

# **Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting**

**May 9, 2022  
Budget Update**

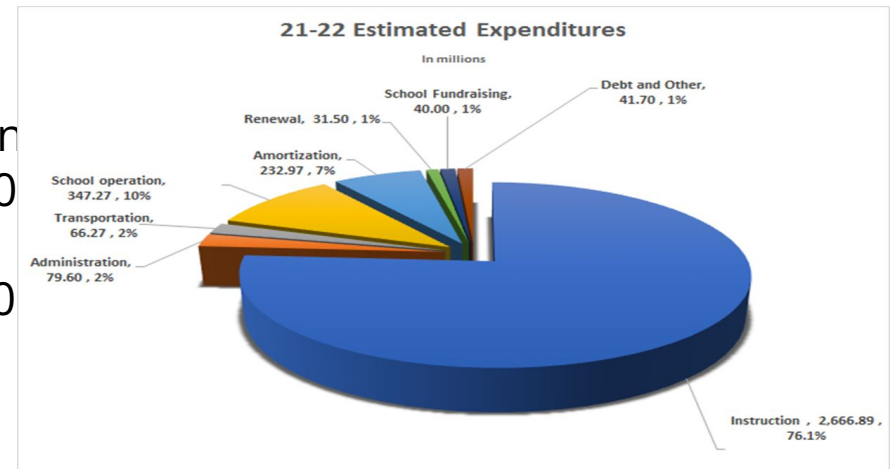


# Agenda

- Budget Development Overview, Timelines and Upcoming Budget Town hall
- 2022-23 Preliminary Financial Forecast
- Role of SEAC in budget process
- Special Education Funding Overview
- Special Education GSN changes 22-23
- Special Education Revenues and Expenditures
- Special Education Envelope - Funding shortfall
- 2022-23 Support for student fund and COVID-19 Learning recovery fund
- Questions

# Budget Development Overview

The TDSB is one of the largest and most culturally diverse school boards in Canada, serving approximately 230,000 students in 583 schools throughout Toronto, and has approximately 38,000 employees.



TDSB's annual budget is approximately \$3.4 billion, 76% of its budget is allocated to staffing costs, educational tools and classroom materials. Approximately 10% of the budget relates to school operations, such as caretaking, utilities and maintenance. 12% of the budget relates to transportation, renewal, amortization, fundraising and other fixed costs. Only 2% of the budget relates to administration.

Only a small percentage of the TDSB budget is considered flexible or discretionary.

# Budget Development Overview

- Provincial funding announced every spring
- Funding determined by benchmarks, or the Ministry of Education's funding formula, and student enrolment
- Benchmarks do not reflect the realities of operating schools in Toronto
- School boards required (by law) to pass a balanced budget by June 30
- Trustees and staff work together to create a balanced budget that best supports the achievement and well-being of students within the funding provided.

# 2022-23 Financial Projection

- The 2022-23 preliminary financial projection is **\$44.7M, or 1.5%** of operating allocation, as presented at the April 26, 2022 FBEC meeting. This represents the current financial position before any adjustments arising from deficit reduction strategies.
- Staff will identify strategies to reduce the 2022-23 projected deficit, while aligning with the Board's strategic budget drivers and Multi-year Strategic Plan. Staff will bring a 3-year deficit recovery plan to the Finance, Budget & Enrolment Committee (FBEC) meeting on May 16, 2022, with the goal to reduce the deficit to 1% in 2022-23, and eliminate the deficit by 2024-25.
- If the deficit reduction recommendations are not approved, TDSB must seek the Ministry's pre-approval if they anticipate an in-year deficit of greater than 1% (\$29.3M based on TDSB's operating allocation).

**TORONTO DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**2022-23 Projected Financial Projection**  
(\$ million)

	<u>\$M</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>21-22 Financial deficit as reported at the January 13, 2022 FBEC</b>	<b>(\$65.1)</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
<b>Revenue changes</b>		
GSN decrease relating to declining enrolment	(18.8)	
GSN increase - Teacher qualification & experience funding	8.5	
GSN increase - Broadband, mental health and other funding	8.4	
One-time COVID Learning Recovery Fund	31.5	
Decrease in EWPF and ISP funds	(14.8)	
Increase in international student tuition revenues	4.5	
Increase in interest income	2.5	
Increase in permit revenues	3.0	
<b>Total Revenue Changes</b>	<b>24.8</b>	
<b>Compensation expense changes</b>		
Reduction in school-based staffing due to enrolment, net of rate changes	18.2	
Cost reduction from end of EWPF and ISP funds	14.8	
Increase in staffing costs from use of COVID Learning Recovery Fund	(31.5)	
Increase in central staffing costs, and CPP and EI increases	(4.6)	
Increase in long term disability costs due to rate changes	(3.3)	
Central staff gapping savings	5.0	
<b>Total Compensation Changes</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	
<b>Operational expense changes</b>		
Insurance cost savings	2.0	
Reduction in Board funded COVID expenses	1.0	
Utilities and other facilities cost increases	(6.0)	
<b>Total Operating Expense Changes</b>	<b>(3.0)</b>	
Changes to financial position	20.4	
<b>Updated 2022-23 Financial Position – (Deficit)</b>	<b>(44.7)</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>

