



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

TO: FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

FROM: Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education

DATE: May 13, 2021

PREPARED BY: Stacey Zucker, Associate Director, Support Services and Treasurer
Denise Dawson, Senior Manager, Business Services

RE: School Budget Carry-Forward

Action X Monitoring

Recommended Actions:

That the Board approve the carry-forward of all school budgets that are left over from 2020-21 to 2021-22 school year.

Background:

In the past, the Board has automatically carried forward all school budgets up to 10% of their budget. Any carry-forward greater than 10% required Board approval. There were very few requests in the past few years and they were for very specific circumstances. This approval was usually requested in June of the school year.

Staff Observation:

As a result of the pandemic, the Ministry has closed schools on two occasions and school staff have not been able to spend their school budgets or are looking for ways to spend it and get goods delivered. Staff do not want to encourage the purchase of goods that have to be delivered and stored. Staff does not want goods sent to employee's homes. Nor do staff want to have deliveries turned away or to have a central delivery spot which will create difficulty and expense in getting the goods to the individual schools after the fact.

The allowing of schools to carry-forward their budgets automatically will ensure that schools are only ordering what is required at this time. It will also allow schools to be able to order some of the goods that they were planning on ordering (ie. Textbooks, supplies, technology) once schools are opened and can be delivered.

Staff is asking for this direction now in order to ensure schools that they can wait to order these goods until they are back in schools.

Conclusion:

Staff recommends allowing schools to carry-forward all school budgets that are left over from 2020-21 to 2021-22.