

Where can I find out more about EA support for special needs kids?

Please contact Assistant Superintendent Brad Bauman at bbauman@deltaschools.ca

Will the draft budget be available prior to the March 8 budget input session?

We were unable to make the draft budget available prior to the March 8 meeting as the Ministry does not announce its funding allocations until mid-March.

The purpose of the March 8 public input session was to gain an understanding of parents'/caregivers' and the community's priorities for the 2022/2023 school year in advance of the draft budget being completed.

Other key dates* include:

- **Mid- March, 2022:** Funding announcement from the Ministry of Education
- **April 14, 2022:** Tentative date for the public release of the draft budget via the school district website and local newspapers
- **April 19, 2022:** Tentative date of the Special Public Board Meeting – For parents/caregivers and the community to provide feedback and/or ask questions on the proposed draft budget
- **April 26, 2022:** Regular Public Board Meeting – Tentative date for the Board to review the public/community's input before amending and/or approving the budget for 2022/2023

**Please note: All dates are subject to change*

For technology, such as computers and software, is that decided on a provincial level or a district level? In addition, is replacement of end-of-life items considered non-discretionary or is there no such distinction?

Technology is decided at the district level. Our IT Services department has developed a strategic roadmap that guides our IT planning and takes into consideration the lifespan of items.

What types of amendments are typically made in February of the following year? Are the amendments available to the public?

The budget is created in advance of the school year starting. As a result, as we move through the school year, more accurate information relating to various factors becomes available. For example, while we have a good idea of expected enrolment at the time the budget is created, we don't know for sure how many of those enrolled students will show up to school in September. Sometimes families may move house and enrol their child elsewhere. We are

required to provide actual enrolment numbers to the Ministry by the end of September and our funding is adjusted as a result. The Amended Annual Budget enables the district to capture the reality of what is happening once the school year has started.

As per the *School Act*, school districts are required to submit the Amended Annual Budget to the Ministry of Education before the end of February each year. The Amended Annual Budget for 2021/2022 was reviewed and approved by the Board at the February 22 Public Board Meeting. It is available on the district's website: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/board/financial-information/>

If parents/caregivers are interested to learn more or ask questions about the Amended Annual Budget, we encourage them to watch for it to appear as a board meeting agenda item, in the new year. You can view the agenda for upcoming board meetings here: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/board/board-meetings/>

When providing feedback as a parent of the district on allocation, will there be links to specific projects each department and division is anticipating?

Once the draft budget has been completed and shared publicly, there will be an opportunity for the public to complete a short survey indicating which specific areas are a priority for funding for them. The Board of Education will take this feedback into consideration when reviewing the draft budget.