

2004:B17

MEMORANDUM TO: Directors of Education

FROM: Kevin Kobus
Assistant Deputy Minister
Business and Finance Division

DATE: September 22, 2004

SUBJECT: Good Schools Open Initiative

I am writing to you to provide further details regarding the \$31 million Good Schools Open Initiative that was announced by the Premier on September 22, 2004.

This funding represents a first step in strengthening the viability of rural schools. It will provide support while the Ministry of Education consults on the ways to sustain the on-going, long-term operation of schools in rural communities.

The distribution of these funds is based on a much broader definition of rural schools than that used under the Rural Education Strategy that identified schools to be funded based on distance criteria. The broader definition includes all schools that are located in areas of the province defined as "rural" by Statistics Canada (i.e., population living in towns and municipalities outside the commuting zone of larger urban centres having a population of 10,000 or more) or schools for which the second character of their postal code is "0". A total of 1,149 schools meet this definition of rural schools.

Table 1 provides individual school board entitlements. The attached paper "*School Board Funding 2004-05 – Good Schools Open Initiative*" provides information on how the allocations were calculated for each of the 1,149 rural schools.

Each board's share of the \$31 million represents 93% of the difference between current funding and the total amount needed for a full time principal and secretary at each rural school. Nevertheless, boards will have the flexibility to use these funds in ways that they believe are appropriate to strengthen programs and services in these schools.

Boards are advised that they will be required to report on the number of principals and secretaries and total expenditures for each rural school. These reporting requirements will be implemented beginning with the 2004-05 School Board Revised Estimates. Total expenditures reported will be compared to total revenue attributed to rural schools under the Grants for Student Needs funding model.

Where reported expenditures are less than the total attributed revenue, the unused revenues may be withheld unless the board provides an explanation of how these funds will be used to enhance rural schools.

If you have any questions, please contact Drew Nameth at (416) 325-4030 (e-mail: drew.nameth@edu.gov.on.ca) or Lygia Dallip at (416) 325-2017 (e-mail: lygia.dallip@edu.gov.on.ca).

Original Signed By

Kevin Kobus
Assistant Deputy Minister
Business and Finance Division

Attachment

cc: Senior Business Officials
Senior Plant Officials

Table 1

Good Schools Open -- Funding for In School Administration			
DSB Number	Board Name	Number of Rural Schools	In School Administration funding for Rural Schools
2	Algoma District School Board	25	\$1,185,911
55	Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board	14	\$581,431
8	Avon Maitland District School Board	34	\$710,740
7	Bluewater District School Board	36	\$430,858
51	Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board	11	\$441,715
35	Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board	8	\$261,359
52	Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario	23	\$783,971
59	Conseil de district des écoles publiques de langue française No 59	5	\$210,371
60.1	Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Grandes Rivières	26	\$1,082,136
64	Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud	2	\$100,240
65	Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'est Ontarien	36	\$1,557,196
62	Conseil scolaire de district catholique des Aurores boréales	5	\$241,197
66	Conseil scolaire de district catholique du Centre-Est de l'Ontario	6	\$209,161
61	Conseil scolaire de district catholique du Nouvel-Ontario	17	\$578,160
60.2	Conseil scolaire de district catholique Franco-Nord	11	\$364,375
63	Conseil scolaire de district des écoles catholiques du Sud-Ouest	9	\$296,784
58	Conseil scolaire de district du Centre Sud-Ouest	3	\$108,664
57	Conseil scolaire de district du Grand Nord de l'Ontario	10	\$434,182
56	Conseil scolaire de district du Nord-Est de l'Ontario	5	\$122,325
22	District School Board of Niagara	30	\$659,594
1	District School Board Ontario North East	27	\$880,371
43	Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board	4	\$6
45	Durham Catholic District School Board	3	\$34,745
13	Durham District School Board	16	\$315,558
38	English-language Separate District School Board No. 38	8	\$195,347
23	Grand Erie District School Board	38	\$944,793
9	Greater Essex County District School Board	20	\$217,096
46	Halton Catholic District School Board	2	\$0
20	Halton District School Board	6	\$80,128
47	Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board	4	\$1,626
21	Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board	14	\$225,051
29	Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board	31	\$652,127
36	Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board	12	\$487,117
31	Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board	5	\$203,179
14	Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board	46	\$1,073,710
5.1	Keewatin-Patricia District School Board	17	\$945,550
33.2	Kenora Catholic District School Board	1	\$63,257
6.1	Lakehead District School Board	10	\$293,807
10	Lambton Kent District School Board	35	\$544,174
27	Limestone District School Board	32	\$1,110,650
4	Near North District School Board	22	\$595,782

Good Schools Open -- Funding for In School Administration			
DSB Number	Board Name	Number of Rural Schools	In School Administration funding for Rural Schools
50	Niagara Catholic District School Board	10	\$230,842
30.2	Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board	4	\$122,914
30.1	Northeastern Catholic District School Board	7	\$363,863
33.1	Northwest Catholic District School Board	1	\$47,091
53	Ottawa-Carleton Catholic District School Board	7	\$60,689
25	Ottawa-Carleton District School Board	22	\$484,313
19	Peel District School Board	13	\$341,015
41	Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB	9	\$218,404
3	Rainbow District School Board	21	\$862,971
5.2	Rainy River District School Board	10	\$434,273
54	Renfrew County Catholic District School Board	11	\$674,348
28	Renfrew County District School Board	19	\$520,016
17	Simcoe County District School Board	53	\$930,687
44	Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board	16	\$288,951
39	St. Clair Catholic District School Board	15	\$432,880
32	Sudbury Catholic District School Board	7	\$314,439
34.2	Superior North Catholic District School Board	9	\$445,258
6.2	Superior-Greenstone District School Board	15	\$420,578
11	Thames Valley District School Board	54	\$1,110,134
34.1	Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board	0	\$0
40	Toronto Catholic District School Board	0	\$0
12	Toronto District School Board	0	\$0
15	Trillium Lakelands District School Board	28	\$299,188
26	Upper Canada District School Board	66	\$1,571,949
18	Upper Grand District School Board	28	\$463,366
49	Waterloo Catholic District School Board	4	\$176,817
24	Waterloo Region District School Board	16	\$344,811
48	Wellington Catholic District School Board	5	\$152,731
37	Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board	10	\$158,426
42	York Catholic District School Board	5	\$79,708
16	York Region District School Board	15	\$224,895
	Total	1,149	\$31,000,000