2025-2026 Budget Consultation Responses



ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Allion Elementary School Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

Resources for students with special needs

We are seeing an increase in the number of students with special needs, such as non-verbal students, in our schools. At present, we lack the resources to support them adequately, which puts considerable pressure on teachers and support staff. This problem is widespread, but particularly accurate at Allion. It is crucial to invest in specialized resources and teacher training to better support these students.

Support for students from disadvantaged backgrounds

Many students in our school board come from disadvantaged backgrounds and lack access to the resources essential for successful learning. Schools need additional support to provide basic services such as food, clothing and school equipment. Initiatives such as free or subsidized lunch programs, distribution of school supplies and clothing can make a big difference.

Inequalities between schools

There is a notable inequality between different schools in terms of environment and infrastructure. Some schools lack adequate parking, schoolyard facilities and safe areas for children to disembark. It is essential to support schools in their infrastructure needs to ensure a safe and equitable learning environment for all students.

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

In conclusion, to respond effectively to the growing needs of students and reduce inequalities, it is important to increase budgets allocated to specialized resources, support measures for disadvantaged students and infrastructural improvements. These investments will create a more inclusive and equitable learning environment for all students.

We thank you for your attention to these concerns and remain at your disposal for any further information.

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Children's World Academy Elementary School Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

Principles: The needs of students and staff shall be considered;

- CWA GB is questioning how those needs will still be met/affected according to the recent announcement of budget cuts.

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

- 1. Access to government grants have enabled our school to offer rich educational experiences to our students the drastic cuts that have been implemented will directly affect our students negatively
- 2. Concretely, there is insufficient support for integration classes, coded special needs students as well as non-coded students who are struggling. The stakes are very real for the children in question, the teachers managing these groups and the other students in the class. Teachers and students need more support in the classroom (special ed technicians, integration aids, etc.). One adult cannot manage the increased needs of 20-32 students. More trained professionals are needed in the classroom.

From: <u>CLEARPOINT Governing Board</u>

To: <u>Consultations</u>

Subject: CONSULTATION - Budget 2025-2026

Date: March 28, 2025 3:18:59 PM

Hello,

On behalf of the Clearpoint Elementary GB, we do not have any input or recommendations to provide for this year's budget consultation.

Thank you, Dominique Bensadoun Clearpoint GB Chair

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Dorset Elementary School Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

- 1. Add resources to increase the number of specialists in the schools.
- 2. Increase human resources for our libraries and make them more accessible for our students.
- 3. Add resources to address mental health issues for students, staff and administration.
- 4. Additional funds for school wide professional development on conflict resolution.

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

Access to our library is alarmingly restricted due to limited resources to pay a doc tech (librarian). We have calculated that based on the number of hours per week that we have a librarian (half of one day per week), each student at Dorset will have approximately 1 minute of face-time with the librarian over the course of 3-4 weeks. This does not include closures for holidays and ped days.

APPENDIX C: 2025-2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES

In order to participate in the budget building planning process, please list your suggestions in order of priority (you may list as many as you think relevant).

Question 1: What is your relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board?

Answer Options

- Governing Board Evergreen Elementary School
- School Board Committee
- Student
- Parent/Guardian
- Employee
- Community Member
- Other

Question 2: Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

Interior renovations to schools - a ventilation system that works - is clean and quiet, cools the school, and

1. improves air quality.

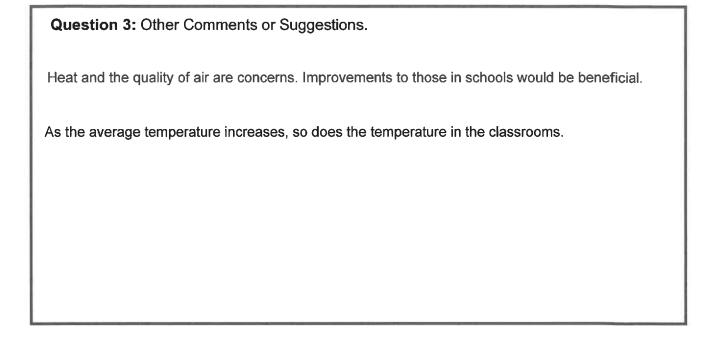
Interior renovations at schools - windows and ceiling fans that allow proper ventilation

2. such as sliding windows in each classroom.

