



## **2021-22 Ministry of Education Budget Consultation**

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

**Date:** 16 December, 2020

**Report No.:** 12-20-3987

### **Strategic Directions**

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

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the 2021-22 Ministry of Education Budget Consultation report be received.

### **Context**

On 3 December 2020 the Ministry of Education provided the 2021-22 Education Funding Guide (Appendix A) to school boards for feedback from the sector. They identified that feedback must be submitted by 15 January 2021 to the Ministry. Staff contacted Ministry staff and requested an extension of the deadline to 21 January 2021 to allow the Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee (FBEC) to review and approve the submission to the Ministry. The Ministry approved staff's extension request.

The Ministry consultation document asks for feedback in the following areas through targeted questions in each area:

- COVID-19 Outbreak Response;
- Online Learning Adjustment;

- Priorities and Partnerships Fund (PPF);
- Reducing Administrative Burden and Red Tape;
- School Board Administration and Governance Grant;
- Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA);
- Census Data; and,
- Secondary Class Size Compliance.

In each area, many of the questions are operational in nature. Staff are working to prepare responses to these operational questions and will amend these responses based on feedback provided by Trustees and stakeholders.

The Ministry of Education will also be accepting feedback on education funding topics outside the areas identified in this guide.

In Appendix B of this report, is a copy of the budget submission provided by the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) to the 2020-21 budget consultation requested by the Ministry of Education which addresses the areas of focus for the TDSB.

## Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Due to the tight timelines provided by the Ministry, staff are recommending that Trustee and stakeholder feedback be provided by 8 January 2021, so that staff can use this feedback to prepare a draft submission and report to FBEC on 20 January 2021. To assist in collecting feedback, staff have prepared the Budget Feedback Survey Tool attached in Appendix C of this report.

The planned consultation schedule will be:

Target Group	Action Plan
SEAC	Presented at SEAC meeting on 7 December 2020
PIAC	Presented at PIAC meeting on 15 December 2020
Community Advisory Committees	Contact the Staff Lead of each Community Advisory Committee to request that the link to the survey tool be shared for feedback, 17 December 2020
Stakeholder Input	Posted to the Board website with link to the survey tool for feedback, open until 8 January 2021
Trustee Feedback	E-mail comments to staff by 8 January 2021

Feedback received during this process will be considered when drafting the response to the Ministry.

In the report back to FBEC, staff will include copies of the actual feedback received from Trustees and stakeholders that informed the final submission draft. The response to the Ministry will be provided to FBEC for review and approval.

## **Resource Implications**

School boards are required to submit a balanced operating budget to the Ministry of Education as outlined in Ministry funding parameters and timelines.

## **Communications Considerations**

The Ministry of Education Budget Consultation Guide and a feedback survey tool will be posted to the Board website to allow stakeholders to provide feedback for consideration in developing the final submission. The survey will be open until 8 January 2021 for stakeholders to provide feedback.

This report and the final submission to the Ministry of Education on the feedback to the 2021-22 Ministry of Education Budget Consultation Guide will be posted on the TDSB Budget website.

## **Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)**

Not applicable.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix A: 2021-22 Ministry Budget Consultation Guide
- Appendix B: 2020-21 Ministry Budget Consultation Submission
- Appendix C: Copy of Budget Feedback Survey Tool

## **From**

Craig Snider, Interim Associate Director, Business Operations and Service Excellence, at [craig.snider@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:craig.snider@tdsb.on.ca) or at 416-397-3188.

Marisa Chiu, Interim Executive Officer, Finance at [marisa.chiu@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:marisa.chiu@tdsb.on.ca) or at 416-395-3563.