

BACKGROUND

SSBA Report Card on Education Funding Evaluation Summary

Boards responding to the evaluation provided various grades for each of the eight principles. Overall, the grades reflected a “C-” average – which would indicate, based on the grading guidelines, that the budget is meeting some expectations with room for improvement.

Overall Themes:

1. *Engagement*: many comments from members focused on the need for authentic engagement and partnerships to develop a shared understanding and achieve priorities.
2. *Understanding Local Needs*: many comments also pointed to a desire for improved consultation and engagement (works both ways) regarding local considerations.
3. *Enrolment and Growth Factors*: many comments centered on the change in this year’s funding allocation from using projected enrolment numbers to the previous year’s enrolment numbers – members indicated this change had a negative effect in evaluating many of the principle areas.

Looking Forward:

Members expressed a genuine desire to be part of improving the provincial funding formula and ensuring all students have the resources needed to succeed. Here in no particular order are some suggested areas of focus stemming from the evaluation:

- Supports for learning
- Complexity of the funding model
- Weighting in the funding model
- Enrolment, growth and inflation pressures
- Transportation factors
- Geographic challenges
- Transition funding