

APPENDIX B

Ministry of Education

Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



May 7, 2018

Ms. Barbara Poplawski
Chair of the Board
Toronto Catholic District School Board
80 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto ON M2N 6E8

Dear Ms. Poplawski,

Thank you for your letter about funding for heating, venting and air conditioning (HVAC) for Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) schools. I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

The Ministry of Education shares the TCDSB's goal of prioritizing safe and healthy learning environments for students, and has provided the board with funding to address its school renewal and capital needs.

The ministry recognizes that school boards require ongoing funding to address school renewal needs in order to conduct the necessary long-term planning to keep schools in a state of good repair. This is why our government has maintained its historic investment of \$1.4 billion in funding to maintain and improve Ontario's schools for the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years. As part of this investment, the TCDSB will receive \$52.5 million for the 2017-18 school year to improve the condition of its existing facilities, address urgent renewal priorities and significantly reduce its repair backlog.

I understand that the ministry has reached out to the TCDSB regarding its capacity to spend its unspent renewal funding of \$98.4 million, which includes \$88.4 million in School Condition Improvement funding and \$6.6 million under the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. For the 2017-18 school year, the TCDSB has also received \$17 million through the School Renewal Allocation, which can be used to install air conditioning in its existing schools.

In addition, the TCDSB is required to direct 70 per cent of its School Condition Improvement funding to address repair and renewal needs for major building components, such as HVAC in existing schools. Moving forward, we intend to continue investing in infrastructure and relying on boards to spend this increased level of investment locally.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I trust that this information is helpful.

Sincerely,



Indira Naidoo-Harris
Minister of Education
Minister Responsible for Early Years and Child Care