

Web Posting for 2015-15 Budget

Budget 2015-16

The Edmonton Catholic School District is posting a balanced District Interim Operating Budget for 2015-16. The Province had initiated a pre-election budget that significantly reduced funding available to school districts. Of particular note was the fact that new student enrollment was not going to be funded and a number of grants were reduced by amounts ranging from 1.9% to 3.1%. Contractual obligations under the current ATA contract were funded as well as the 1% lump sum payment due in November 2015. The total shortfall in revenue to the District had the Provincial budget passed would have been in the neighborhood of \$18 million.

Subsequently, with the election of a new governing party, it has been stated that new enrollment funding to school districts will be restored. In our Interim Budget we have assumed that our District's new enrollment will be funded. As well, we estimated a modest increase to our PO&M grant which still requires District support from other funding sources. These assumptions have allowed us to balance our budget and ensure most students programs will remain unchanged. Those funding cuts affecting other programs will be managed within the District so as to minimize potential negative effects.

The Province has also announced they will present a Provincial budget in fall 2015. At that time we will incorporate any changes in funding into our "Final District Budget." In prior years, the student count at September 30th was used as the basis for determining enrollment funding with the updated budget due November 30th. Based on this historical practice a final budget will likely be due on that date.

With the current state of the Alberta economy and the new economic reality suggested by the Province; we have initiated a process to review our District operations and find ways to reduce costs. We recognize the importance of engaging our stakeholders in this process and ensuring our students remain the focus of all that we do.