

# **NEWS RELEASE**

#### For Immediate Release

August 22, 2019

## SD36 managing its executive expenses well

VICTORIA – The Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia has released a new report: *Executive Expenses at School District 36*.

Overall, School District 36 in Surrey is doing a reasonable job managing its executives' expenses. The district's financial records were complete and accurate, and public disclosures of executive expenses, as required by the *Financial Information Act*, were complete.

"We found that school district expenses for executive staff generally complied with applicable school district policies," said Carol Bellringer, auditor general. "To further strengthen its management of payment of executive expenses, we offered the district two recommendations to enhance its policies and procedures."

One recommendation was around aligning its policies more closely to government's *Core Policy and Procedures Manual*. The second was to ensure the enforcement of its existing policy requirements for its employees.

"We encourage the other school districts in the province to read our report and ensure they're appropriately managing, and fully disclosing, their employees' expenses," Bellringer added.

Payments for executive expenses need to be transparent and disclosed consistently across all school districts so that everyone is held equally accountable for funds entrusted and spent.



The full report is available on the Office of the Auditor General website at www.bcauditor.com.

Bellringer will answer questions pertaining to the report via a news conference only.

News conference date: Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019

Time: 11:30 a.m. (Pacific time)

Dial-in information:

From Greater Vancouver: 604 681-0260

From elsewhere in Canada and the U.S.: 1 877 353-9184

Participant pass code: 44848#

During question-and-answer period:

To ask a question: press 01

To exit the question queue: press #

#### **About the Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia**

The auditor general is a non-partisan, independent officer of the legislature who reports directly to the legislative assembly. The *Auditor General Act* empowers the auditor general and staff to conduct audits, report findings and make recommendations.

### Contact us:

For general questions, call Emily Griffiths Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia 250 419-6132

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