



**Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee  
(Special Meeting)  
Agenda**

FBEC:006A

Monday, April 24, 2023

4:30 p.m.

Boardroom, Main Floor, 5050 Yonge Street, Toronto

Trustee Members

Michelle Aarts (Chair), Matias de Dovitiis, Shelley Laskin, James Li, Dan MacLean, Zakir Patel,  
Manna Wong

The purpose of the meeting is to consider matters related to the 2023-2024 Budget

**Pages**

1. **Call to Order and Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands**
2. **Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interest**
3. **Delegations**  
To be presented
4. **Opportunity for Oral Updates From Co-Chairs of Community Advisory Committees**
  - 4.1 **Alternative Schools Community Advisory Committee Report, March 27, 2023** 1
    1. **2023-2024 Operating Budget: Commitment to Secondary Alternative School Programming**
5. **Update on 2023-24 Grants For Student Needs Announcement [4514]**  
To be presented
6. **Update on Child Care Umbrella Agreement With the City of Toronto [4515]** 3
7. **Adjournment**

**Blank Page**



**Name of Committee:** Alternative Schools Community Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** 27 March, 2023

**Directed To:** Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee

A meeting of the Alternative Schools Community Advisory Committee convened on March 27, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. virtually via [zoom/teams/webex/etc], with Jeffrey Leibovitch and Laurie McAllister (Co-Chairs) presiding.

<b>Attendance:</b>	
<b>Regrets:</b>	

**Part A: Recommendations**

The Alternative Schools Community Advisory Committee recommends:

WHEREAS TDSB Secondary Alternative Schools provide a lifeline for students who are affected by external challenges, and challenges within the system, which put them at increased risk of being pushed out of the system, not returning to the system, not graduating, and the related risks to their well-being;

AND WHEREAS the Board has strongly committed to maintain the viability Secondary Alternative School programming;

THEREFORE, the Alternative Schools Community Advisory Committee recommends that the Board be reminded of its commitment to Secondary Alternative School programming and the students relying on the lifeline it provides, in the Board’s review and approval of the 2023-24 Operating Budget.

Note: On May 25, 2022, the [Board decided](#), inter alia, that Community Advisory Committees may “report out to any standing committee of the Board” with “recommendations only and all other information and activities are reported annually”.

For more information on the mandates of Standing and Permanent Committees of the Board, and to assist Staff Leads in directing Community Advisory Committee reports, please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Committees>

## Part B: Staff Supplementary Information

At the February 24, 2022 Special Meeting, the Board of Trustees carried the following recommendation that arose from the February 23, 2022 PSSC meeting:

### Whereas:

Compared to the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) general population, students in secondary alternative schools are “much more at-risk”, and the COVID-19 pandemic has both amplified the student mental health crisis and disproportionately impacted the communities served by secondary alternative schools;

The TDSB’s Pandemic Recovery Plan acknowledges that “prioritizing mental health and well-being as we re-engage and integrate students who have been most impacted by the pandemic is essential”, and, its Strategic Plan has committed to support student mental health and well-being, and to ensure that every school offers a wide range of programming and safe, welcoming inclusive learning environments for all students;

The TDSB has existing safe spaces in secondary alternative schools that it can utilize as a component in a student re-engagement plan, and to meet its goals in the Strategic Plan;

Program viability means different things to different secondary alternative schools depending on its programs and the populations that it serves;

And further destabilization of secondary alternative schools would impact some of the most in-risk students within the Board;

**Therefore, The Alternative Schools Community Advisory Committee recommends that the Toronto District School Board consider program viability as the primary driver for staffing secondary alternative schools, rather than projected enrolment, until the Secondary Alternative Schools Review is completed and its recommendations related to staffing are implemented.**

This item was referred to the March 3, 2022 Special FBEC meeting. At this meeting, the Secondary Alternative Schools Supplement, among Secondary Teacher Allocation was recommended by staff. At the March 9, 2022 Regular Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the recommendations carried from FBEC.

**Report Submitted by:** Peter Chang, System Superintendent and ASCAC Staff Resource Person

Note: On May 25, 2022, the [Board decided](#), inter alia, that Community Advisory Committees may “report out to any standing committee of the Board” with “recommendations only and all other information and activities are reported annually”.

For more information on the mandates of Standing and Permanent Committees of the Board, and to assist Staff Leads in directing Community Advisory Committee reports, please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Committees>



## **Update on Umbrella Child Care Agreement with the City of Toronto**

**To:** Special Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee

**Date:** 24 April, 2023

**Report No.:** 04-24-4515

### **Strategic Directions**

- Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being
- Provide Equity of Access to Learning Opportunities for All Students
- Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs
- Choose another strategic direction that applies (delete if not applicable)

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the report be received.

