

Good Evening:

I hope you and your families are safe and healthy.

I would like to commend our teachers for their incredible efforts during this period distance learning.

I acknowledge the efforts of Senior Management and the Trustees who have been working to address the ever-changing demands during this pandemic.

As we continue to work together to deal with racial inequality, remember to embrace the words of Pope Francis:

"We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form."

In terms of budget consultation, the Board states stakeholder input "*is critical to our Board's continued commitment to student achievement, well-being and fiscal accountability – see Appendix A.*

TECT appreciates the budget consultation meeting; however, if input is critical then TECT believes there should be a greater sharing of information.

Please refer to Appendix B which shows over and under spending by category for 2019-2020.

On May 15th TECT asked:

Referencing Appendix B:

- The chart indicates a 11.2 million dollars of underspending in the Library and Guidance Category.

How much of that underspending is from elementary?

Further how many guidance and teacher librarians (specific number please) is the TCDSB funded for within the elementary panel ?

- Under Classroom Teachers there is an overspending of 15.5 million dollars. How much of that overspending is from elementary?

Can you please provide a specific breakdown of the Elementary Classroom Teacher overspending? For example, we are funded for X number of Special Education teachers and we have X number of Special Education teachers which = an overspending of Y.

- Is the Board allocating all monies for elementary teacher staffing on elementary teachers?

We appreciate the Board's effort to provide information, but in TECT's view Appendix C does not fully answer our questions and we continue to seek greater clarity.

The questions relate to a bar graph that Senior Management has already created – Appendix B and are not based on the upcoming GSNs.

It is difficult for TECT to input this process, if, as an Association representing 5000 members, we are not provided the specifics of under and over funding.

TECT believes this is essential information in terms of budget consultation and understanding how funding is allocated.

I respectfully ask the trustees to ascertain answers regarding the specifics of under and overspending in the TCDSB budget for 2019-2020.

Thank you