# 2022-23 Budget Timelines

## May 2022

- Finalize the internal zero-based budgeting analysis.
- Internal discussions around options to balance the budget.
- Two Public Virtual Town Hall Meetings on May 19.
- Consult with Community Advisory Committees, SEAC, PIAC on 2022-23 Budget

## May 16, 2022 Special FBEC

- 3-year financial forecast and deficit recovery plan.
- Present recommendations to balance the 2022-23 budget.

# 2022-23 Budget Timelines

## **June 8, 2022 FBEC**

- Summary of feedback received from public budget consultation.
- 2022-23 draft capital budget and operating budget for approval.

## **Week of June 20 Special FBEC (if needed)**

- Final budget presented for approval. (This special meeting may not be needed if the budget is approved at the June 8 FBEC meeting)

## **June 29, 2022 Board Meeting**

- Board approval of the 2022-23 operating and capital budgets.

## **June 30, 2022**

- 2022-23 Budget is submitted to the Ministry for approval



# Virtual Budget Town Hall Meetings

- Please join us at the upcoming virtual Budget Town Hall meetings to be held on **Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 1-2pm and 7-8pm.**
- The Budget Town Hall will begin with a presentation by staff on the TDSB's 2022-23 budget. Participants will then be able to ask questions or make comments on video or through the chat. A recording of both meetings will be posted online for those who cannot attend on this date.

# The role of SEAC in the budget process

- Obtain information about funding available to school boards, and year-to-year funding changes.
- Obtain an understanding of how the Special education funding is calculated, such as SEPPA amount. The Special education grant is “sweatered”, meaning it can only be used for Special education costs.
- Discuss the resources required to meet the needs of Special education programs and Special Education students across the system.
- Provide feedback around how best to utilize the limited funding available, to ensure efficient allocation of resources. Given ongoing Special education funding shortfalls, what are strategies to address TDSB’s 2021-22 and 2022-23 projected financial deficits while ensuring adequate support for our students?

# Special Education Funding Overview

**The Special Education Grant** provides additional funding to school boards to support students who need special education programs, services, and/or equipment. The Special Education Grant comprises the following six allocations:

1. Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA) Allocation
2. Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount (DSENA) Allocation
3. Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Allocation
4. Special Incidence Portion (SIP) Allocation
5. Education and Community Partnership Program (ECPP) Allocation
6. Behaviour Expertise Amount (BEA) Allocation

The Special Education Grant may only be used for special education. Any unspent funding must be treated as deferred revenue for special education.

# Special Education Funding Overview

**1. The SEPPA allocation** recognizes the cost of providing additional assistance to the majority of students with Special education needs. It is allocated to school boards based on TOTAL school board enrolment:

- \$1,053.46 per JK to Grade 3 student
- \$809.19 per Grade 4 to 8 student
- \$533.65 per Grade 9 to 12 student

**2. The DSENA allocation** addresses variation among school boards with respect to population of students with special education needs and school boards' ability to support those needs. Factors used are:

- Special Education Statistical Prediction Model
- Measures of Variability
- Base amount for collaboration/integration
- Multi-disciplinary supports amount

# Special Education Funding Overview

**3. The Special Equipment Amount (SEA)** supports purchase of equipment that may be required by students with Special education needs. 2 components are:

- A per pupil amount to purchase computerized equipment/furniture.
- A claims based process that support the purchase by school board of other non computer based equipment (e.g. hearing/vision support, personal care support)

**4. The Special Incident Portion** intends to support students with extraordinary high needs who require more than 2 full time staff to address health and safety needs, and those of others at their school. Funding is based on claims submitted by school boards.

# Special Education Funding Overview

**5. The ECPP Allocation** supports school boards' provision of education programs to school aged children and youth in care, treatment and detention facilities. The funding for qualifying education programs goes towards recognized costs that include teacher salaries/benefits, EA salaries and benefits and classroom supplies.

**6. The Behaviour Expertise amount** is used to hire board level Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) expertise professionals, Board Certified Behaviour analyst to provide training opportunities that will build school board capacity in ABA.

# Special Education GSN changes 22-23

## **1. Transfer from Priorities & Partnership Funding to Grants for Student Needs:**

Starting in the 2022-23 school year, the \$1.086M million Special Education PPF amount will become the Local Priorities Amount and be transferred into the Special Education Grant's DSENA. Introducing a new Local Special Education Priorities Amount within the Special Education Grant's (SEG) Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount (DSENA).

