

2020-21 School Budget and School Generated Funds

To: Special Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee

Date: 9 December, 2021

Report No.: 12-21-4216

Strategic Directions

• Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs

Recommendation

It is recommended that the 2020-21 School Budget and School Generated Funds report be received.

Context

On an annual basis, staff present information on sources of funding that schools have access to for supporting student achievement for the prior fiscal year.

The 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 school budgets and school generated funds information are presented in this report.

Sources of Funding

There are four primary sources of funding that support schools and student achievement each year:

1. School budget allocations funded through the Grant for Student Needs (GSN) -Included under this classification are budget transfers from central departments and Superintendents of Education.

2. Priorities & Partnership Funding (PPF) grants - These grants support specific program areas decided by the Ministry of Education on an annual basis.

3. School Generated Funds (Non-board) – School-level fundraising directly managed by the school.

4. School Generated Funds (School council) – School-level fundraising managed by school councils.

School generated funds are used to complement but not replace public funding for education and can be used for items not funded through the school's budget. For example, they can be used for student subsidies, donations to external charities, expenditures for co-curricular or before and after school activities, student nutrition programs and school yard improvements. They cannot be used for expenses such as core curriculum materials, capital infrastructure improvements, gifts or compensation to TDSB employees and school council members, or political activities. Funds must be raised for specific purposes and spent according to the purposes communicated.

Appendix A contains a brief description of the different allocations that make up the total school budget. Appendix B provides the school budget template.

Each year, schools are provided their budget allocation based on their projected enrolments in the spring of the previous year. This allows schools time to start their planning for the upcoming year. The school Principal is responsible for determining the use of the school budget allocation to support the school improvement plan and student achievement. The Principal is to consult with both the school staff and school council in the preparation of the budget. Once the Principal has completed the budget, it is submitted to the school Superintendent for approval.

In the fall, the Budget department adjusts the budget based on the actual October 31 enrolments and any additional allocations for new classrooms.

Available School Funding and Use of Funds

In 2020-21, schools were allocated approximately \$74.8M from sources such as school budget allocations, prior year carryovers, central department program transfers and other supplementary funding to support school improvement, as shown in Appendix D.

In addition, school and school council fundraising provided an additional \$3.8M to support school programs in 2020-21. In total, schools had access to approximately \$78.6M million to support student achievement and well-being during the 2020-21 school year.

There were approximately \$18.6M in total school generated funds surplus balances and \$31.6M in school budget surplus balances as of the 2020-21 fiscal year-end as reported in Appendix G.

This report also analyzes the impact of Learning Opportunity Index (LOI) on school budgets and school generated funds in Appendices E and F. The data presented is used to validate whether other funding sources are available to minimize fundraising disparities across TDSB schools. The changes in the per student amount data between Appendix E and Appendix F, demonstrates that the school budget allocation process has been effective in mitigating the impact of fundraising disparities associated with LOI.

Below is a chart outlining the overall fundraising revenue changes from 2018-19 to 2020-21. Fundraising revenue declines in 2019-20 and 2020-21 are due to the pandemic and school closures:

	2017-18**	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
School Non-Board Fundraising Revenue*	\$34.9M	\$34.9M	\$18.6M	\$3.0M
School Council Fundraising Revenue*	8.1M	9.2M	5.4M	1.0M
Total	\$43.0M	\$44.1M	\$24.0M	\$4.0M
% change from prior year		2.6%	(45.6%)	(83.3%)

*includes fundraising for external charities

Below are the school budget and school generated funds surplus balances from 2018-19 to 2020-21:

	2017-18**	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Total School Budget Ending Surplus	\$15.0M	\$15.0M	\$29.3M	\$31.6M
% change from prior year		0.0%	95.3%	7.8%
School Non-Board Ending Balances	\$14.6M	\$15.1M	\$18.2M	\$14.9M
School Council Ending Balances	4.0M	5.0M	5.1M	3.7M
Total School Generated Funds Ending Balance	\$18.6M	\$20.1M	\$23.3M	\$18.6M
% change from prior year		8.1%	15.9%	(20.17%)

** As reported in 2017-18 School Budget & School Generated Funds report on June 6, 2019 FBEC

School generated funds are intended to be spent within two years to benefit current students, unless designated for future needs or long-term projects, such as school yard improvements. Schools and school councils are required to submit financial plans by October 31 of each year (although this deadline has been extended during pandemic)

outlining uses of fundraising proceeds. The deadline was extended to November 30 this year due to the pandemic. Any surpluses or deficits in the school budget and unspent school generated funds are carried forward to the following school year.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Management will utilize the information contained in this report for future budget planning and analysis.

Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Communications Considerations

Not applicable.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

Not applicable.

Appendices

- Appendix A: Base School and Small School Allocation
- Appendix B: School Budget Model Template
- Appendix C: Total Budget, School Generated Funds and Donations Received by School (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21)
- Appendix D: Breakdown of School Budget by Funding Source (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21)
- Appendix E: School Generated Funds raised per FTE vs. LOI Score Scattered Graph (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21)
- Appendix F: Total Budget, School Generated Funds Available, and Donations Received per FTE vs. FOI Score Scattered Graph (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21)
- Appendix G: School Budget and School Generated Funds Surpluses and Deficits (2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21)

From

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