

Ministry of Education
Transfer Payments and
Financial Reporting Branch

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2007: SB12

MEMORANDUM TO: Secretary Treasurers of School Authorities

FROM: Andrew Davis
Director
Transfer Payments and Financial Reporting

DATE: May 28, 2007

SUBJECT: 2007-08 Estimates Forms - Isolate Boards

I am writing to inform you that the 2007-08 Estimates Forms, Technical Paper – Addendum for School Authorities and related instructions are now available on the Financial Reporting website at <http://tpfr.edu.gov.on.ca>. From the home page, please click on the Estimates link.

The enhancements and changes to the 2007-08 funding model are similar to those provided to district school boards in the Grants for Student Needs (GSN). Details of the funding model are outlined in the Technical Paper, found on the Ministry's public website at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca>. The addendum to the technical paper deals with specific funding issues unique to isolate boards.

In 2007-08, the government will allocate almost \$39.1M to elementary and secondary education for School Authorities through the GSN. This represents an increase of \$1.7M over the 2006-07 allocation.

Key changes to the Estimates forms this year include:

- Updates to reflect the implementation of the government commitment to the fourth year of the Labour Framework and changes to incorporate three new grants:
 - Program Enhancements
 - First Nation, Métis and Inuit Supplement
 - Supported Schools

- Revisions to the expenditure schedule to report on a separate line a Contingency Fund for the board which would reflect any unallocated expenditures for which the board may not have decided on the specific cost centre or wishes to set aside funds for a potential cost pressure. The schedule has also been expanded to allow boards to build into the estimates an explicit amount for year-end savings, which is not to exceed 0.25% of the board's operating allocation. This approach is in keeping with best practices in other jurisdictions, including that of the Provincial budget and to increase transparency.

A copy of your individual school authority profile will be made available to you through the District Office. The allocations described in the profile are based on the best information available to the ministry at this time and are being provided in order to assist you in preparing your budgets for the 2007-08 school year.

Your finance officer will be contacting you in the very near future concerning information sessions on the 2007-08 funding model for school authorities.

Estimates

The 2007-08 Estimates are due on or before June 29, 2007. Please submit an electronic copy of the estimates to the ministry's mailbox at estimates@ontario.ca by the June 29, 2007 due date. Two signed copies of the estimates package are to be sent to:

Ms. Diane Strumila
Project Manager, Grant Services
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Should you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact Susan Soldan at 1-800-465-5020 or Tim Kielman at 1-800-461-9570 ext. 6892 or Roland Sauvé at 1-866-849-9900.



Andrew Davis

cc: Supervisory Officers