Evergreen goes green - solar panels on the roof to save energry, reduce our footprint,

3. and our pull on the grid. This would allow for air conditioners and fans in rooms.

APPENDIX C: 2025-2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES (cont.)



Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Forest Hill Senior Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

LBPSB Budget Consultation 2025-2026.

Suggestions regarding the allocation of funds:

- 1. Increase focus on recruitment, retention, and professional development of qualified teachers, given the high number of students in each classroom.
- 2. Offer board-wide professional development on conflict resolution, including a speaker to address both the teacher and parent communities.
- 3. Allocation of funds towards mental health support for students. Increased allocation for Integration Aides, Resource departments, and Board-Level Support (Psychologists, SLP's, OT's, PT's, etc.). Access to mental health support outside of school is extremely difficult to come by, even within the private sector, and waitlists are very long. Allocation of funds towards added support staff in the classroom to acknowledge the growing number of neuro-diverse students and to foster inclusivity. Allocation of funds to professional development for teachers to help them identify the particular needs and learning challenges of special needs students. These will improve student achievement, close opportunity gaps, and support student well-being..

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

Other comments and suggestions:

Understanding that limited budget must be prioritized to maximize benefit, with the realities that surfaced in the recent years: the increased need in teaching trough technology, pandemic aftereffects on mental health and social skills, creating a diversity and inclusion environment, etc. Should there, by chance, be an availability of funds to do so, we suggest that the School Board consider updating schools with regards to such items as air quality systems, air conditioning, school furniture such as desks, lockers, etc. LBPSB does a very good job of maintaining current buildings, however, the contents of these buildings must not be neglected and do have a finite life span (school disrepair, over-crowded classrooms, and poor ventilation systems are not only compromising students' learning environments, but can constitute public health hazards as well).

Allocation of funds towards climate change awareness and sustainability projects

From: SHERBROOKE SENIOR Governing Board

To: <u>Andréanne Bertrand</u>

Subject: Re: CONSULTATION - Budget 2025-2026

Date: March 24, 2025 9:42:40 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Hi Mme Bertrand,

On behalf of the Governing Board at Sherbrooke Academy Senior, we have reviewed the Budget Consultation for 2025-2026 and we are fine with the information provided and have no suggestions.

Should you have further questions, you can reach out to me at

sherbrooke_senior_gb@lbpearson.ca

Thank you, Amanda Bruno Chair person Sherbrooke Academy Senior Governing Board

On Fri, Jan 10, 2025 at 11:31 AM Andréanne Bertrand abertrand06@lbpsb.qc.ca wrote:

Good morning,

Following the adoption of the Resolution 2024-12-#07 at the Council of Commissioners Meeting on December 16, 2024, please find attached the LBPSB Budget 2025-2026 consultation document.

Should you wish to provide input or recommendations, please send your comments in writing with the help of this link: https://forms.lbpsb.qc.ca/form/e/BCd52

All responses should be provided no later than Friday March 28, 2025.

If you wish to review the budgets and financial statements from previous years, the information is available on our website: https://www.lbpsb.qc.ca/financial-statements-budgets/

Budget Consultation Input St Anthony Elementary Governing Board

March 2025

The St. Anthony Elementary Governing Board submits the following recommendations in response to the budget consultation questions regarding funding allocation objectives, principles, and criteria, as well as general comments and suggestions:

- 1. Revision of the Codes System: The current funding model for student support systems is critically inadequate. This inadequacy stems from a flawed coding system that fails to accurately capture the diverse and overlapping needs of students. Consequently, many students are left without essential support, placing undue strain on existing resources. To address this systemic issue, the existing coding system must be thoroughly reviewed and revised to accurately reflect the complex and varied needs of students, ensuring equitable access to support services.
- 2. Enhanced Staff Compensation for Recruitment and Retention: To attract and retain qualified and dedicated staff, including teachers, support personnel, and specialists, competitive salaries are essential. This investment will directly improve the quality of education and support provided to students.
- 3. **Expanded Counseling Services:** Comprehensive counseling services are vital to address learning disabilities, promote positive socialization, and support students' overall well-being. This expansion should include increased access to qualified counselors and specialists to provide regular, direct support to students and teachers.
- 4. **Enrichment Through Experiential Learning:** School trips to local museums, historical venues, and professional settings provide invaluable experiential learning opportunities, fostering deeper understandings of history, culture, industry, and professional avenues. Adequate funding should be allocated to ensure these trips become an integral part of the yearly curriculum.
- Investment in Arts Education: Robust resources for music and audio-visual arts classes, including additional instruments and dedicated funding, are crucial for fostering creativity, expression, and participation in school shows and desirable multi-school competitions.

Me Geneviève Dugré Secretary General Lester B. Pearson School Board February 5th, 2025

RE: Budget Consultation, St. John Fisher Jr.

Dear Me Dugré,

During our February governing board meeting we discussed the budget Consultation. Our response below:

APPENDIX C: 2024-2025 BUDGET PRIORITIES

What is your relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board? Governing Board

Do you have any suggestions regarding objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

Top 3 issues

- 1. Improve the quality of education for all students by:
 - a. Increasing funding and training for support staff, including, but not limited to, special education technicians, integration aides and behavioral technicians.
 - b. Reducing class size. We are concerned that student codes are not determined in early years which imbalances the weighting of those classes.
 - c. Increasing professional services and support for students who have not yet been evaluated as requiring additional services or support or gifted students, who do not have a code or current allocation. This would include resource teachers, professionals such as psychologists, speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists, ASD consultants.

d. Increasing release time for teachers to participate in meetings to better

support students with additional needs.

2. Increased funding to support the acquisition of the French language is essential.

For example, the Intervention Intensif program or other similar services geared

towards early language development.

3. New funding that would align the board's Environmental and Sustainability policy

with a budget line. Examples of ways this funding would help align policy to

action:

a. greening our schools and land by moving towards renewable energy,

b. planting trees in play areas to reduce the heat islands of pavement,

c. improving insulation in aging buildings.

Other Comments or Suggestions:

For the past few years we have made this same request with no response to it. We would like to see how funds are used. Also in the case of surplus how it is distributed. In order to help us consult on these topics we would like to have yearly reporting on the outcomes based on the consultations that have been made. Could this be answered as

to where we could get this information?

We would also like to reiterate, as we have in the past, that as a school that takes the inclusion of all students seriously, the teaching staff needs to be given the proper training and tools to be successful. It is imperative that we get the proper support to reach the goal of giving integrated children what they need to succeed.

On behalf of the St. John Fisher Jr. Governing Board, thank you for giving us the opportunity to give input.

Sincerely yours,

Nadia Lawand, Chair

St. John Fisher Junior Governing Board

Howard



March 22nd, 2025

APPENDIX C: 2025-2026 Budget Priorities as submitted by the St Patrick Elementary Governing Board

Question 1: Our relationship to the Lester B Pearson School Board is that of Governing Board.

Question 2: Our suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds are as follows:

- Allocate funding for advancing green initiatives and to promote sustainability efforts.
- Acknowledge the deficits in core learning amongst the student population as a result of school closures and distance learning caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Increase funding to enhance academic support services for identifying and addressing post-Covid impacts on students both educationally and socio-emotionally.
- Allocate specific funds to communicate with and support schools to help achieve EDDI
 best practices organizationally. To provide a resource of speakers and workshops easily
 available to schools to make it easier for them to sensitize their communities.
- Allocate additional funding to improve the wellbeing, engagement, and retention of LBPSB staff and personnel.
- If there is discussion at Council about spending School Board funds on supporting or initiating legal challenges to Quebec Government Bills, laws or proposals, we request that all educational stakeholders be consulted before any decisions are taken. These stakeholders must include all Governing Boards and the Parents Committee.

