

# 2014-15 Budget Consultation

The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) invites students, parents and community members to provide input into the funding priorities the Board should consider for the 2014-15 school year and beyond.

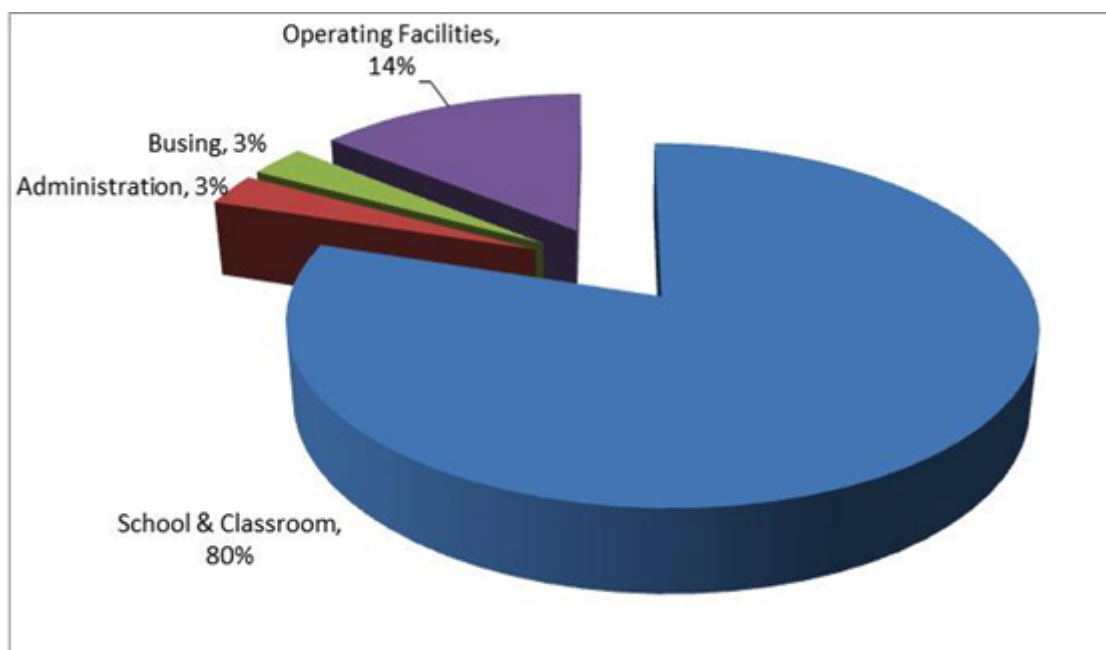
We are committed to implementing our Strategic Plan, focusing on student achievement and well-being, while using our resources efficiently.

We continue to face financial challenges as a result of increased cost pressures, changes in provincial funding, and loss of revenue from declining secondary enrolment.

Trustees approved a 2013-14 budget of \$654M. The chart below outlines where we spent our financial resources.

Responding to this survey will assist us in identifying areas that are a priority to our stakeholders. The WRDSB is funded by the Ministry of Education and is governed by Legislative and contractual obligations which must be adhered to by the Board.

The results of the survey will be compiled and shared with the Board of Trustees during the budget process in June. Please complete the survey by Friday June 6, 2014.



# 2014-15 Budget Consultation

## 1. Please indicate which group you belong to:

- Student
- Staff
- Parent/Guardian
- Community Member

## 2. Please enter your postal code:

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## 3. Which of the following program(s) are essential to supporting high levels of student achievement and well-being now, and in the next few years? Please select all that apply:

