

COSC Budget Overview

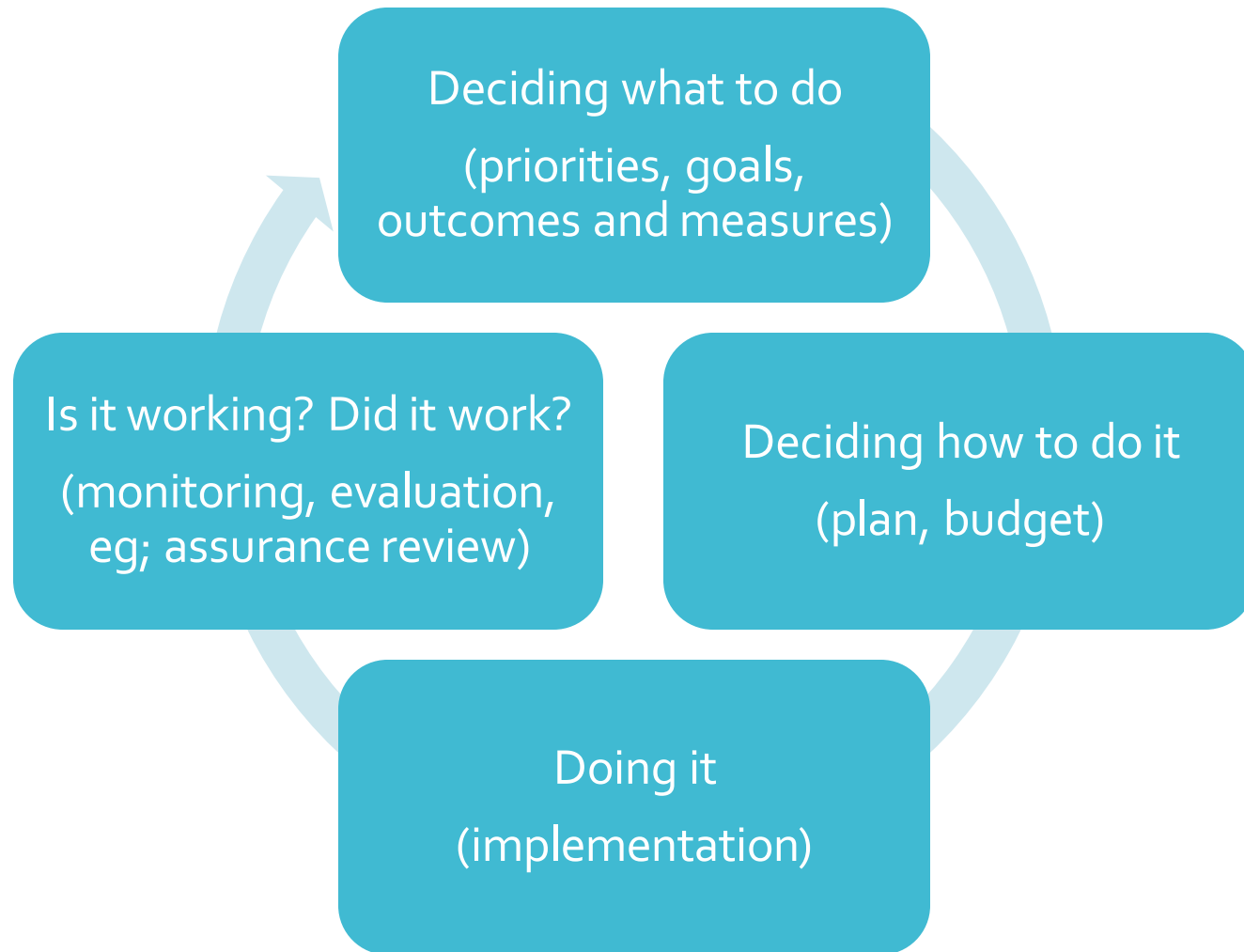
Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Budget Planning Process

Purpose of Budget

- That the Budget supports the Priorities, Goals and Outcomes set out by the Division
- To ensure that the day to day operations of the Division are carried out

Relationship
between goal
setting, planning,
budgeting and
evaluation



Budget Highlights

Budget Impact

- Funding rates remain unchanged, meaning it's a status quo budget.
- All grant calculations remain unchanged.
- Enrolment growth is funded. That means overall revenue will increase slightly from the year before:
- Revenue is calculated on a three-year weighted moving average—2022-23 (20%), 2023-24(30%), 2024-25 (50%).
- Student transportation funding remains the same—there was a funding increase in 2023-24, which is positive and will keep fees reasonable.