Submitted by Doug Bentley, GB Chair, on behalf of the 2024-25 St Patrick Elementary Governing Board

APPENDIX C: 2025-2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES

In order to participate in the budget building planning process, please list your suggestions in order of priority (you may list as many as you think relevant).

Question 1: What is your relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board?

• Governing Board Wilder Penfield Elementary School

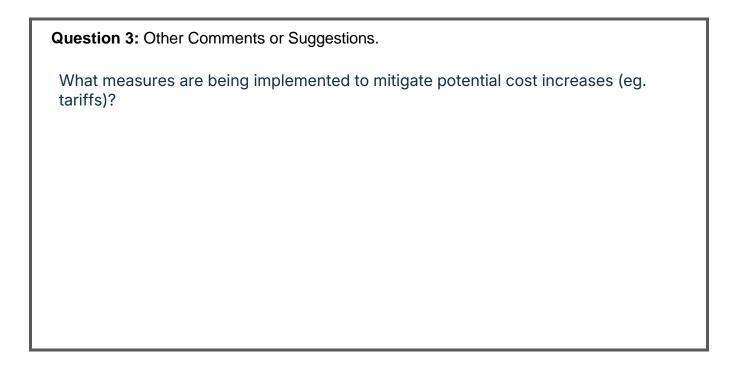
Answer Options

Student

School Board Committee

| Parent/GuardianEmployeeCommunity MemberOther |
|--|
| |
| Question 2: Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds? |
| 1. No additional comments or suggestions |
| 2. |
| 3. |

APPENDIX C: 2025-2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES (cont.)



Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

As per previous years, our GB has a strong belief that any additional funding be used to help in school professional support. That could be in the form of additional in class aides, individual student support, group support, adding additional specialists (psych, ASD, speech, etc.)

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

N/A

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

- 1. Additional support for neurodivergent children and those with special needs
- 2. Additional support for gifted children to provide adequate stimulation, as gifted learners may exhibit behavioural issues or disengagement if not supported.
- 3. Outdoor infrastructure to support imaginative and creative play. Many small items/stations, loose parts, and larger items to support outdoor play

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

None, thank you.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

John Rennie High School Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

The Governing Board of John Rennie High School would like to suggest the following:

- That a portion of the rental income be decentralized and be given to the school in which the rentals are taking place. The more the school is used, the more maintenance, repairs and replacement of the existing infrastructure become important.
- With increasing temperatures throughout the year, it is becoming imperative to ensure that proper cooling exists in the school. This can be achieved through the use of fans and proper ventilation, but also by installing air conditioning in key areas like the gymnasium and the auditorium
- •It is noted that the track next to the school which is used extensively is in deteriorating condition. It would benefit greatly from resurfacing.

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

The Governing Board of John Rennie High School has no other comments or suggestions. Thank you.



Macdonald High School Governing Board

17 Maple Ave, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC, H9X 2E5 514-457-3770

March 19, 2025

Dear Me Geneviève Dugré, Secretary General:

The Macdonald High School governing board greatly appreciates the opportunity afforded to us by the school board to offer ideas based on the adoption of Resolution: 2024-12-#07 at the Council of Commissioners Meeting on December 16th, 2024. That resolution concerned the LBPSB Budget 2025-2026 consultation document. We ask that the following suggestions to the document be reviewed for consideration:

- Allocate funding for advancing green initiatives and to promote sustainability efforts.
- Acknowledge the deficits in core learning amongst the student population as a result of school closures and distance learning caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Increase funding to enhance academic support services for identifying and addressing post-Covid impacts on students both educationally and socio-emotionally.
- Allocate specific funds to communicate with and support schools to help achieve EDDI best practices organizationally. To provide a resource of speakers and workshops easily available to schools to make it easier for them to sensitize their communities.
- Allocate additional funding to improve the wellbeing, engagement, and retention of LBPSB staff and personnel.
- If there is discussion at Council about spending School Board funds on supporting or initiating legal challenges to Quebec Government Bills, laws or proposals, we request that all educational stakeholders be consulted before any decisions are taken. These stakeholders must include all Governing Boards and the Parents Committee.