- Aboriginal Education (Native Languages, Native Studies)
- Arts Education (Visual Arts, Dramatic Arts, Music - including instrumental programs)
- Alternative Education Programs (Suspension and Expulsion Programs, Section 23)
- Business Studies (Financial Literacy)
- Canadian and World Studies
- Classical and International Languages
- Computer Studies
- Continuing Education (Summer and Night School)
- Student Success/Support Programs (Credit Recovery, Fast Forward, Dual Credits, Essential Skills)
- English, Mathematics, Science
- English as a Second Language/ English Literacy Development Programs
- Cooperative Education Programs
- Environmental Education (including Outdoor Education)
- E-learning Programs/Digital Learning/21st Century Learning Programs
- Equity and Inclusive Education
- Full Day Kindergarten/Early Learning Programs
- French as a Second Language
- French Immersion
- Guidance and Career Education
- Health and Physical Education
- Healthy Schools - Injury Prevention Strategy, Mental Health Strategy, Nutrition Programs, Anti-bullying Programs
- Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)
- Social Science and Humanities
- Special Education Programs and Services (Autism Spectrum, Developmental and Intellectual, Orthopedic, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Blind and Low Vision, Gifted, Emotional/Behavioural, Speech and Language Needs)
- Technological Education (Including Specialist High Skills Major Programs)
- Magnet Programs (International Baccalaureate, etc)

Other (please specify)

# 2014-15 Budget Consultation

**4. Various resources are used in the classroom setting to facilitate and engage student learning. Please rate the following resources that support student achievement and well-being in order of importance.**

**1 being the lowest importance to 9 being highest importance**

	Lowest Importance								Highest Importance
Classroom Supplies (pens, paper, workbooks)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Literacy Resources (guided reading books)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Musical Instruments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Numeracy Resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library Resources (books)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mobile Technology (iPads, Tablets)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Computer Labs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Textbooks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Equipment for Physical Activity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**5. To help prioritize the most significant issues in schools from a facilities perspective, please rank the following items in order of priority.**

**The most significant being 1 and the least significant being 10**

	Most Significant								
Painting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flooring	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hard Play Surfaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sports Fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Furniture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Grounds Maintenance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor Play Spaces (Greenfield availability, Play equipment)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shade	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other (please specify)

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

**6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:**

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

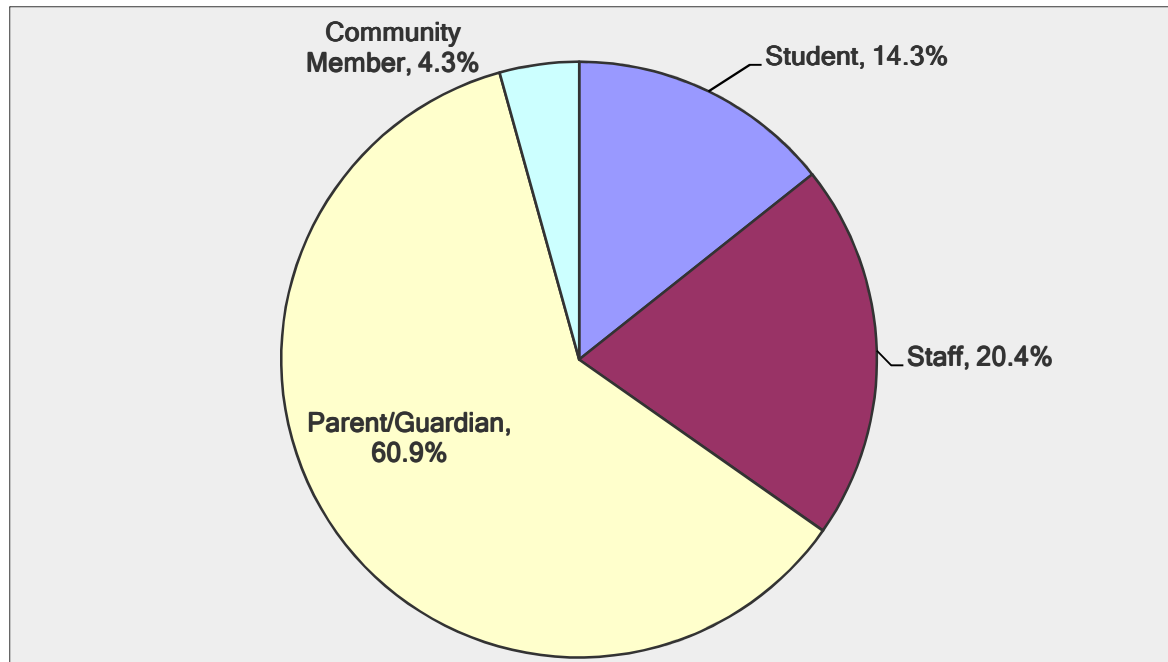
Thank you for participating in our survey. Your responses will assist us in identifying areas that are a priority to our stakeholders.

