



WSD'S RESPONSE TO

MANITOBA'S 2019 PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATION



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

Winnipeg School Division was established in 1871 and currently has 78 schools, 33,000 students and 6,000 employees. Its purpose is to provide a learning environment that fosters the growth of each student's potential and provide equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary for meaningful participation in a global and diverse society. As Winnipeg's most culturally and socio-economically diverse division, Winnipeg School Division has a leading role in education in the City of Winnipeg and the Province of Manitoba.

Winnipeg School Division has a strategic focus on improving numeracy and literacy and is making steady progress at all grade levels. Graduation rates have also steadily improved over the past decade.

PROVINCIAL PROPOSAL: REDUCE THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL DIVISIONS

Did you know that WSD provides programs, services and supports to students and school communities that are not funded by the provincial government such as the Nutrition, Nursery, full day Kindergarten programs, and School Resource Officers?

Did you know that WSD also subsidizes funding shortfalls for programs and services such as inclusion support services, instructional support workers, therapy services and transportation for students.



Winnipeg School Division (WSD) feedback to the Proposal on Funding Education

How will the Government of Manitoba ensure that an amalgamation of school boards does not result in creation of a one size fits all model for public education in Manitoba?

How will the Government of Manitoba ensure that students currently residing within WSD Boundaries continue to have access to programs, services and supports that meet the specific needs of our diverse school communities?

How will the Government of Manitoba continue to support your child(ren)'s education and personal growth?

PROVINCIAL PROPOSAL: REDUCE SENIOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS IN SCHOOL DIVISIONS

Did you know that WSD as the largest school division, operates as one of the leanest administration teams in the Province. WSD administrative costs equal 2.7% of total spending, below the 3.0% mandated limit for all large urban school divisions in the province?

Did you know that WSD has lower senior administration costs than other publically funded organizations? Eg. City of Winnipeg administrative costs equal 5.4% of total spending and Winnipeg Regional Health Authority is 4.22% of total spending.

Winnipeg School Division (WSD) feedback to the Proposal on Funding Education

How will the Government of Manitoba measure the number of senior management positions required for school divisions, if the requirements outlined in the Public Schools Act - section 174.1 are not followed?

How will the Government of Manitoba ensure that a reduction of senior management positions will not impact the delivery of programs, services and supports for your child(ren) and your family?

PROVINCIAL PROPOSAL: REDUCE THE NUMBER OF UNIONIZED EDUCATION BARGAINING UNITS

Did you know that WSD employs approximately 5,000 employees consisting of School Administrators, Teachers, Caretakers, Trades Staff, Educational Assistants and Clerical Staff, with each group represented by a union to negotiate their salary and benefits as fair business practice?

Did you know WSD supports positive working relationships with our unions and sees the value of labour partners?

Winnipeg School Division (WSD) feedback to the Proposal on Funding Education

How will the Government of Manitoba ensure that a reduction in the number of unionized education bargaining units will benefit students in the classroom and reduce staffing expenditures for school boards?

How will the Government of Manitoba ensure that WSD is able to retain the most effective, qualified and experienced staff (in all groups) for our students?

How will the Government of Manitoba's reduction plan continue to support good labour relations?

PROVINCIAL PROPOSAL: CONTROL THE RATE OF OVERALL EDUCATION SPENDING GROWTH

WSD expenses are largely comprised of labour related costs (salary and benefits) for all staff. In any given fiscal year, this typically represents about 88% of total expenditures?

Winnipeg School Division (WSD) feedback to the Proposal on Funding Education

How will the Government of Manitoba control spending growth in education without impacting students in the classroom by limiting learning and access to tools, technology and equipment necessary in the 21st Century?

How will the Government of Manitoba allocate provincial funding for much needed programs, services and supports for WSD students?

How will the Government of Manitoba lessen the tax burden on families if the province is not prepared to remove tax-free incentives to businesses?



PROVINCIAL PROPOSAL: ENSURE VALUE FOR MONEY IN EDUCATION SPENDING

Did you know that the WSD Strategic Plan outlines strategies to further improve school attendance, achievements, and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies?

These Strategies include:

- Enhancing projects, initiatives, and enrichment programs to achieve and exceed grade level outcomes in literacy, math, and science.
- Maintaining and expanding projects and initiatives that demonstrate results in improving attendance and graduate rates.
- Supporting early childhood development initiatives and the development of further data and evidence on the importance of early childhood initiatives in educational outcomes.
- Supporting students in their transition and opportunities from high school to their next path such as post-secondary education, trades, and jobs.
- Maintaining and defending the best learning environments, the learning continuum, Clinical Support Services, Interdivisional Student Services, and other initiatives.
- Addressing nutrition for vulnerable students as a basic human need, which includes maintaining and expanding nutrition programs.
- Improving academic and behavioural support services for students with special needs.
- Continuously developing Indigenous Education initiatives. Demonstrate leadership in acting on the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission where applicable for a public school division.
- Developing school community hub programs with wrap-around services for children and families as appropriate. Continue to identify applicable health and social service supports.
- Proving programs/initiatives to address accessibility, equity and social well-being
- Maintaining stability and mobility of children and families.

Winnipeg School Division (WSD) feedback to the Proposal on Funding Education

How will the Government of Manitoba ensure that other provincial jurisdictions, such as Health, Family, and Justice, invest in education?

How will the Government of Manitoba determine the cost of supporting all students, and what indicators will be used to measure the success of each child?

How will the Government of Manitoba invest educational dollars to improve the level of academic achievement of students?



What can you do as a parent or community member?

You can contact your school trustee.

winnipegdca.civicweb.net

You can answer the questionnaire prepared on the Province of Manitoba's Pre-Budget website.

www.gov.mb.ca/makingchoices

You can contact the Minister of Education or Minister of Finance.

www.gov.mb.ca/minister

You can contact your MLA.

www.gov.mb.ca/legislature/members/mla_list_constituency

You can discuss matters with your parent council.

You can petition the Government of Manitoba to invest in education.