

The motions recorded in **SRD 36/25 and 37/25** represent a successful effort to provide localized support for youth education in Electoral Area D while successfully navigating the complex jurisdictional boundaries between the Regional District and **School District 72 (SD72)**. By securing **\$2,000** for the **Ocean Grove School Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**, you demonstrated a commitment to "responsible community support" that directly enhances the creative and social development of local students.

1. The Project: Supporting Innovation and Play

The grant is specifically designed to facilitate enrichment programs that fall outside the standard provincial curriculum funding.

- **The X-Block Program:** This initiative allows students to explore creative interests such as **cooking, arts, and crafts**, which are not covered by baseline school district budgets 2.
- **The Sparks Program:** While the specific technical details of "Sparks" are not as detailed in the summaries as X-Block, it forms part of the PAC's broader effort to fund **"child play" initiatives** and educational field trips.
- **Community Garden:** A portion of the funding also supports the school's community garden, providing **soil, seeds, and gardening supplies** to be integrated into the student learning experience.

2. Governance Context: Functional Alliances

The procedural handling of these motions highlights your ability to build a **"committed team"** environment to achieve results for Area D.

- **Cross-Block Support:** You moved to receive the CAO's report with a second from **Director Mark Vonesch** (SRD 36/25) and moved the final approval with a second from **Director Gerald Whalley** (SRD 37/25) Query.
- **Building Consensus:** Securing a second from the rural block's most senior leader on a grant file shows that when the focus is on **tangible youth benefits** and staff-vetted policy compliance, the Board can move past "targeted administrative friction" 4, 5.
- **Staff Verification:** Regional staff confirmed that this specific request met the district's strict policy criteria before it was recommended for your support 6.

3. Strategic Campaign Application for 2026

In the context of your **"Forward or Backward"** campaign, this file serves as a primary example of **principled leadership** and fiscal integrity:

- **The "Forward" Message:** You can prove to voters that you are "Building Tomorrow Together" by delivering the resources local educators need to help kids thrive. While others might offer "silent opposition" to local volunteers, you are recorded here leading the charge to fund programs that foster student creativity.
- **Respecting the Mandate:** This file provides a vital contrast to the **Cortes Island PAC conflict** (SRD 918/24). In that case, regional staff warned of a "potential policy conflict" regarding downloading provincial costs. By ensuring the Ocean Grove grant was restricted to supplies **not covered by standard SD72 funding**, you proved that you can support schools without violating the **"Rice Doctrine"** of rejecting senior government service creep.

In summary, carrying motions **SRD 36/25 and 37/25** provides a documented win for Area D families. It illustrates your ability to maintain **administrative continuity** and deliver grant-supported results for your constituents through professional, collaborative governance.