The results of this survey will be shared with trustees during the budget process in June.

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

Question 1: Please indicate which group you belong to:

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Student	14.3%	70
Staff	20.4%	100
Parent/Guardian	60.9%	298
Community Member	4.3%	21
<i>answered question</i>		<b>489</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>2</b>







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Question 2: Please enter your postal code:	
Answer Options	Response Count
	458
<i>answered question</i>	458
<i>skipped question</i>	33



## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

**Question 3: Which of the following program(s) are essential to supporting high levels of student achievement and well-being now, and in the next few years? Please select all that apply:**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Aboriginal Education (Native Languages, Native Studies)	13.4%	65
Arts Education (Visual Arts, Dramatic Arts, Music - including instrumental programs)	73.8%	357
Alternative Education Programs (Suspension and Expulsion Programs, Section 23)	29.3%	142
Business Studies (Financial Literacy)	56.6%	274
Canadian and World Studies	53.9%	261
Classical and International Languages	28.9%	140
Computer Studies	74.6%	361
Continuing Education (Summer and Night School)	32.9%	159
Student Success/Support Programs (Credit Recovery, Fast Forward, Dual Credits, Essential English, Mathematics, Science)	44.8%	217
English as a Second Language/ English Literacy Development Programs	86.8%	420
Cooperative Education Programs	37.6%	182
Environmental Education (including Outdoor Education)	50.0%	242
E-learning Programs/Digital Learning/21st Century Learning Programs	52.1%	252
Equity and Inclusive Education	40.7%	197
Full Day Kindergarten/Early Learning Programs	28.5%	138
French as a Second Language	30.0%	145
French Immersion	35.5%	172
Guidance and Career Education	31.8%	154
Health and Physical Education	45.0%	218
Healthy Schools - Injury Prevention Strategy, Mental Health Strategy, Nutrition Programs, Anti-Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP)	75.6%	366
Social Science and Humanities	60.3%	292
Special Education Programs and Services (Autism Spectrum, Developmental and Intellectual, Technological Education (Including Specialist High Skills Major Programs)	41.5%	201
Magnet Programs (International Baccalaureate, etc)	54.8%	265
Other (please specify)	65.3%	316
	52.7%	255
	30.4%	147
		33
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>484</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>7</b>

