. Placement and progression through the salary range is dependent upon competency growth and performance. The maximum of the salary range typically represents the job rate for the position, defined as the salary that should be paid to an incumbent who has established him/herself as meeting all the goals and expectations of the position in a fully satisfactory manner. New hires are generally not placed at the job rate on commencement of employment, although due to the key

leadership roles and responsibilities, such individuals are generally recruited at a highly competent level and are often placed at the mid- to maximum point in the salary range reflective of the required competence, qualifications, and experience.

The decision whether to grant a salary increase to the position of Superintendent is at the sole discretion of the Board. In determining whether a salary increase is warranted, the Board considers such factors as performance, competence, external competitiveness, and internal equity including the maintenance of appropriate salary differentials through the organization. The Board typically utilizes market compensation data and salary/compensation structures developed by BCPSEA for this position as well as all other positions in the exempt staff structure. Potential increases are considered within the Board's overall compensation budget.

## **Accountability**

Underlying the Board's compensation philosophy and approach is the understanding that legal and regulatory mandates are considered a baseline for implementing any compensation plan or practice. Compensation administration in the K-12 public education sector currently operates within the following context:

- the *Public Sector Employers Act*, which establishes the legislative policy framework for exempt staff compensation administration in the public sector
- the BCPSEA exempt staff compensation management plan (Policy 95-06, *Compensation and Employment Standards for School District Employees Not Subject to a Collective Agreement*), which is an approved compensation plan under the *Public Sector Employers Act*.
- Compensation mandates adopted by the Public Sector Employers' Council from time to time. Any adjustments to exempt staff compensation levels are considered within the context of the applicable compensation mandate.

Under the current compensation administration system in the K-12 sector:

- the Board of Education is solely responsible for the establishment and maintenance of compensation levels for the position of Superintendent of Schools. As elected school trustees, we are accountable to our public and therefore ensure that we adhere to proper human resources practices with respect to executive and exempt staff compensation.
- the Board must submit proposed compensation adjustments for all other executive and exempt positions in the district to BCPSEA for review and approval prior to implementation.

School District 72 (Campbell River)

Summary Compensation Table at 2017

Name and Position	Salary	Holdback/Bonus/ Incentive Plan Compensation	Benefits	Pension	All Other Compensation (expanded below)	2016/2017 Total Compensation	Previous Two Years Totals Total Compensation	
							2015/2016	2014/2015
Thomas Longridge, Superintendent	\$ 158,558	-	\$ 9,322	\$ 22,439	\$ 20,496	\$ 210,815	\$ 198,593	\$ 191,906
Nevenka Fair, Assistant Superintendent	\$ 133,372	-	\$ 9,493	\$ 18,256	\$ 16,268	\$ 177,389		
Kevin Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer	\$ 133,372	-	\$ 9,627	\$ 14,278	\$ 18,906	\$ 176,183		

**Summary Other Compensation Table at 2017**

<b>Name And Position</b>	<b>All Other Compensation</b>	<b>Severance</b>	<b>Vacation payout</b>	<b>Leave payout</b>	<b>Vehicle / Transportation Allowance</b>	<b>Perquisites / other Allowances</b>	<b>Other</b>
Thomas Longridge, Superintendent	\$ 20,496	-	\$ 13,706	-	\$ 6,790	-	-
Nevenka Fair, Assistant Superintendent	\$ 16,268	-	\$ 11,340	-	\$ 4,928	-	-
Kevin Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer	\$ 18,906	-	\$ 13,978	-	\$ 4,928	-	-



**Notes**

Thomas Longridge, Superintendent	
Nevenka Fair, Assistant Superintendent	
Kevin Patrick, Secretary-Treasurer	