

## **LESTER B. PEARSON SCHOOL BOARD 2020-2021 BUDGET**

At the June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council of Commissioners meeting, the Lester B. Pearson School Board adopted a balanced budget of \$ 317,894,805. Constructing the budget is not only about distributing dollars. The school board consults with stakeholders and prioritizes school and center's needs to ensure we follow the school boards vision of achieving excellence by maximizing the potential of each individual.

As the province continues to struggle through the COVID-19 pandemic, the school board was concerned that funding for the 2020-2021 school year would be cut, just as our students and community needed more support than ever. We are pleased that the Ministry has maintained grants to support students and has increased investments in buildings and information technology.

The Lester B. Pearson School Board continues to implement new initiatives to benefit students throughout our system, including:

- Additional funding for feeding students in the youth sector,
- A new grant of \$200,000 for safe and active school yards.
- An extra one million dollars for additional technology in schools including Chromebooks and tablets;
- \$54 million in capital investments in schools and centers including upgrading of bathrooms, new roofs and windows, additional bottle fillers and interior improvements,
- 22 new full day 4-year-old kindergarten classrooms bringing the total to 36 full day kindergarten classes for 4 year olds across the territory of the school board,
- \$ 1.8 million to offer extracurricular activities at the secondary level. The grant for secondary extracurricular activities is to encourage students to develop a sense of belonging at school while developing new skills in sports, arts and cultural activities, robotics, socio education and science activities and community involvement.

The Lester B Pearson School Board would like to thank all students, employees, families, and communities for putting your faith in us. Together we can achieve excellence by maximizing the potential of everyone.