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

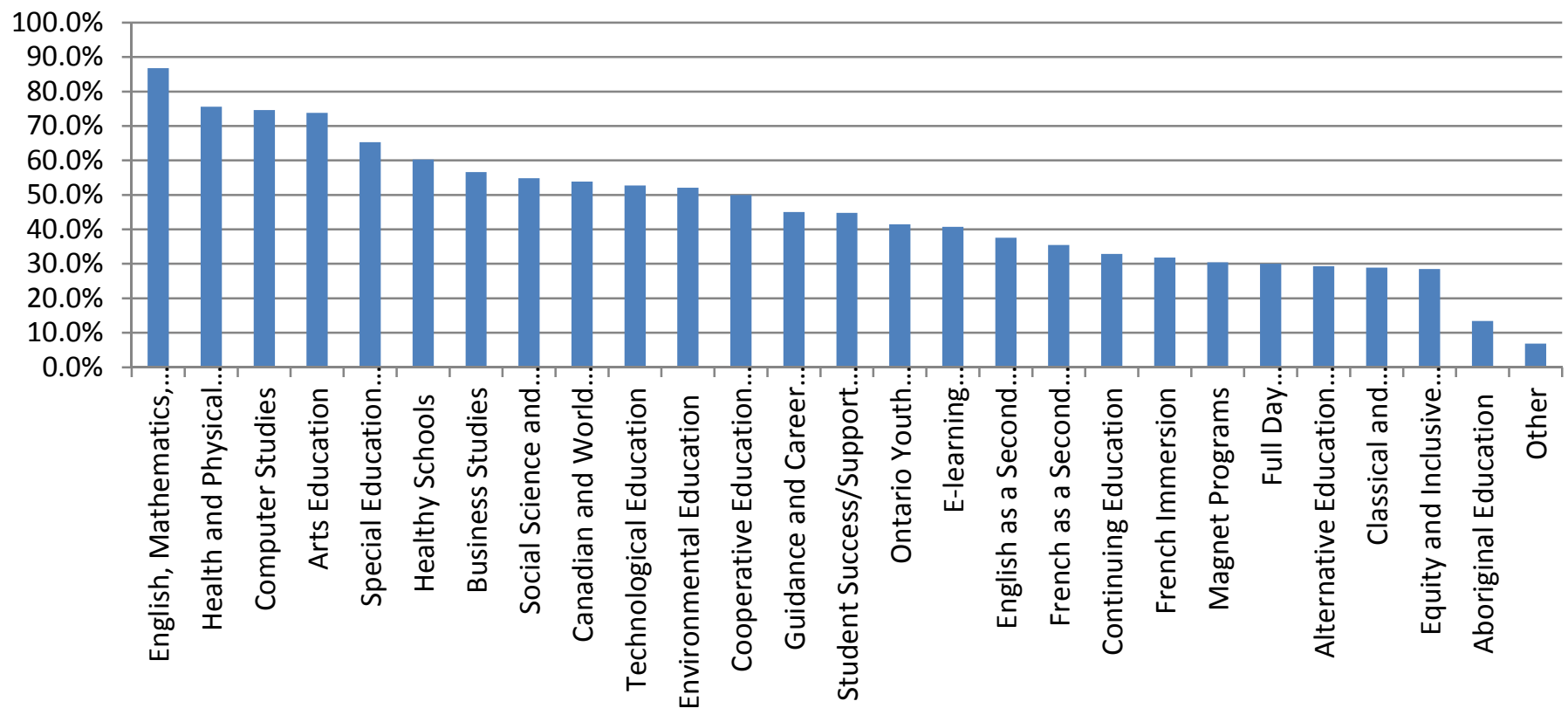
Question 3: Which of the following program(s) are essential to supporting high levels of student achievement and well-being now, and in the next few years?

Please select all that apply:

Comments for Other Category

Number	Other (please specify)
1	ELI
2	After school: music & sports programs please.
3	Equal access to education for pupils with exceptionalities
4	Personal Money Management for Youth
5	Differntiated Learning--providing individualized opportunities for all students in the classroom
6	Increase the number of spots available for psychoeducational assessments
7	Family Studies (Fashion; Foods and Nutirition; Financial Literacy)
8	Library resources and increased availibility to Elementary school libraries...books, not digital resources
9	The issue is not the existence of these classes. The issue is how many people are sitting over the teachers telling them what to do in these classrooms with the teachers having i resources to actually teach these subject matters (no textbooks), LST coaches are a WASTE of dollars
10	The problem is not that all of these courses are unimportant. The issue is how best can they be delivered. They are NOT being delivered effectively at the classroom level (many
11	Extra-Curricular and Activites/Groups During Nutrition Breaks
12	Ealry Reading Programs
13	Enrichment programs, especially math and science (and theoretical physics)
14	Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity
15	alternative programs for non-attenders Gr. 7 - 12
16	Adult literacy programs
17	Air Conditioning at Cameron Heights
18	Sexual education
19	Grade 13
20	Better Start Times
21	Updated computers, Mac computer availability
22	better class rooms, air conditioning to produce a better learning enviroment
23	Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools
24	Integration of Special Ed into the regular classroom
25	Tribes
26	Family Studies
27	Libraries
28	Work Ethic
29	In school support for our French immersion students
30	All important but FF program should have more support leading into co-op to prepare these students for jobs.
31	CELLULAR DEVICICLES IN SKOOL
32	A interdisciplinary approach.
33	Support for extra-curricular programs that support school learning eg. science fairs, music festivals, sports tournaments

