How School Board Budgets Work in Ontario

The following is an outline of the process of how education is funded in Ontario. Ministry of Education Provides Funds to Board

The Ministry of Education allocates funding to school boards. Funding is based on calculations and formulas that consider student enrolment, class sizes, specific needs of the schools, etc.

Board Receives Funds

School boards receive these funds, which make up about 90% of their operating revenue. The other 10% includes other government grants, rentals, leases, international tuition fees, etc.

Board Allocates Funds

The school board allocates the received funds to various needs such as classroom staffing, learning resources, special education, school facilities, student transportation consortium, etc.

Schools Receive Funds

Schools and education centres within the board receive their portion of the allocated funds to support their specific programs and operational needs.

Board Plans Budget for Next School Year The school board plans its budget for the next school year, considering family, student, and community feedback, based on projected funding, enrolment, and other factors. The Board of Trustees must approve a compliant budget in June each year.



Four Things to Remember



When it comes to the Limestone District School Board (LDSB) budget, the LDSB often exceeds focused provincial funds to quantify funding expenditures.

1 2 3 4

Special Education Expenditures

LDSB spends
millions of dollars
more than its
allocation on
special education
services in the
system.

Smaller Class Sizes

Funding for class sizes is set by the province through negotiations with labour parties, not individual school boards.

Mental Health Supports

Expenditures to support students include mental health lead, social workers, ACWs/SSCs, Clinical Psychologist. \$1.13 Million.

Board Office Administration

The LDSB has consistently underspent on board office administration allocation compared to provincial funding.

To learn more about the LDSB budget for 2025-2026, please visit:

bit.ly/20252026 SchoolYearBudget