The Macdonald High School Governing Board appreciates your request for comment concerning the 'LBPSB Budget 2025-2026 consultation' document and look forward to hearing any feedback from these suggestions that you might have for our board.

Kind Regards,

A D

Jeremy Zafran - Chair Macdonald High School Governing Board 2024-2025



Macdonald High School Governing Board 2023-2024

Parents: Jeremy Zafran (Chair); Mike Klaiman (Vice-Chair); Craig Segal (Secretary); Daphne Amster (Treasurer); Tracey-Ann Curtis (PC Rep); Adriana Lanza (PC Alt Rep); Loretta Kao; Doug Bentley (EPCA). Parent GB Alternates: Bob Latour; Ryan Young.

<u>Teachers & Staff</u>: Mark Auger; Amanda Maither; Lindsay Ann McGovern; Lori Anne MacDonald; Robert McQuaid; Vicky Tomljanovic; Karelle Bouffard; Patrick Dunne-Fox.

Principal: Jason Thivierge

Students: Fiona Govers; Aiden Mcallister

Non-Voting Members: Jason Thivierge (ex-officio); Lyanna Bravo; Eric Martin (Community Rep); Jackie Barbieri (H&S)

Commissioner: Maureen Baron

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Pierrefonds Community High School Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

- a. PCHS GB recommends that funds be prioritized for special programs such as WOTP, IB, and homework programs, support for bring your own devices
- b. Student Wellness
- c. Experiential learning & Staff Training

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

- a. Better Air Circulation & Quality in the schools
- b. We suggest going paperless as a cost savings and for its environmental impact.
- c. Continued / Additional funding for Music and Art programs

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

St. Thomas High School Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

- 1. Pedagogical-based expenses must remain a top priority
- 2. Maintain as a guiding principle the streamlining of expenses on non-pedagogical items
- 3. Maintain all equipment related to pedagogical purposes in good repair or to replace as needed.
- 4. Transparency in allocation of funds

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

We feel that it is important to continue to prioritize communication, marketing and promotion of schools to attract students to the Lester B. Pearson School Board.

Question 1 What is our relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board

Westwood Jr High School Governing Board

Question 2 Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

- 1. Allocation of funds towards mental health support for students. Access to mental health support outside of school is extremely difficult to come by, even within the private sector, and waitlists are very long. Many families are facing ongoing financial difficulties and cannot afford to access services. The repercussions of these mental health issues are far reaching and affect the student's ability to learn and thrive all the while contributing to behavioral issues. LBPSB's commitment to offering safe and caring schools must extend to helping students deal with mental health challenges.
- 2. Allocation of funds towards added support staff in the classroom to acknowledge the growing number of neuro-diverse students and to foster inclusivity. Increased allocation for Integration Aides, Resource departments, and Board-Level Support (Psychologists, SLP's, OT's, PT's, etc.).
- 3. Allocation of funds to professional development for teachers to help them identify the needs and learning challenges of special needs students.
- 4 Given how important exposure to reading is, the GB feels that every effort should be made to increase funding for librarians in elemntary schools.

Question 3 Other Comments or Suggestions

Should there, by chance, be availability of funds to do so, we suggest that the School Board consider updating schools with regards to such items as air quality systems, air conditioning, school furniture such as desks, lockers, etc. LBPSB does a very good job of maintaining current buildings but the contents of these buildings must not be neglected and do have a finite life span.

ADULT AND VOCATIONAL CENTRES

APPENDIX C: 2025-2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES

Place Cartier adult education centre

Question 1: What is your relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board?

Governing Board

Question 2: Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

- 1. Consistently prioritize services for students in need, including those with special needs and mental health challenges.
- 2. Identify strategies to prevent government cuts and ensure continued access to our facilities (e.g., gym).