**Question 3: Which of the following program(s) are essential to supporting high levels of student achievement and well-being now, and in the next few years? Please select all that apply:**



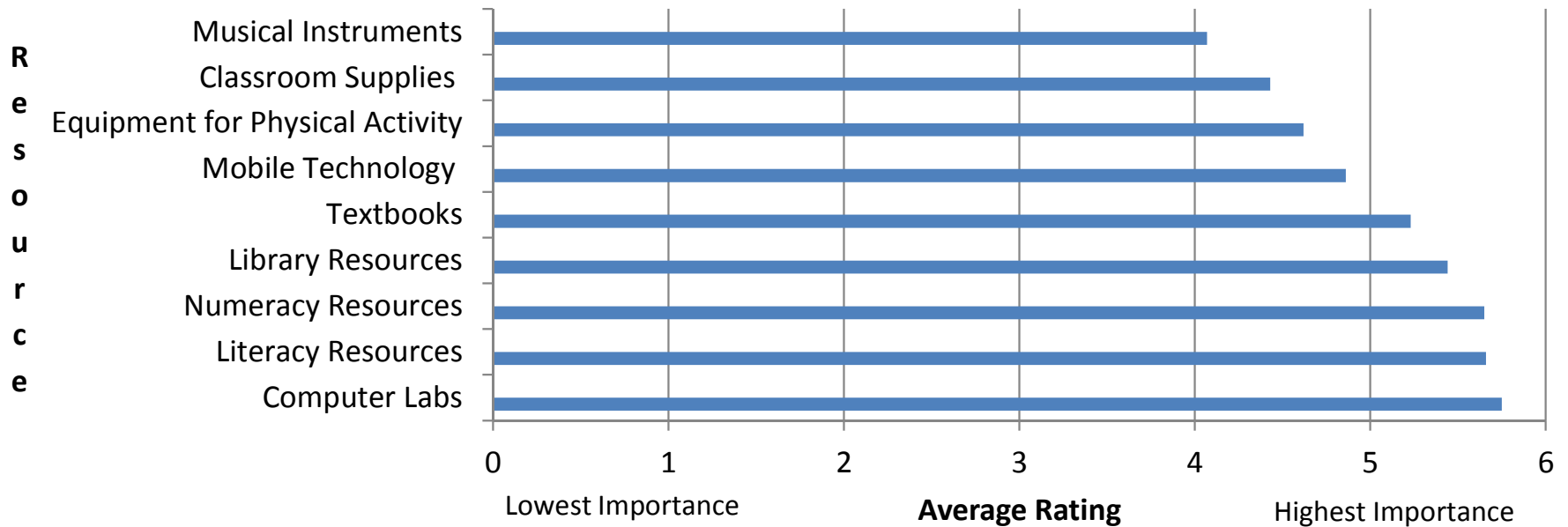


## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

**Question 4: Various resources are used in the classroom setting to facilitate and engage student learning. Please rate the following resources that support student achievement and well-being in order of importance. 1 being the lowest importance to 9 being highest importance**

