



TOTAL NUMBER OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED AS AT			05-Sep-19	37
COMMENT	CATEGORY	DATE SUBMITTED		
<p>French is Canada's second official language. It is unacceptable that French receives the same level of funding as German, Spanish, Mandarin, and the umpteen other "alternative" programs offered by the CBE. As a program receiving additional Federal Funds to support second language learning, this is not reflected in my experience.</p> <p>We will likely have to remove our son from French Immersion, a program to which we have been dedicated to since kindergarten, separating him from his close friends. He struggles to make friends already, and a peer group change will be very difficult for him. We have been pushed out to make room for "late immersion" students at the full immersion program. Already, I know of 3 families that will or have moved out of our neighbourhood to avoid this fiasco.</p> <p>Hearing that government funding is going to private religious schools, and that CBE offers more alternative programs than they can support, is disheartening as a parent who does not have the option to send our son to private school.</p> <p>Students do not come first in the French Immersion system. In my communications with the CBE and the Education minister, I have heard nothing but "pass the buck" speech. As a proud Canadian, I am ashamed by the "loophole" offering French Immersion programming, but no reasonable manner to get there. Reasonable suggestions for alternatives have been met with political pandering and inflexibility to consider workable solutions.</p>	Alternative Progr	2019-04-12		
<p>We need to be more practical in what programs we are able to provide for our students. The specialized programs like German,, Mandarin are using up resources that are desperately needed for regular school programs. If the CBE want to provide such specialized program then they should be paying for them out of their pocket.</p>	Alternative Progr	2019-05-22		
<p>My daughter is in grade 3. She is in a classroom with grade 4s. There are 50 students in her class and she has another teacher. If I'm doing my math correctly, that means 1 teacher has 25 students and so does the other teacher. I am wondering how that works in conjunction with the posted class sizes? My daughter indicates that there's no educational assistant support.</p>	Class Size	2019-03-10		
<p>30 students in a class is too big. Spending time with students providing necessary feedback is the most effective thing a teacher can do. With less students in class a teacher can better support student learning.</p> <p>The way class sizes are calculated is interesting. Does it put students first?</p>	Class Size	2019-03-27		

<p>It was a challenge to pick one area to comment on, but I think class size can cover many of my concerns. The size of the class goes hand-in-hand with student supports and teacher workload. If the Senior Admin of the CBE truly believes in "Every child, every day, no exceptions", then there needs class sizes that make this possible. If the number of students in each class needs to be high, then there needs to be capable, human supports in place so that a few children do not require much more of the teachers time and energy. ALL students need to be included - inclusion is awesome, as long as it includes all of us. Specialists and admin tend to come in to classrooms, hand out a piece or two of advice and then avoid the situations teachers AND students are put in every day. Do a better job of TRULY supporting classrooms. I don't care about the 'math' behind student/teacher ratios, as the math is ridiculous when so many of the adults added into the formula have so VERY little to do with the day-to-day classroom life.</p>	Class Size	2019-03-28
<p>Borders need to be shifted to accomodate the near over capacity numbers at ----- in ----- and boltster the numbers back at ----- . Cant something be done quickllym to protect teacher positions, options for students, class sizes?</p>	Class Size	2019-04-01
<p>I am extremely concerned about the population overload/class size at ----- . Currently, there are only grades 10 and 11 in the school (first year open) and it is way over capacity. There is no room for new grade 10 students next year when the current students move up a grade. Students are expected to fit 3 to 4 people at tables that were meant for 2. This is not a conducive practice for students doing 20 and 30 level courses. It's distracting and frustrating. It disappointing to hear that ----- had millions of dollars of renovations and is almost empty but geared towards adult education. It would make the most sense to re-draw boundaries and fill both schools. Obviously, the mess has been made and moving the current students is not feasible, but fixing the boundaries before September would be very beneficial. Also, Grade 12 students should be recognized and be given priority when it comes to parking next year. They have "paid their dues" and should get the "little things" in their last year of high school.</p>	Class Size	2019-04-05
<p>Please make sure that the class size stay realistically small, so that learning has priority over saving money on teachers. With more and more special needs children class sizes should stay the same or in best case scenario are reducing to make learning more efficient, successful, but still fun and exciting for everyone in class.</p>	Class Size	2019-05-28
<p>Proper funding for public education and public schools is my main concern and I am strongly opposed to the new UCP government making any cuts in this regard. On the contrary our public schools need more funding to keep up with growth. Alberta has a revenue problem which should be addressed through fair and equitable taxation, not through tax cuts for the wealthy.</p>	Class Size	2019-06-01
<p>I feel that the janitors aren't given enough time to properly clean the class rooms, 3-5 minutes is not enough time to clean anything at all, giving them 3 hr shifts isn't very fair either.</p>	Maintenance / Cl	2019-06-07
<p>1. Please find a way to let us sign field trip forms electronically. The amount of paper and photocopy resources is completely bizarre 2. Please do a proper assessment to validate that running two calendars does not increase any costs. It is terrible for families who can't access any day camps in October and second week of spring break. So it costs families extra money- does it pose extra costs to school system by having different calendars and exhaustive single system consultation processes allowing single schools to flip calendars?</p>	Other	2019-03-27
<p>The long established neighbourhood of Valley Ridge needs schools. It has none. None. This NW part of the city continues to grow with, Creston and west as well as new neighbourhoods, Greenwich and the new residences being built near COP. What is the plan? Thank you.</p>	Other	2019-03-28
<p>The overall lack of teaching hours and PD for teachers is out of control! Our children are spending less and less time recieving an education.</p>	Other	2019-03-29