COMMITTEES



Lester B Pearson School Board 2025-2026 Budget Consultation

APPENDIX C: 2025-2026 BUDGET PRIORITIES

March 24th, 2025

Question 1: What is your relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board?

Lester B Pearson School Board PARENTS' COMMITTEE

Question 2: Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

- Allocate funding for advancing green initiatives and to promote sustainability efforts.
- Students are suffering from severe learning deficits due to the post-pandemic context. These deficits must be acknowledged, and we must urgently allocate substantial funding to identify and remediate these academic and socio-emotional losses through enhanced support services
- Allocate specific funds to communicate with and support schools to help achieve EDDI best practices organizationally. To provide a resource of EDDI speakers and workshops easily available to schools to make it easier for them to sensitize their communities.
- Allocate additional funding to improve the wellbeing, engagement, and retention of LBPSB staff and personnel.
- Expand Counselling Services: Provide greater access to counsellors and specialists for comprehensive student support.
- If there is discussion at Council about spending School Board funds on supporting or initiating legal challenges to Quebec Government Bills, laws or proposals, we request that all educational stakeholders be consulted before any decisions are taken. These stakeholders must include all Governing Boards and the Parents Committee.
- Fund Experiential Learning: Integrate regular school trips for enhanced learning experiences.
- Invest in Arts Education: Boost funding for music and audio-visual arts to foster creativity and participation.

- Revise Student Support Funding: Update the flawed coding system to accurately reflect student needs, ensuring equitable resource allocation.
- Increase Staff Compensation: Offer competitive salaries to attract and retain qualified educators and support staff.
- Provide funding to hire more Librarians and Document Technicians to work in our school libraries. If this priority cannot be realized, then develop a mechanism where parents can volunteer in the libraries to insure students can access the facilities as often as possible.

Submitted by Doug Bentley, Chair Lester B Pearson Parents' Committee





Me. Geneviève Dugré Lester B. Pearson School Board 1925 Brookdale Avenue Dorval, QC H9P 2Y7 consultations@lbpsb.qc.ca

Subject: Budget Consultation 2025

Dear Me. Dugré et al.

Question 1: What is your relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board?

School Board Committee - Special Needs Advisory Committee (SNAC)

Question 2:

Do you have any suggestions regarding objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

A bigger investment in the overall development in the SEED program to support students with special needs in the following areas:

- Special Needs and Neurodiversity Training: Provide comprehensive training and education for SEED daycare staff on supporting neurodivergent students and those with special needs.
 Ensuring staff have the knowledge and skills to intervene effectively will create a more inclusive and supportive environment.
- Targeted Professional Development: Secure funding to offer intensive training for SEED and other staff members on best practices for intervention and individualized support strategies for students with special needs.
- After-School Tutoring and Academic Support: Allocate funding to provide specialized after-school tutoring and academic support for students with special needs. This initiative will help them receive necessary academic assistance while maintaining a balanced home and school life.
- Understanding and Managing Food Sensitivities: Implement training programs to help staff
 develop a deeper understanding of food sensitivities among students with special needs and learn
 effective strategies for managing these challenges safely and inclusively.



Extended Hours for Daycare Staff: Secure funding to extend daycare staff hours, allowing them adequate time to prepare for students' individual needs, ensuring a smoother and more effective support system throughout the day.

SNAC would like to emphasize to the council that the SEED program is not merely a temporary solution or a holding pattern; it is a vital initiative that fosters meaningful growth and development for students. This is especially true for our students with special needs, who greatly benefit from a well-structured and inclusive learning environment.

To maximize the program's impact, it is essential to ensure that staff are not only well-trained but also possess a comprehensive understanding of diverse student needs—ranging from sensory and academic support to emotional regulation and self-advocacy. With a more informed and well-equipped team, students will not simply navigate the SEED program; they will thrive within it, developing the skills and confidence needed for long-term success.

We urge the council to recognize the SEED program as a cornerstone of student development and to support measures that enhance staff training, inclusion strategies, and overall program effectiveness.