Answer Options	Lowest Importance								Highest Importance	Rating Average	Response Count
Classroom Supplies (pens, paper, workbooks)	107	53	42	37	38	38	37	34	60	4.43	446
Literacy Resources (guided reading books)	22	49	41	40	42	46	53	71	69	5.66	433
Musical Instruments	56	70	68	60	54	52	33	18	15	4.07	426
Numeracy Resources	14	36	44	43	53	58	77	72	37	5.65	434
Library Resources (books)	13	27	48	58	67	78	64	49	32	5.44	436
Mobile Technology (iPads, Tablets)	87	49	36	37	35	41	44	54	63	4.86	446
Computer Labs	18	35	56	48	53	43	49	64	86	5.75	452
Textbooks	58	47	46	47	37	47	42	63	75	5.23	462
Equipment for Physical Activity	41	67	53	70	70	48	54	29	31	4.62	463
										<i>answered question</i>	<b>482</b>
										<i>skipped question</i>	<b>9</b>

**Question 4: Various resources are used in the classroom setting to facilitate and engage student learning. Please rate the following resources that support student achievement and well-being in order of importance. 1 being the lowest importance to 9 being highest importance Question 4**





**2014-15 Budget Consultation**

<b>Question 5: To help prioritize the most significant issues in schools from a facilities perspective, please rank the following items in order of priority. The most significant being 1 and the least significant being 10</b>												
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Most Significant</b>										<b>Rating Average</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Painting	35	31	35	46	29	40	67	78	92		5.94	453
Flooring	16	54	43	39	40	50	90	98	25		5.60	455
Parking Spaces	56	34	40	33	29	39	62	37	122		5.71	452
Hard Play Surfaces	16	36	53	66	85	86	33	41	30		5.11	446
Sports Fields	54	53	58	69	68	53	33	36	28		4.51	452
Furniture	73	37	56	64	63	58	42	22	38		4.52	453
Grounds Maintenance	26	50	68	63	78	62	54	33	13		4.70	447
Outdoor Play Spaces (Greenfield availability, Play	125	85	49	28	24	27	24	47	51		4.00	460
Shade	57	80	57	44	36	40	47	56	46		4.70	463
Other (please specify)												63
											<i>answered question</i>	<b>478</b>
											<i>skipped question</i>	<b>13</b>

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

**Question 5: To help prioritize the most significant issues in schools from a facilities perspective, please rank the following items in order of priority. The most significant being 1 and the least significant being 10**

### Question 5 Comments for Other Category

Number	Other (please specify)
1	Proper amount of time and supervision of recess/lunch
2	None of these are very important. Give the schools good HVAC and make them all accessible before you waste my money on this stuff.
3	Enlarged schools so as to get rid of portables
4	the buildings are falling apart!
5	The above are all equally important
6	Install full length lockers. Replace half size lockers.
7	green outdoor gym would be great
8	Air Conditioner at EDSS
9	gymnasium, portables for French and Music, washrooms,
10	areas that are nicely maintained for students to eat lunch outside. (benches, garbage cans, etc)
11	Class rooms instead of Portables
12	Portables
13	natural playground
14	Temperature Control (A/C and heat)
15	Track & Field Facility in Kitchener
16	Family Studies Food and Fashion Labs
17	Cleanliness
18	Clean up black Mold at Waterloo Oxford and replace windows.
19	It should be the responsibility of the principal to best decide who school facilities are working.
20	Shade is not important in and of itself. It should be included in sports fields management.
21	Need to create a "gathering space" a place where you WANT to go
22	Some money needs to go towards mitigating the negative effects of recent budget and policy changes. 1) The reduction in busing results in more parents driving children to school. Designated kiss & ride areas are needed for safety. 2) Keeping all the school's doors and windows shut has resulted in sweltering temperature air quality. Shade, air flow, and cooling solutions are needed.
23	storage space
24	Rooms/space to store that stuff when not in use
25	classroom space large enough for the large Kindergarten classes and large junior classes
26	These are all pretty important, ranking them is unfair
27	Hey - who designed this form? You need to go to Survey Design school!
28	Air Conditioning
29	I would rank increased cleanliness of schools as the most significant facilities issue. Students learn and eat at filthy desks every day at every school that I've been board.
30	Chairs ergonomically correct and supportive to the back.
31	needs the whole school to be air-conditioned
32	Air Conditioning for windowless schools (ie Cameron Heights)
33	Air-Conditioning at schools without windows
34	teacher workspace

