



DATE: December 21, 2022

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Shawna Warren, Superintendent

ORIGINATOR: Superintendent’s Office
Liliana LeVesconte, Associate Superintendent, Corporate Services

GOVERNANCE POLICY: [Policy 310 – Non-Funded Students](#)
[Policy 405 – Budget Development and Transparency](#)

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE: *Education Act: Sections 4(1)(8), 139(1)(2)*
Assurance Domains – [Learning Supports, Governance & Local and Societal Context](#)

SUBJECT: Alberta Education Funding

PURPOSE:

For information.

BACKGROUND:

Late this fall, Alberta Education released information on various additional funding grants available for the 2022-2023 school year. The following additional funds were allocated to Sturgeon Public Schools in November and December 2022.

Learning Loss Disruption Funding

School authorities submitted applications for students in Grades 2 - 4 to access learning disruption funding. The learning disruption funding is intended to provide between 12 and 16 weeks of targeted programming during this school year. Sturgeon Public School Division received \$76,861 for the 2022/2023 school year to support 403 students.

The Division is working on the plan that will best support students this year, but also in the long run, and will introduce resources and programming to support the success of this initiative. The options being considered by school administration are outlined below and will be implemented beginning in January 2023.

Option #1 - Site Based Model

Funding would be allocated to schools to use for resources/staffing for Grades 2-4. Funding is based on the number of students identified as “at risk” from June 2022 data. Funds would vary from approximately \$5,000 and \$17,000. The sustainability of this option relies on continued funding.

Option #2 - Intervention Model

Hire an intervention teacher (or potentially educational assistants) to work throughout the Division to provide intervention directly to students. Time spent in each building would be dependent on the number of students identified as “at risk” based on June 2022 data. The sustainability of this option relies on continued funding.

Option #3 - Capacity Building Model

Hire a teacher coach that would work throughout the Division as an elbow partner to build capacity with classroom teachers around small group instruction. Teachers would then implement targeted interventions within their classrooms. This option creates a sustainable intervention system.

As indicated in the following tables, Alberta Education has significantly reduced support to address the learning loss due to the pandemic disruption, and this reduction of support is likely to continue in the coming years. Learning impacts from the pandemic, however, are likely to be experienced within classrooms for many years to come and any solution or support implemented today should be sustainable for the foreseeable future.

2022/2023 Data

Grade 2 Literacy	Grade 2 Numeracy	Grade 2 Both	Grade 3 Literacy	Grade 3 Numeracy	Grade 3 Both	Grade 4 Literacy	Grade 4 Numeracy	Grade 4 Both	Total
33	75	55	51	28	28	60	30	43	403
163			107			133			403

Total Funding = \$76,861.00 or approximately \$190.73 per student

2021/2022 Data

Grade 1 Literacy	Grade One Numeracy	Grade 2 Literacy	Grade 2 Numeracy	Grade 3 Literacy	Grade 3 Numeracy	Total
134	172	129	93	140	115	783
306		222		255		783

Total Funding = \$379,998.00 or approximately \$485.31 per student

A final report on how this funding impacted student achievement in literacy and numeracy is due to Alberta Education by June 16, 2023.

Alberta School Council Engagement Grant Fund

Through the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant, each school council received \$500 to better support individual school councils and strengthen engagement with parents. This could include creating more school events that involve parents and developing a broader range of tools to communicate with them. Sturgeon Public Schools received \$7,000 this year and was allowed to carry forward the balance of \$5,416.19 from last year, to be spent during the current year. Each school will work directly with the school councils to identify learning opportunities such as workshops and customized services, to increase the capacity of the school council members.

Mental Health in School Pilot Programs

Sturgeon Public Schools has been approved to receive \$617,000 under the Mental Health in School Pilot Program. The program is intended to run until December 2024 and is part of Alberta's comprehensive and layered approach to supporting student mental health in new and innovative ways. The Division is in the process of reviewing and signing the grant agreement and developing an execution plan.

French as a Second Language (French Learner Participation)

The Division qualified for the French as a Second Language Grant and received \$48,362.41, to offer courses under Sections 17 & 18 of the Education Act, in alignment with the hours of instruction, and the number of students in the program.

Funding to Support Ukrainian Students

School authorities that have accepted students arriving from Ukraine have been allocated a grant rate of \$5,500 per eligible student to provide language, social and educational supports. Funding allocations are based on Ukrainian students who were enrolled and identified on the September count date. Sturgeon Public School Division had 10 Ukrainian students registered in SPS schools on the September count date.

Ukrainian students entering the education system between October 2022 and March 1, 2023, will be eligible for 50 per cent of the grant on the March count.

To support Ukrainian students within Sturgeon Public Schools, the Division has hired two language support Educational Assistants that will work directly with Ukrainian students and support families to engage with schools and community supports.

Administration is prepared to respond to questions at the December 21, 2022, Public Board meeting.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Not applicable.