2007-08 Grants for Student Needs
Summer 2007 Enhancements

OVERVIEW

August 15th
Purpose

- To provide school boards and other key stakeholders with an overview of the major elements proposed for the Summer Enhancements to the Grants for Students Needs (GSN) in 2007-08.

It should be noted that the information in this presentation is provided in advance of the release of a regulation which governs grants to school boards within their 2007-08 fiscal year. The initiatives and investments described herein must be implemented by, and are conditional upon, the approval of this regulation by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

The Ministry intends to seek approval for such a regulation in August 2007 and will advise you if such a regulation is approved.

Investments outlined in this document for 2008-09 will also require the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to the appropriate regulation governing funding for the 2008-09 school board fiscal year.
Overview

• Education funding through the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) in 2007-08 will be $18.45B. This is:
  – $963M (5.5%) more than in 2006-07;
  – $3.7B (25%) more than in the 2002-03 school year; and
  – $182M (1%) more through the Summer enhancement.
Overview

- Per Pupil funding in 2007-08 will rise to over $9,500. This is an increase of:
  - $556 (6.2%) per pupil from the 2006-07 school year;
  - $2,156 (29%) per pupil from the 2002-03 school year; and
  - $94 (1%) more per pupil through the Summer enhancement.
Overview

- Summer 2007 enhancements are targeted to helping school boards address specific financial pressures that are recognized as province-wide concerns.
- These pressures were identified by boards through their 2007-08 budget building processes and through the submission to and discussions with the Ministry.
Overview

Investments in 2007-08

- Increase the number of funded Vice-Principals & their benchmark salary;
- Increase benchmark salaries for Secretaries and Education Assistants;
- Increase benchmark funding for Professionals and Para-professionals, Supply Teachers, School Operations, and School Office Supplies;
- Enhance funding for primary class size to support implementation;
- Increase funding for transportation to support a new bus cost benchmark; and
- Increase funding for Rural Schools

Investments in 2008-09

- Increase benchmark funding for Benefits and School Board Administration;
- Increase funding for Growth Schools;
- Increase funding for Special Education;
- Increase funding for English as a Second Language;
- Enhance funding for the Program Enhancement Grant;
- Increase funding for Continuing/Adult Education; and
- Increased funding for School Operations and Student Transportation.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR VICE-PRINCIPALS

• School leadership (principals and vice-principals) has been identified as a key component of successful schools and the government’s student achievement agenda.

• Therefore the Government is investing a further $31M in 2007-08 to support an additional 300 vice-principals in the education system.

• The following enhancement will help:
  – Support school leadership;
  – Provide enhanced support for principals; and
  – Create a bigger succession pool for key principal positions.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR VICE-PRINCIPALS

• The Government is providing $10M to increase the salary benchmarks for vice-principals in 2007-08.

• This funding enhancement will increase the salary benchmarks for vice-principals by 3.8%, and would bring the salary benchmarks for vice-principals to:
  – $94,789 at the elementary panel; and
  – $100,000 at the secondary panel.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR SECRETARIES

• The Government is providing $12M to increase the salary benchmarks for school secretaries in 2007-08.

• This funding enhancement will increase the salary benchmarks for secretaries by 3.2%, and will bring the salary benchmarks for secretaries to:
  – $36,917 at the elementary panel; and
  – $38,890 at the secondary panel.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR EDUCATION ASSISTANTS

• The Government is providing $20M to increase the benchmarks for education assistants (EAs) in 2007-08.

• This funding enhancement will increase benchmark funding for EAs through two separate benchmark increases:
  – $1.3M to increase the benchmark funding for EAs under the Pupil Foundation Grant by 22% to $32,181; and
  – $18.3M to increase the Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA).
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR PROFESSIONAL & PARA-PROFESSIONALS

• The Government is providing $21M to increase the benchmarks for Professional and Para-professional staff in 2007-08.

• This funding enhancement will increase benchmark funding for Professional and Para-professional staff by 5%, under the Foundation Grant and Special Purpose Grants.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR SUPPLY TEACHERS AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

INCREASED FUNDING FOR SUPPLY TEACHERS

• Supply teachers are a cost pressure for many school boards. The Government is providing $19M to increase the benchmarks for supply teachers in 2007-08.
  – This funding enhancement will increase benchmark funding for supply teachers by 11.3%, under the Foundation Grant.

INCREASED FUNDING FOR SCHOOL OPERATIONS

• The Government is providing $20M in 2007-08 to provide a 1.2% enhancement to the school operations budgets of school boards to address a range of staffing and cost issues.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR SCHOOL OFFICE SUPPLIES

• The Government is providing a $5M increase in funding for school office supplies under the School Foundation Grant.

• With this increase the School Office Supplies base amount under the School Foundation Grant will increase by $1,050. Therefore the base amounts will increase to:
  – $2,050 for elementary schools; and
  – $3,050 for secondary schools.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR PRIMARY CLASS SIZE

• To further support the implementation of the cap on primary class sizes, the Government is providing an additional $20M in 2007-08, to bring the total new investment in 2007-08 to $120M.

