

Written Submission to the Board of Education
Shannon Rath

After skimming through this years budget allocations and seeing where the money is actually going, I am in awe that so many people have lost sight of the big picture. The only reason why any of you have a job is because we as parents have chosen to place our children in an institution, in this case school and with an hierarchy of leaders to run this institution, teachers, principles, admin. Staff, etc.. To instruct our children, this nations future, on the basic principles of mathematics, the English language both spoken and written, and our history. Theses children need to be prepared to continue on in their chosen studies and pathways in life whether it be on the job learning or through further post secondary education. These kids have to be able to make educated decisions financially, emotionally, and personally in order to provide the best possible life for themselves, future families, and society as a whole.

It is obvious that teaching these kids is the whole point to this situation. They need a teacher, proper supplies, and an environment conducive of learning. That's it! The ridiculous wasting of resources to implement new unwanted curriculums, training staff to enable this curriculum adding HR positions, parent education communication support groups, well paid and benefit compensated teachers, 30% increase in education assistants to look after the special need children who should not be in the conventional classroom(they require their owe class designed for their unique situation) etc... The system that now exists has now actually forced the children out of the classroom. They don't get the attention of the teacher (class sizes and special needs students in the class) , they don't receive the supplies or devices they require, they don't learn the basic principles(new curriculum, individual interest driven learning, no deadlines, no grades, being passed on to the next grades whether they have met the standards or not and the icing on the cake now some on them will not have a school bus to safely transport them to school.

The first priory of your budget is to adequately found the children for everything thing they need. Second you pay your teachers and staff and third you pay for your building and maintenance. Then what's left is what you have to decide if you can afford to add staff, support groups, curriculum changes (again unwanted), etc. it's the same fundamentals of your personal monthly / yearly budgets. You pay all your bills first and what is left is spending. You don't blow it all on frivolous endeavors and try to cut back on food and pay only a portion of your bills to make up for it.

This whole system needs to start over.

Thanks for listening.