

2025 – 2026 Budget Press Release

At the May 27, 2025 budget meeting, the Board of Trustees of The Horizon School Division approved the operating budget for the 2025-2026 school year. A deficit of \$845,398 was approved. Highlights of the budget include:

- Revenue of \$55,253,640
 - 90% of revenues are sourced from Alberta Education
 - Funding from Alberta Educations increased 1.66%
- Enrolment is projected to be stable with a forecasted increase of 17 full time equivalent (FTE) students
- Staff allocations are comparable with 2024-2025.

Budget allocations are carefully made to provide optimal learning environments for students. We believe in the potential of our students and strive to make the most effective use of the limited resources available to us. The board prioritizes providing the teachers required to minimize class sizes and multi-grading while still providing supports to students. Significant funds are allocated to enhancing teachers' skills through professional development, supporting English Second Language (ESL) students, providing mental health supports to students and staff, and exploring career-based opportunities for students.

A significant contributor to the deficit is the increased costs associated with support staff. Enhancements to the support staff collective agreement are far greater than the funding increases provided by the provincial government. The board is committed to maintaining quality education programming to the students in Horizon School Division. The deficit was approved to provide stability to staff and students. We appreciate our staff and the work they do. It is hoped that in future years, funding will be sufficient to maintain programs and staff at current levels.

Marie Logan, Board Chair

The budget summary is as follows:

BUDGETED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
for the Year Ending August 31

	Approved Budget 2025/2026	Approved Budget 2024/2025	Actual Audited 2023/2024
<u>REVENUES</u>			
Government of Alberta	\$ 52,921,969	\$51,408,565	\$49,854,903
Federal Government and First Nations	\$ -	\$0	\$0
Property taxes	\$ -	\$0	\$0
Fees	\$ 655,000	\$700,000	\$741,271
Sales of services and products	\$ 875,000	\$816,370	\$1,072,347
Investment income	\$ 215,000	\$275,000	\$402,143
Donations and other contributions	\$ 475,000	\$300,000	\$543,966
Other revenue	\$ 111,671	\$97,957	\$114,254
TOTAL REVENUES	\$55,253,640	\$53,597,892	\$52,728,884
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Instruction - ECS	\$ 1,712,051	\$1,489,772	\$1,497,761
Instruction - Grade 1 to 12	\$ 39,387,024	\$37,540,207	\$37,413,229
Operations & maintenance	\$ 8,131,488	\$7,735,900	\$7,615,910
Transportation	\$ 4,090,353	\$4,106,033	\$3,732,164
System Administration	\$ 2,066,753	\$2,068,603	\$1,966,896
External Services	\$ 711,369	\$695,000	\$633,464
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$56,099,038	\$53,635,515	\$52,859,424
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(\$845,398)	(\$37,623)	(\$130,540)

BUDGETED ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES (BY OBJECT)
for the Year Ending August 31

	Approved Budget 2025/2026	Approved Budget 2024/2025	Actual Audited 2023/2024
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Certificated salaries	\$ 21,787,039	\$20,871,085	\$21,374,752
Certificated benefits	\$ 5,300,609	\$5,025,535	\$5,118,768
Non-certificated salaries and wages	\$ 9,059,550	\$8,460,475	\$7,899,495
Non-certificated benefits	\$ 2,460,685	\$2,074,485	\$1,923,691
Services, contracts, and supplies	\$ 14,359,005	\$14,563,873	\$13,815,482
Capital and debt services			
Amortization of capital assets			
Supported	\$ 2,574,564	\$2,158,484	\$2,210,131
Unsupported	\$ 482,586	\$481,578	\$517,105
Interest on capital debt			
Supported	\$ -	\$0	\$0
Unsupported	\$ -	\$0	\$0
Other interest and finance charges	\$ -	\$0	\$0
Losses on disposal of capital assets	\$ -	\$0	\$0
Other expenses	\$ 75,000	\$0	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$56,099,038	\$53,635,515	\$52,859,424