Budget Impact

Given the Student Transportation's surplus, it will:

- Offer a 40% rebate to current Student Transportation riders—calculated and applied to 2023-24 fees.
- Upgrade the video-surveillance system on buses.
- Provide a one-time payment to bus contractors and operators to offset inflation costs and meet the funding criteria.
- Thanks to a new provincial funding model for student transportation, most fees will decrease in 2024-25.
 - *eligible fee (attending designated school) – will stay the same at \$75*
 - *eligible fee (attending non-designated school) – will drop to \$75, down from \$175*
 - *ineligible fee (attending designated school) – will drop to \$150, down from \$225*
 - *ineligible fee (attending non-designated school) – will drop to \$150 from \$325*
 - *kindergarten fee (eligible) – will increase to \$50—previously \$37.50*
 - *kindergarten fee (ineligible) – will drop to \$100—down from \$112.50* o *additional bus fee – no change*
 - *Late fee penalty – \$25, new in 2024-25. It aims to encourage families to pay fees by the June 30 deadline.*
 - *Student Transportation will also continue to offer a payment-plan option—available to families with fees of \$300 and more—paid over seven months. The department also removed the \$25 administrative fee traditionally applied to the payment plans.*

Budget Impact

- Unfortunately, inflationary costs are not funded.
- What that means: While revenues will increase to account for the added enrolment numbers, there is no funding to cover inflationary increases—CPP, EI, employee benefits, utilities and insurance.
- Because of inflationary pressures, a lack of additional funding and provincial requirements to spend down reserves, EIPS is working with a smaller overall budget, which will impact student support and services.

Grants

Services and Supports Grants

- Specialized Learning, PUF, First Nations Métis and Inuit
- Rates remain unchanged.
- New: EIPS will receive 50% of the funding for Program Unit Funding learners—for kindergarten, severe and pre-kindergarten learners registered between Dec. 2, 2024 and Feb. 2, 2025. Previously, funding wasn't provided if a child became eligible after September 30.
- Classroom complexity grant – continues for 2024-25 for \$861,000 to support school divisions in addressing the demands placed on classrooms due to the growing number of students with increased diverse needs

Schools

- For the most part, rates remain unchanged.
- The Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) Grant – is calculated the same as last year, but will drop by \$200,000—to \$2.22 million from \$2.24 million in 2023-24.
- The Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR) Grant – will increase to pre-pandemic levels to \$2.83 million from \$1.14 million.

Grants

Community Grants

- Rates for community grants remain unchanged.

System Administration Grant – remains at 3.2% of expenditures.

- Because 2023 expenditures were higher than in 2022, the grant will increase by \$359,000 in 2024-25.
- EIPS is confident it will be below the maximum threshold.
- Any unused portion can go to other Board expenditures, such as instruction.
- In 2022-23, \$1.49 million of this funding was redirected to schools

Curriculum Grant

- The rate remains the same, decreasing by roughly half in 2024-25.
- That's because the curriculum has already been rolled out in the lower grades.
- In 2024-25, the grant, \$304,780, is to support the roll-out for grades 4 to 6.
- In 2023-24, the grant, \$786,115, was to support the roll-out for K-6.
- The grant covers professional learning and resources.

Learning Disruption Grant –for students in grades 1 to 5 to assist with literacy and numeracy in 2024-25.

- EIPS is seeking more information on how to access the grant.

Low Incidence Supports and Services Grant – will continue, rate still unknown.

Mental Health Grant – discontinued.

- There is no additional funding for Mental Health.
- Schools will need to rethink how their reset rooms operate, or if at all
- The Mental Health Strategic Plan remains a Board priority.

Revenue

REVENUE AND RESERVE SUMMARY						
			2023-24	2024-25		%
			Fall	Budget	Change	Change
Revenue						
Government of Alberta						
	Alberta Education (Page 5)		\$ 190,920,965	\$ 192,270,226	\$ 1,349,261	0.7%
	Other Government of Alberta		4,556,117	4,114,439	(441,678)	(9.7%)
	Government of Alberta		195,477,082	196,384,665	907,583	0.5%
	Other Alberta School Authorities		307,773	315,536	7,763	2.5%
	Fees		5,091,198	4,961,038	(130,160)	(2.6%)
	Other Sales and Services		2,821,460	2,665,592	(155,868)	(5.5%)
	Investment Income		512,078	909,000	396,922	77.5%
	Gifts and Donations		1,610,652	1,405,437	(205,215)	(12.7%)
	Rental of Facilities		231,740	231,740	-	0.0%
	Fundraising		403,200	351,232	(51,968)	(12.9%)
			206,455,183	207,224,240	769,057	0.4%

Budget Stakeholder Engagement

Budget Priorities:

- Complexity in Classrooms
- Curriculum and resource development
- Year 3 of Mental Health Strategic Plan
- Collegiate and Support for Career Pathways
- Equity
- Retention of staff
- Artificial Intelligence and technology implications