• This funding will provide over 240 additional teachers to assist boards with the implementation of the Primary Class Size Cap this fall.
  – Boards that have achieved Primary Class Size compliance can use the additional investment to lower class sizes in junior grades (Grades 4 to 8) or to reduce the number of combined grade classes.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

• The Ministry is implementing a set of student transportation reforms. One of the key components is the introduction of a cost benchmark for school buses.

• The Ministry has commissioned Deloitte and Touche to develop a cost benchmark for school buses, and the study has recommended a benchmark of $41,500.

• The Government is providing $11.5M in 2007-08 for Student Transportation to support school boards with average contract rates that are below the new benchmark.

• Adjustments will be made to reflect local circumstances.
2007-08 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

• The Government is providing an $11.7M in funding enhancements for Rural Schools.

  – Enhancing Support Schools Allocation ($7.2M)
    • The allocation is being enhanced by lowering the distance a school must be from the next closest school in order to qualify as a supported school.
      – Elementary schools will be supported if the next closest elementary school of the board is at least 20 km away.
      – Secondary schools will be supported if the next closest secondary school of the board is at least 45 km away.
    • This will add almost 110 schools to the current list of 177 supported schools.

  – Introducing Rural and Small Community Allocation ($4.5M)
    • This allocation is based on the Rural and Small Community Measure (RSCM) which represents the proportion of a school board’s population residing in rural areas or small communities.
    • This measure is based on population data from Statistics Canada and used in the Ministry of Finance’s Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF).
The Government is providing a $50M funding increase in 2008-09 for benefits as a percentage of salaries for all staffing categories.

The Ministry has requested additional information on benefits from school boards as part of their 2007-08 Estimates submission.

This data will assist the Ministry in implementing this initiative.
FUNDING FOR SCHOOL BOARD ADMINISTRATION

- The Government is providing a $10M funding increase in 2008-09 for school board administration.

- This funding will increase the base funding provided under the Board Administration Component. Boards with enrolment below 26,000 ADE will receive an additional $200,000.

FUNDING FOR GROWTH SCHOOLS

- Some school boards, as a result of significant new residential development, are facing the need for new schools. The Government will fund a further $137M for Growth Schools under the Pupil Accommodation Grant beginning in 2008-09.
2008-09 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

• The Government is providing a $10M funding increase in 2008-09 for English as a Second Language (ESL) / Perfectionnement du français (PDF).

• The funding enhancement will increase the ESL/PDF Component of the Language Grant through an increase of 12.5% to the level of support for second year immigrant students under the Recent Immigration Component.

• The enhancement represents a 4.2% increase in funding for ESL/PDF and will help support improvements in student achievement for students who are new to Canada.
2008-09 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT GRANT

• As part of the 2007-08 GSN funding announcement in March, the Government provided $35M for a new Program Enhancement Grant, to fund programs that support Ontario’s commitment to a well-rounded education, such as arts and music programs, physical education and outdoor education. The grant can be used by boards to fund or enrich existing programs or to offer new programs.

• For 2008-09, the Government is increasing the Program Enhancement Grant by $10M, which will increase the per school amount to $9,650, representing an increase in funding of $2,150 per school, or almost 30%.
2008-09 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR ADULT/CONTINUING EDUCATION AND
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

INCREASED FUNDING FOR ADULT/CONTINUING EDUCATION

• The Government will provide $6.5M in 2008-09 to increase the per adult student amount to $2,880.

INCREASED FUNDING FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

• The Government will provide a $10M enhancement in 2008-09 to support further refinements to the school bus cost benchmark that is being introduced in 2007-08.
2008-09 ENHANCEMENTS
FUNDING FOR SCHOOL OPERATIONS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

INCREASED FUNDING FOR SCHOOL OPERATIONS

- An additional $10M in 2008-09 will support a further increase in School Operations benchmarks.

INCREASED FUNDING FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

- An additional $10M will be provided in 2008-09 to support Special Education.
• In the last four years, the government has provided significant increases to education funding levels and has worked closely with school boards and other education partners to make the funding formula more effective. These improvements have supported real progress in raising student achievement levels and meeting student needs.

• The Ministry, in collaboration with school boards and education stakeholders, will continue to improve the funding formula on an annual basis.

• To evaluate the effectiveness of education funding, the government has announced that it is committed to undertaking a review of funding by 2010.
FINANCIAL REPORTING & DUE DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF REVISED ESTIMATES

• Funding will begin to flow to boards at the start of the school year in September. It is expected that each board will, under direction of its trustees, make timely and effective use of this funding to respond to cost pressures, ensure a balanced and sustainable budget, and address other challenges identified in its 2007-08 budget process, such as supporting education programs and services that meet student or local needs.

• To assist boards, the Ministry will update the 2007-08 Estimates forms on EFIS to reflect the new funding benchmarks described in this memorandum. This will enable boards to recalculate their revenues and make appropriate program decisions at the start of the school year. Boards will reflect their actual decisions about the use of this new funding in Revised Estimates, which are due November 30, 2007.