## **2. Funding increase for Assistive Technology into the Special Equipment Amount (SEA) Per-Pupil Amount (PPA). TDSB anticipates a \$0.6M increase in this funding compared to 2021-22.**

Starting in 2022-23, the ministry will provide additional funding via the SEA PPA. This additional investment will help boards in acquiring and maintaining assistive technologies and related hardware and software for students with special education needs. As a result, SEA PPA base funding is increasing to \$20,000, and the per pupil amount is increasing to \$39.46.

# Special Education Revenues

Grants and Revenue offsets	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
SEPPA	\$194.0M	\$189.1M	\$185.7M
Special Education Equipment Amount	\$11.3M	\$9.9M	\$10.8M
Differentiated Special Education Needs Amount	\$120.1M	\$119.7M	\$119.6M
Approved Special Incidence Portion (SIP)	\$2.3M	\$4.5M	\$4.8M
Education and Community Partnership Program (ECPP) amount	\$14.7M	\$15.2M	\$15.5M
Behavioural Expertise amount	1.6M	\$1.6M	\$1.6M
Behavioural Training/After School Skills Development	\$0.7M	\$0.7M	\$1.0M
Gross Grant allocation	\$344.7	\$340.7M	\$339.0M
SEA Claim Adjustment and Deferred Revenue	\$(5.0M)	\$4.5M	
ABA Training Deferred Revenue	\$(0.6M)	\$(0.4M)	
Benefit Trust Funding	\$6.9M	\$7.3M	\$8.2M
System Priority Funding - see Slide 8		\$5.8M	\$7.8M
Covid Funding - see Slide 8		\$3.6M	\$7.3M
GSN Stabilization Funding (one-time COVID funding)		\$8.3M	
Itinerant Vision (Invoiced to TCDSB)	\$0.3M	\$0.3M	\$0.3M
<b>Net Special Education Funding &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$346.3M</b>	<b>\$370.1M</b>	<b>\$362.6M</b>



# Special Education Expenditures

Expenditure	2019-20 Actual	2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Projected
Teachers	\$224.7M	\$217.3M	\$224.7M
Supply Teachers	\$6.1M	\$3.8M	\$6.7M
Educational Assistants	\$124.1M	\$128.0M	\$138.1M
Textbooks and Classroom Supplies	\$6.7M	\$15.2M	\$10.9M
Para-Professionals	\$72.7M	\$77.1M	\$85.3M
Staff Development	\$0.2M	\$0.2M	\$0.2M
Principals and Vice-Principals	\$4.0M	\$4.2M	\$3.6M
Department Head Allowances	\$0.1M	\$0.1M	\$0.1M
School Office	\$2.7M	\$2.7M	\$2.7M
Co-ordinators and Consultants	\$7.4M	\$7.7M	\$8.2M
Education and Community Partnership Program (ECPP)	\$14.7M	\$15.6M	\$16.3M
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$463.4M</b>	<b>\$471.9M</b>	<b>\$496.8M</b>

# Special Education Envelope

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>2019-20 Amount</b>	<b>2020-21 Amount</b>	<b>2021-22 Revised Estimates</b>
Net Special Education Funding & Revenues	\$346.3M	\$370.2M	\$362.5M
Net Special Education Expenditures*	\$393.7M	\$404.3M	\$438.1M
<b>Special Education Envelope (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(\$47.3M)</b>	<b>(\$34.1M)</b>	<b>(\$75.6M)</b>
<b>At Revised estimates (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(\$54.6M)</b>	<b>(\$65.8M)</b>	<b>(\$75.6M)</b>
<b>At Estimates (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(\$57.6M)</b>	<b>(\$58.8M)</b>	<b>(\$72.2M)</b>

\*After Ministry allocation adjustment for self contained classes.

Special Education allocation is intended to cover “incremental” costs associated with meeting needs of special education students. Boards are to report the entire cost of some expenditure categories for self-contained classes. As part of the Enveloping calculation, the Ministry EFIS reports include an adjustment for self contained classes so that a portion of the Foundation grant for students in these classes is deducted from reported expenditures as it covers basic costs of these classes. The remaining costs are to be included as incremental special education expenditures as part of the Special Education envelope.

# 2022-23 Supports for Student Fund and COVID-19 Learning Recovery Fund

In the last two years, Investment in System priorities (ISP) funding\* was available to supplement school based staffing. However, this funding ends August 2022. The Ministry announced on Feb 17/22 that the SSF and Covid Learning recovery funds will be available to school boards in 2022-23. Special education staff allocations were enhanced through these funding and to offset reductions from the loss of ISP funds.

<b>Supports for student fund (SSF) (22-23)</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Special Education Elementary Teachers	43.5
Special Education Support Staff	66.0
<b>COVID-19 Learning Recovery Fund (22-23)</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Special Education Support Staff	35.0

\*In 2021-22, Investment in System Priorities funds were used for 29.0 FTE Special Education Support Staff.

**For a full report on the approved 2022-23 School based staff allocation, please visit: <https://pub-tdsb.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=10480>**



# Questions





Toronto  
District  
School  
Board