<p>I see Evanston is getting their third school with a population of about 19,000 residents. Sage Hill has a population of 7,400 residents as of 2018 and projections for an additional 12,000 once buildout is complete which will bring us up to 18-19,000 as well, yet we have ZERO elementary schools.</p> <p>Nolan Hill our neighbors also will have a population of about 13,000 and they do not have any elementary schools.</p> <p>Im wondering when you will build us a shared elementary, or two, and be more proactive with population growth, vs reactive and have to bus students to distal communities on hour plus long bus rides.</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>2019-04-07</p>
<p>My children attend -----, a beautiful new school. We are fortunate to have such a lovely space, but overcrowding at the school has meant some of the students are having their homerooms and many of their classes in spaces not meant for this purpose. My son in Grade 8 has his homeroom in the Construction lab, and sits for 3+ hours a day at high work benches with backless stools, and no way to pull your legs under the table. The students end up slouched over, leaning on the benches, with sore backs and necks as a result. We are currently taking my son to Physiotherapy to deal with headaches and neck pain as a result of this. A desk or table allowing his feet to be on the floor, along with a chair with a back would be so helpful. No work place would allow their staff to sit in such a poor ergonomic state all day. Why is this acceptable for our children?</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>2019-04-18</p>
<p>We are super frustrated by the way the new boundaries were made for the new high school in the deep south. You took students who were in a beautifully renovated, older building, that had lots of services, equipment, buses for field trips, and moved them to an over capacity school, that is nice, however wasn't finished, no lockers and is cramped. Students have no where to eat lunch now (and being told for next year is ever worse) no lockers. And now we have been told that next year they are going to be over capacity. Where do you want these students to go in the school??? Change the boundaries right now on at least one of the middle schools that are designated there. Don't wait for another 3-5 years to upset more students. We wish we would have stayed at the other school, but very hard to go back when all the peers are at the new school. Students 15-16 years of age, shouldn't have had to make these decisions. We need to be doing better to help these students get their education in a better way than this was rolled out for these students.</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>2019-05-16</p>
<p>I have been working in school base childcare programs for over 25 years. Before I moved out here from Ontario, I was involved with implementing seamless day for students and setting up Before and After School Programs for schools in Ontario.</p> <p>I have run the numbers roughly for the CBE to consider a solution on helping with the declining problem that we are facing.</p> <p>If we were to provide 50 Before and After School Programs in our schools. I have estimated a revenue of 2.6 million dollars that can be used to improve and pay for services in schools. Facilities has been cut too thin. We need to improve and maintain a high standard in services in order to take proper care of our students. This estimate is a low estimate. I did not include the accreditation dollars that we could also access to help off set the cost of staff salaries. We can also staff the program with many of our lunchroom staff. As a public run school I understand that we are not be earning revenue for a profit. This would not be a profit earning practice. Rather than I tool where we can sustain the operation of our schools and make the repairs and renovations and maintain the up keep of our schools.</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>2019-05-22</p>
<p>As a parent, and chair of our School Council I can confirm that our parents have not seen the proposed 2019/2020 budget and therefore cannot offer feedback. The presentation provided on April 11/19 was a recap of the current school year's RAM.</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>2019-05-29</p>
<p>Why is the CBE having to make so many cuts when other school boards don't seem to be as affected? (eg Foothills/Edmonton)</p> <p>If the lease is such a drain on the finances - what is being done to reduce this strain? (re-negotiation? sub-let of space?)</p>	<p>Other</p>	<p>2019-06-03</p>