### **Context**

On December 7, 2022, the Board considered a written notice of motion:

“Whereas, the Toronto District School Board has a \$40.4M deficit for the school year 2022-23 with a three-year deficit recovery plan required by the Ministry of Education; and Whereas, the deficit recovery plan requires further cuts to programming for students;

Whereas, the federal government and the province of Ontario have reached an agreement that provides \$13.2B in new funding for childcare in Ontario;

Whereas, the City of Toronto, under Toronto Children's Services, is the provincially designated municipal childcare service agency for Toronto;

Whereas, the Board's child care umbrella agreement with the City of Toronto has limited the Board's ability to charge the City for the full cost of having childcare in our schools, limiting the reimbursement of operating cost to \$6.50 per square foot, when the Board's annual actual average operating cost for the 2021-22 fiscal year is at \$14.38 per square foot, meaning that the Board subsidizes child care using resources that should be used on its K-12 students;”

The Board approved the following motion:

- (a) That the Director be authorized to re-negotiate the umbrella agreement with Toronto Children Services to ensure that the Board is made financially whole going forward;
- (b) That, should the negotiations not be completed by January 31, 2023, that the Chair write to the Mayor of Toronto, the City Manager, and Children Services:
  - i. to provide notice that the Board will begin charging the actual per square foot cost effective January 1, 2024;
  - ii. should the City be unwilling to pay the revised rate, that they notify the Board, by February 1, 2023;
  - iii. that the cancellation of the agreement would be effective January 1, 2024.

### **Action Plan and Associated Timeline**

As a result of the motion, in January 2023, Board staff sent a letter to the City to ask to renegotiate the umbrella agreement. The City responded back that they were not interested in renegotiating the agreement. As a result, staff sent a letter to terminate the agreement at the end of March.

On April 11, 2023, the Board received a letter from the Ministry of Education (Appendix A) regarding the status of the agreement between TDSB and the City. The letter indicated that the Ministry is developing a new child care formula and that in the interim, the Ministry would be supportive of an agreement for 2024 between the City and the Board that aligned with the benchmarks for operating and renewal costs under the School Facility Operations and Renewal Grant. It would equate to \$9.94 per square foot for elementary schools and \$9.95 per square foot for secondary schools.

On April 17, 2023, the Grant for Students Needs (GSN) was released and the memorandum indicated that “the Ministry of Education is developing a new sustainable child care funding model. As part of this process, the ministry is investigating options that would support the standardization of accommodation costs in school-based spaces, with rates set by the ministry, effective January 1, 2024. As such, school boards should plan conservatively for accommodation revenues until such time as the funding formula is finalized. The ministry intends to communicate these rates in summer 2023 through a future memorandum.”

The standardized rate of \$9.94/\$9.95 does not equal the TDSB’s estimated amount for cost recovery of \$15.97. Therefore, the Ministry funding would still create a significant shortfall of approximately \$4.6 million.

Staff will continue to review the information and work with the Ministry. If any changes are required to the direction provided, staff will update the Board of Trustees.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix A: April 11, 2023 Letter From Ministry

### **From**

Stacey Zucker, Associate Director, Modernization and Strategic Resource Alignment at [stacey.zucker@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:stacey.zucker@tdsb.on.ca) or at 416-395-8469

Craig Snider, Executive Officer, Finance at [craig.snider@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:craig.snider@tdsb.on.ca) or at 416-476-3182

**Blank Page**



Ministry of Education  
Early Years and Child Care Division

315 Front Street West, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
Toronto ON M7A 0B8

Ministère de l'Éducation  
Division de la petite enfance et de  
la garde d'enfants

315, rue Front Ouest, 11<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M7A 0B8



April 11, 2023

Shanley McNamee, General Manager  
Toronto Children's Services  
City of Toronto

Stacey Zucker, Associate Director  
Modernization and Strategic Resource Alignment  
Toronto District School Board

Dear Shanley and Stacey,

**Re: Status of the Child Care Umbrella Agreement between the City of Toronto Children's Services (the City) and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and seeking support for child care operators currently under this agreement**

Thank you Shanley for your letter of January 20, 2023 with an update on the City's arrangement with TDSB and some next steps. We appreciate your ongoing commitment to child care and early years programming.

As part of the implementation of the Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) system, the Ministry of Education is developing a new sustainable child care funding formula that will be responsive to child care cost structures. The 2024 funding formula is under development and will consider occupancy costs, including capital, for child care centres in schools.

In the interim, in recognition of the costs incurred by the TDSB, the ministry would be supportive of an agreement for 2024 between the City and the TDSB that is aligned with the benchmarks for operating and renewal costs found under the School Facility Operations and Renewal Grant (per the [2022-23 Education Funding Technical Paper](#)). For TDSB, in respect of exclusive child care space in schools, these would amount to **\$9.94 per square foot** in elementary schools and **\$9.95 per square foot** in secondary schools.