Question 3: Other Comments or Suggestions

SNAC wishes to reiterate the importance of clear and consistent communication between all parties, something that is lacking at the school levels. The board needs to invest in a standardized method allowing staff and parents a better opportunity for clear, concise and supportive communication.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this consultation.

Respectfully,

Lisa Davis Mancini - Chair Special Needs Advisory Committee, 2024-2025

https://sites.google.com/lbpearson.ca/snac-lbpsb/home

www.facebook.com/specialneedsadvisorycommittee/

UNIONS AND EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATIONS





February 28, 2025

Me Geneviève Dugré Secretary-General Lester B. Pearson School Board

Dear Me Dugré,

On behalf of the Pearson Teachers Union (PTU) and the teachers that we represent, and on behalf of the Executive Committee of the PTU, I submit to you this response to the Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB) Budget Consultation for 2025-2026.

Upon review of the consultation document, we are again disappointed to see that this consultation is one of general principles and objectives, rather than allowing for stakeholders to provide concrete feedback on specific fiscal orientations of the school board. This feels particularly true for budgetary lines related to discretionary funds, knowing that many of the MEQ budgetary rules are dedicated ones.

We believe that teachers are centrally placed as key stakeholders of the school board to inform on the real needs of our schools and centres. Furthermore, we also believe that consultation must be substantive and provide sufficient information to the stakeholders to then inform the decision makers. Although we understand and appreciate the complexity of educational budgetary measures, as evidenced by our work in various parity committees, we do not believe that a simple request for comments constitutes formal consultation.

We would therefore again ask that the school board return to the prior practice of targeted questions on specific orientations, whereby stakeholders may provide insight to decision makers before a final budget is presented. The consultative model previously used in 2019 would be such an example.

As always, we are always open to discuss these comments further as needed.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of PTU and the teachers that we represent,

Matt Wilson

PTU President

c.c. Dr. Cindy Finn, Director-General, LBPSB

Ms. Alana Quinn-Leroux, Director of Human Resources, LBPSB

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

 From:
 Chris Eustace

 To:
 Consultations

 Cc:
 Geneviève Dugré

Subject: Response to LBPSB Budget Consultation 2025-2026 (final)

Date: March 28, 2025 4:56:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the school board. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

(My apologies for this response. I just realized that my previous messages needed tidying up. Please use this version. Thank you.)

.....

Lester B. Pearson School Board Attention: Me Geneviève Dugré, Secretary General 1925 Brookdale Avenue Dorval OC H9P 2Y7

Response to LBPSB Budget Consultation 2025-2026

1. What is your relationship to the Lester B. Pearson School Board?

Chris Eustace - Community Member who has attended Pearson Council meetings since July 1998. I am a retired Pearson board teacher with a grandchild attending a fine Lester B. high school.

2: Do you have any suggestions regarding the objectives, principles or criteria used to govern the allocation of funds?

The Lester B. Pearson School Board (LBPSB) should formally terminate its membership with the Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA).

The Association has no pedagogical, financial, or cultural value to any of our classrooms, schools or community.

The environment is characterized by a troubling blend of arrogance, negligence, and extravagance. Alarmingly, there is no evidence to suggest that the QESBA has taken meaningful action to reform the Department of Education's policies in ways that would truly benefit parents, children, or teachers.

3: Other Comments or Suggestions

It is time for the LBPSB to have an open conversation with the community about whether we should continue supporting the self-serving QESBA. Consider this: hundreds of thousands of dollars (\$100,000's) are being spent on

this organization while our classrooms are lacking essential resources. It's time to prioritize education and invest in our students rather than in courtrooms.

The Board has made progress by refraining from providing financial support for the legal challenges against Bills 21 and 96. A similar position is hoped to be taken if Bill 94 is contested.

For years, QESBA has spoken to us, not for us, regarding the many educational problems facing our school system.

The time for action is upon us. Let us take this opportunity to make a meaningful difference.

Scrap the QESBA!

Thank you / Merci