<p>The amount of money we have to pay for public education from lunch room supervision, bussing, field trips, etc. is frustrating especially when our school taxes go towards private education. The families that put their kids in private education do so because they can afford it. We have our kids in public and struggle to make ends meet. High school teams are outrageously expensive but yet we want kids to be active. It just doesn't make sense to me. Thank you.</p>	School Fees	2019-04-07
<p>How can the catholic board charge less than half for lunch time supervision which is exactly the same service. Copy whatever they are doing better than the cbe. You get the same per student funding as they do from the province</p>	School Fees	2019-04-08
<p>I think it is time to have parents pay for bussing and ISM fees. Only a portion of the students use bussing services yet all students feel the impact by the staff cuts that happen trying to reduce the deficit. It was a mistake to have these fees paid to begin with. Let's look at what makes sense more teachers more staff more support. If parents don't want to pay bussing fees they can do what thousands of families in the past have done and make arrangements to get their child to school regardless if they work or not.it certainly isn't fair to the families whose children walk to school or drive their kids to not have the same amount of money directly impact them or their family it is very unequal. Not to mention many stay at home parents send their kids on the bus which is a complete waste of money!</p>	School Fees	2019-04-19
<p>The building I'm in hired extra teachers instead of EAs. Currently, we are at 550 students with 2EAs in the entire school. I'm wondering what the purpose of this is? These teacher positions aren't typical in schools and these teachers aren't responsible for planning, assessment, or report cards. I feel that it was a poor choice to invest our valuable and limited dollars when the goal is to keep students first.We need more support in the form of EAs, not teachers.EAs aren't as expensive as teachers... I'm also wondering why the CBE deemed it necessary to have a math lead teacher? Where did that data come from? Is it really necessary? Our SDP is based on literacy mainly so again, it feels like we're not being smart about the money we get every year. I guess what I'm asking is how are the decisions made to allocate resources and where do the ideas come from for those resources?</p>	Staffing	2019-03-10
<p>Find a way to centralize and automate non teaching positions at the schools. Look to the administrative secretary and book keeper. Schools don't need to be run as small businesses.</p>	Staffing	2019-04-08
<p>There has to be a better way to deal with lunchroom supervision to avoid paying all these "supervisors" to watch kids for 30 minutes. I believe they get paid for a minimum number of hours even if they don't work it. Can't you use them for something else during those extra paid hours to eliminate a different position? Efficiency here could make a big impact based on the number of supervisors. Think about the wasted manhours that you could be taking advantage of.</p>	Staffing	2019-04-08

I would like to take the opportunity to communicate my concerns regarding the lunch time policy at my son's school (-----). It has recently come to our attention that children here (and many other schools across Calgary) are being subjected to a 10-minute lunch eating period, before they are dismissed for noon recess. The times listed on the school website are listed incorrectly, as I have visited the school and seen first-hand that children are shuttled to the playground after only 10 minutes of eating. Not only are children not permitted to take uneaten portions of their lunches outside, but they are also mandated to eat in silence, and any children needing more time to eat or who socialize with their neighbours are sent to eat at an isolation table outside the school office. The absence of social interaction and grossly insufficient time to eat their noon meal runs counter to the need for nourishment, both nutritional and social, and flies in the face of extensive research and nutritional recommendations by the Canada Food Guide (see 1 below) which emphasizes making time for children to eat without being rushed, and providing a pleasant setting to enjoy meals. The current tense and punitive environment greatly reduces the chances students have to reflect on the food they are eating, and to engage socially with their peers. The Canadian Paediatric Society and others have stressed the strong relationship between learning, nutrition and health. Child development and ostensibly, academic success, is highly dependent on a balanced diet (see 2 below), and it falls to the home and schools to support children in learning these healthy behaviours which will serve them throughout their school years and beyond. The lack of sufficient time for lunch means students have to select easy-to-eat, quick items to consume, at the expense of choosing the healthier food items in their lunches (see 3 below). With less than the suggested 20 minutes to eat, children are unable to sense when they feel full, leading to increased risk for obesity, and are unable to consume the recommended intake of protein, complex carbohydrates, fruits and vegetables (see 4 below). I fully understand the need for instructional time, and opportunities for active, physical play. But the requirement for sufficient time to eat cannot be overemphasized. This will involve revision of the policy to arrange a longer school day, to be able to accommodate a healthy eating policy which adheres to the Canadian Food guide, and the recommendations of countless decades of research into child development, nutrition, and academic success. I look forward to hearing your thoughts on a forward-thinking policy to extend lunch periods at Calgary schools.

