



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

FINANCIAL UPDATE REPORT AS AT JANUARY 31ST, 2015.

Exodus 35:35

He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work as craftsmen, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—all of them master craftsmen and designers.

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
February 10, 2015	February 19, 2015	
S. Chitapain, Coordinator of Budget Services D. De Souza, Coordinator of Revenue, Grants and Ministry Reporting P. De Cock, Comptroller for Business Services & Finance		
INFORMATION REPORT		

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity



G. Poole

Associate Director of Academic Affairs

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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Budget Status Report as at January 31st 2015 projects an in-year deficit of \$9.586M (Appendix A).

B. PURPOSE

The Budget Status report reviews expenditures, revenues, enrolment and staffing. The year-to-date actual expenditures and outstanding commitments identified several variances and potential savings across many categories.

C. BACKGROUND

As part of the regular reporting cycle and consistent with best practices as outlined by the Ministry and District School Board Reporting Workgroup, an interim Financial Report is prepared detailing any in-year expenditure variances and savings identified by analysing the 2014-2015 year-to-date actual expenditures compared to the Revised Budget Estimates.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. Business Services closely monitors the 2014-2015 Budget performance to identify areas of potential savings as well as any areas of potential cost pressures to the Board. There were variances across all expenditure categories based on the 5 months performance as at January 31st, 2015 as outlined in Appendix A (attached).
2. Enrolment remains the key driver for generating Grants for Student Needs (GSNs). The GSN are calculated using a weighted average of enrolment projections for two count dates, actual enrolment on October 31st 2014 and projected enrolment for March 31st 2015. Enrolment for elementary has been projected at 100% retention and secondary has been projected at 97.76% based on previous trends. The resulting Average Daily Enrolment is the key variable generating the grant revenues.

The Board has an overall decrease in enrolment of 481 ADE compared to 2014-2015 Budget Estimates and has been reflected in the 2014-15 Revised

Estimates Grants Revenue. Enrolment in the elementary panel is currently projected to decline by 263 and secondary enrolment is projected to decline by 218 ADE. Any decline in overall enrolment will place pressure on the TCDSB's operating and capital budgets.

Average Daily Enrolment (ADE) Pupils of the Board	ADE 2014-15 Budget Estimates	# Change 2014-15 Budget Estimates to Revised Estimates.	ADE 2014-15 Revised Estimates
ELEMENTARY	60,550	(263)	60,287
SECONDARY	30,089	(218)	29,871
TOTAL	90,639	(481)	90,158

3. The majority of variances analysed are the result of regular Board operations, therefore, it is expected that the Board will meet its overall target with a projected in-year deficit amounting to less than one percent of the overall operating budget.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The following are trends and issues that have been identified as creating budget pressures and require attention:

1. Short Term Disability
TCDSB is currently in the third year of the new short term disability plan as required by the current Memorandum of Understanding. The cost was \$11.3M in year 1, \$11.9M in year 2 and already \$5.1M as at January 31st, 2015. This expense tends to spike in April, May and June which would indicate an unfavourable increase in year 3 trending to be over \$12M.
2. Maternity & Maternity Top Up
Maternity top up was a \$3.5M expense last year and is projecting to a \$3.6M expense this year. Business staff have noticed that Expectant employees may be extending their leave by using their short term disability plan before the commencement of their maternity leave. Staff have noticed a spike in

STD use prior to maternity leave payments in July and August when most leave payments are processed and paid.

3. Enrolment Issues

In March 2014 the Board lost 178.5 students due to extended vacations. Toronto Catholic Board policy developed in conjunction with Ministry of Education regulations requires that students going on extended vacations be removed from the register for any absence greater than 30 days. If an absence is less than 30 days, a program of study can be provided (homework) then the student may be retained on the board's registers for funding purposes. Further analysis of the 178.5 students showed the majority returned to TCDSB schools within the school year; however, only 50 students returned to school within the 30 day period. Had these 50 students been assigned homework then TCDSB would have reduced the negative impact of GSN grant losses for the March 31st 2014 count date.

Staff are reminding principals during principal meetings that when a student is away on extended vacation for less than 30 days, that a program of study (homework) should be encouraged from that student's teacher during their absences so that the student can remain on TCDSB's registers for funding purposes.

4. Teacher Grid Movement

TCDSB's average teacher age is becoming younger which means larger groups of new teachers have been starting with the board over the past 2 to 3 years. They start low on the grid and become eligible to move up the grid during the year either through related work experience, QECO evaluations or annual step increases. The Ministry funds foundation teachers which account for 80% of all teachers through the teacher compensation grant. This creates a cost pressure because the other 20% is not funded resulting in a funding shortfall.

5. Educational Assistants/Child Youth Workers/Social Services

New comparative 2014-15 Estimates provincial staffing data provides TCDSB with the education industry comparative staff information per 1000 students and suggests that TCDSB is staffed by a greater amount per 1000 students in these areas compared to the provincial averages, GTA averages and the TDSB.

Educational Assistants in Special Education are staffed by 126.6 more Full-time Equivalents (FTEs) than surrounding GTA boards and 315 more FTE's than TDSB.

Child Youth Workers are staffed by 114 FTE's more than the GTA average and 59.6 more than TDSB.

Social Services are staffed by 18.4 FTE's more than the GTA averages and 6.2 more than TDSB.

6. Teacher Preparation Time - Elementary

For 2014-15 TCDSB has 611 elementary teachers providing 240 minutes of preparation time weekly for classroom teachers. Of this 611 – approximately 72 FTE preparation time teachers are not funded at a cost of \$6.8M. The majority of this unfunded expense is due to additional staff required by small schools, travel time between classrooms (up to 5 min) and travel time between schools all of which is not fund by the GSN's (Grants for Student Needs).

F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.