As these rates are based on 2022-23 cost benchmarks, they could be further refined using 2023-24 funding benchmarks once announced to the education sector later this Spring. It is also the ministry's expectation that the occupancy benchmark costs to be included in the child care funding formula would be confirmed prior to January 1, 2024 upon finalization of the 2024 funding formula. As communicated in the recently released discussion paper, accommodation costs will be one part of the gross funding allocation under the funding formula, partially offset by parent fees and municipal contributions.

I trust that this interim solution will be helpful to continue the existing relationship between the City and TDSB. Thank you again for your commitment and hard work in your roles in the delivery of child care and early years programs. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work together towards improving and strengthening child care and early years programs and services in Ontario.

Regards,

Holly Moran  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Education, Early Years and Child Care Division



# Our Mission

To enable all students to reach high levels of achievement and well-being and to acquire the knowledge, skills and values they need to become responsible, contributing members of a democratic and sustainable society.

## We Value

- Each and every student's interests, strengths, passions, identities and needs
- A strong public education system
- A partnership of students, staff, family and community
- Shared leadership that builds trust, supports effective practices and enhances high expectations
- The diversity of our students, staff and our community
- The commitment and skills of our staff
- Equity, innovation, accountability and accessibility
- Learning and working spaces that are inclusive, caring, safe, respectful and environmentally sustainable

## Our Goals

### **Transform Student Learning**

We will have high expectations for all students and provide positive, supportive learning environments. On a foundation of literacy and math, students will deal with issues such as environmental sustainability, poverty and social justice to develop compassion, empathy and problem solving skills. Students will develop an understanding of technology and the ability to build healthy relationships.

### **Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being**

We will build positive school cultures and workplaces where mental health and well-being is a priority for all staff and students. Teachers will be provided with professional learning opportunities and the tools necessary to effectively support students, schools and communities.

### **Provide Equity of Access to Learning Opportunities for All Students**

We will ensure that all schools offer a wide range of programming that reflects the voices, choices, abilities, identities and experiences of students. We will continually review policies, procedures and practices to ensure that they promote equity, inclusion and human rights practices and enhance learning opportunities for all students.

### **Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs**

We will allocate resources, renew schools, improve services and remove barriers and biases to support student achievement and accommodate the different needs of students, staff and the community.

### **Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being**

We will strengthen relationships and continue to build partnerships among students, staff, families and communities that support student needs and improve learning and well-being. We will continue to create an environment where every voice is welcomed and has influence.

## **Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands**

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe (A NISH NA BEE), the Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NEE) Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

## **Reconnaissance des terres traditionnelles**

Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes accueillis sur les terres des Mississaugas des Anichinabés (A NISH NA BAY), de la Confédération Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NEE) et du Wendat. Nous voulons également reconnaître la pérennité de la présence des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuit."

## **Committee Mandate**

- (i) To consider and make recommendations to the Board on finance matters, including procurement and contract awards, referred to it for consideration.
- (ii) To review the impact of enrolment and policy change on the Board's budget, including reviewing the impact of enrolment trends, and marketing strategies to bolster enrolment in declining areas of the city; and
- (iii) To consider strategies to balance the capital and operating budget over a multi-year period, and to make recommendations to the Board to balance the annual capital and operating budget.

### **Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands**

We acknowledge we are hosted on the lands of the Mississaugas of the Anishinaabe (A NISH NA BEE), the Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NEE) Confederacy and the Wendat. We also recognize the enduring presence of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.

### **Reconnaissance des terres traditionnelles**

Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes accueillis sur les terres des Mississaugas des Anichinabés (A NISH NA BAY), de la Confédération Haudenosaunee (HOE DENA SHOW NEE) et du Wendat. Nous voulons également reconnaître la pérennité de la présence des Premières Nations, des Métis et des Inuit."

### **Funding Information Requirement**

At the special meeting held on March 7, 2007, the Board decided that to be in order any trustee motion or staff recommendation that would require the Board to expend funds for a new initiative include the following information: the projected cost of implementing the proposal; the recommended source of the required funds, including any required amendments to the Board's approved budget; an analysis of the financial implications prepared by staff; and a framework to explain the expected benefit and outcome as a result of the expenditure.

### **[1]Closing of certain committee meetings**

(2) A meeting of a committee of a board, including a committee of the whole board, may be closed to the public when the subject-matter under consideration involves,

- (a) the security of the property of the board;
- (b) the disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian;
- (c) the acquisition or disposal of a school site;
- (d) decisions in respect of negotiations with employees of the board; or
- (e) litigation affecting the board. R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2, s. 207 (2).

(2.1) Closing of meetings re certain investigations – A meeting of a board or a committee of a board, including a committee of the whole board shall be closed to the public when the subject-matter under considerations involves an ongoing investigation under the Ombudsman Act respecting the board