



Trustee Media Submission #1
February 20, 2024

Did you know?

The Sunrise SD Board of Trustees wants to engage with our communities more often. One way is to write an article and share it on a bi-monthly basis. This is our first try.

It is budget season and we thought we should share information with our rate payers. The Minister of Education reported a 3.4% increase in funding towards School Divisions and is also allowing School Divisions to tax this year. Sunrise School Division received a 1.8% increase with direction that 1.1 % must be used towards a Nutrition Program. Good news regarding the Nutrition Program!

However, that leaves a 0.7% increase or roughly \$220,000 on a \$74 million dollar budget to deal with inflationary costs and increased labour costs. This \$220,000 will not cut it. Other divisions in the province received increases from 1.7% to 11.1%.

So, the Sunrise Board of Trustees is trying to determine a reasonable increase to the local taxpayer, knowing that the division is short \$4.9 million on a status quo budget due to inflationary increases and also needs to increase staff due to enrolment pressures. Finally, we are faced with an aging bus fleet and need to purchase more busses.

We shared this information with Municipalities on Monday Feb. 12th at our regional municipal meeting.

Please attend our February 22nd draft budget presentation or watch the recording prior to March 5th when the Board will look to pass their 2024-2025 operating budget.

Our Trustees are open for your comments and encourage you to reach out to them.

Paul Magnan
Board Chair
Ward 7 Powerview/Pine Falls