Staffing

2019-04-15

Very say to see that support staff again are on the end of Budget cuts, speaking for myself this is truly affecting how I can survive and afford to live in todays world. Being a single parent is hard at best with continued reduction in my hours which in turn my wage puts me in a position of requiring financial aid and potentially having to use the foodbank just to survive. I am an Educated women with a degree and many other certificates on my resume. I have worked for the board for many years hoping my skills would support and advance our next generation, If cannot feed/support my family I now have to look at other options other job opportunities.

Staffing

2019-05-22

The cost of living goes up but Support Staff go another year without a wage increase. The roll of Support Staff can be very stressful, from the abuse from the students to the lack of support from your peers. I feel very under valued as a CBE employee.

Staffing

2019-05-23

There is always a complaint that we don't have enough teachers and/or money for our system. How about we eliminate the "double dipping" that keeps happening. Teachers / staff retire, they then come back at their full wage to fill in the role that they left, either because there was no succession plan for new staff in that role, or they want a more flexible schedule. This should not be allowed. It costs the system lots of money and we could fill this in with multiple new people for that role and cost. Retired staff should only have the option to come back at the starting wage for that position. Retirement, should mean retirement.

Staffing

2019-05-23



Based on shared values: students come first, learning is our central purpose and public education serves the common good. I firmly believe the focus and priority should be on EDUCATION! Low class sizes, programs, resources for all etc. Rather than families being asked to pay for learning fees every September, have this eliminated by using funds from the transportation budget. The transportation budget only serves a portion of students, not all students. Those funds should be used to help everyone. It is the responsibility of parents to get their children to school. Some families drive their children, some live near by, some parents use the bussing as "babysitting" time to give them an extra 1/2 hour at the beginning and end of day, even though they don't require it. It seems unfair to ask taxpayers to subsidize this cost. Education should be covered, not transportation.

Student Supports 2019-04-17

With the diverse needs in the classroom teachers are having difficulty meeting the needs of both the highest achievers and those struggling. It is time to introduce an advanced placement option for junior high/upper elementary contingent on marks and standardized testing for admittance into these classrooms. The trade off can be slightly bigger classes for these students. There should also be a English Language Learner program where students go until they are able to excel without support in the regular classroom. These programs could be multi age, in each quadrant, what ever. These programs would allow for a more cohesive group to teach to, and allow for the teacher to better meet their needs. Programs would be fluid and lots of room for movement when students are ready to move on, or go back for extra support.

Student Supports 2019-04-24

I feel that in order to truly be in line with the Education Act, Alberta Ed's 6 Principles of Inclusion and the true meaning of "inclusion" (real inclusion for learning, not just physically being in the classroom) students with diverse learning need appropriate support. As a mother of two children who are coded within the Alberta Ed system, and whose school is provided additional funds for these codes, I can confirm that they do not receive any additional support within the classroom outside of teacher support. My children are the ones "falling through the cracks" because they aren't extreme in their behaviors. They ARE in main stream education classrooms, but they need help they are not getting. Unfortunately, school funding is using their operating budget and funds for special needs to fund other areas. OR all supports (eg. Educational Assistants) go towards only the children who are the most challenging. Coding is provided for a reason. Coding is applied because those individual students need additional support. Class sizes are large, teachers are overwhelmed with trying to support ELL, ESL and special need codes with no supports in classrooms to support them or their students. Families already extend themselves financially to provide outside help to their children (physio, occupational, SLP, psychology, tutoring, etc). FSCD does NOT support academic based services. Why do we, as parents of special needs students, need to even consider remortgaging our home or financial duress to find supportive education (eg. private schools for learning disabilities, etc)? Students and teachers need help!

Student Supports 2019-04-25

Most of students need on one on support since they need differentiated instruction. Thus, the role of the support staff in each class makes a difference while their salaries are limited and do not affect the budget. Please do not cut the support staff positions.

Student Supports 2019-04-29

Please make sure that the workload for teachers is realistic and manageable. Teachers have a very important role in creating the future for all of, in best cases the leaders of tomorrow. But this is only possible when the teachers get enough support and a regular class size to teach and educate. They are already at the limit of proving the best possible support for our youth. With more special needs children and the difficulties of the new generation especially in jr and sen high school (cell phones, social media) the the teachers need more time and options to support those children in which a smaller class size would be the best solution.

Teacher Workloa 2019-05-28

There should be technical support staff in schools. Why are we moving to a support model that private firms rely on. Teachers and students have limited class time and if support is not there and then it affects learning. Hope this important stuff can be addressed in the new budget. Thanks.

Technology 2019-04-02



Our son attends a CBE school and for the last several years we've filled the same medical forms every single year, multiple times per year. How secure are these documents that return to school with kids... transfer to teachers... transfer to offer... transfer to your main office? Why are we not leveraging technology already in place? Thanks

Technology 2019-09-05
