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# Impacts of the 2019-20 Provincial Budget

Nov. 5, 2019

learning | as unique | as every student









#### Impact of CBE's Spring Budget

- Did not hire approximately 220 schoolbased staff necessary to maintain programs, services and supports.
  - Average class size increase of one student per classroom (in our 7,000 classrooms).
- Cut \$3 million from service units.
- Drew down our reserves.







## Impact of Oct. 24 Provincial Budget

- Does not maintain funding levels.
  - Base funding received for each student enrolled.
  - But other grants that support learning eliminated.
- Minimum reduction of \$32 million, even with increased enrolment of 2,386 more students.







#### Grant Funding Cuts = \$85 million

Class Size Funding \$54.0 million
Classroom Improvement Fund \$13.2 million
An Act to Reduce School Fees \$18.2 million







## Grant replacements reduces overall funding

- \$85 million in grants cut.
- Replaced by:
  - \$24 million one-time transition grant
  - \$29 million in enrolment growth funding and other slight changes

Net cut = at least \$32 million







### Mid-year cuts are challenging

- Must find \$48+ million in cuts to realize the \$32 million gap over the remainder of the school year.
- Staffing reductions must go deeper to generate any savings.







## Using all reserves to fund gap is not an option

- Reserve balances are very low:
  - Balances are well below the minimum threshold recommended by Alberta Education.
- CBE must maintain its modest reserves:
  - Capital reserves used for new schools (furniture, materials, etc.).
  - Prohibited from running a deficit.







#### **Education Centre Lease**

- Contractual commitment within the terms of the lease to 2031.
  - No legal option to escape the terms of the lease.
  - Must make lease payments as outlined in the lease agreement (eg. rates, terms and inflation).
  - Lease costs increase 2.5 per cent each year.
  - CBE retains commitment to pay lease costs, even if it relocates prior to 2031.







#### Ways to address the funding gap

Everything is on the table in both the short and long term:

- Class size increases
- Layoffs
- Fee increases
- Program adjustments
- Service reduction
- Efficiency in operations







#### Next steps

- Spending freeze effective immediately.
- Working with principals, other leaders to understand impact and make decisions.
- Required to submit a budget to the province by the end of November.