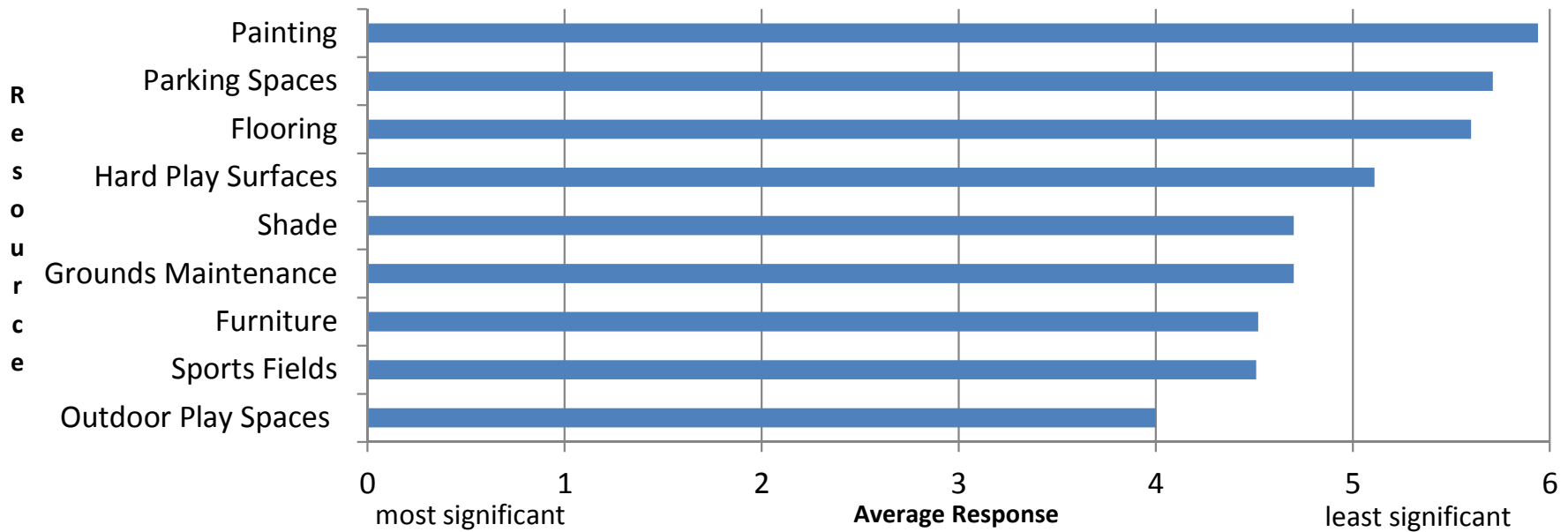
## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

**Question 5: To help prioritize the most significant issues in schools from a facilities perspective, please rank the following items in order of priority. The most significant being 1 and the least significant being 10**

### Question 5 Comments for Other Category

35	New windows and airconditioning
36	Air conditioning. M'y Child feels very suffocated
37	Functioning Air Conditioning
38	Higher speed internet, ventilation, quiet study spaces
39	computer labs
40	Closet bedrooms
41	Having a safe place to drop off children who are not with in walking distance.
42	Air conditioners
43	Trees -air quality
44	AIR CONDITIONING
45	Mechanical Maintenance
46	Air conditioned schools and classrooms!
47	School cleanliness would be my number one priority.
48	Kindergarten classrooms that have been built too small. Nine portables as of 2014-2015 and a single gym for an entire school. Not enough washrooms for the c
49	lack of cooling systems in older schools
50	Window coverings
51	bathroom cleanliness
52	air conditioning
53	make them welcoming, limit access - greater security - secondary
54	naturalization
55	WE NEED A NEW SCHOOL - Meadowlane is not meeting the standards of today's schools
56	Maintain basic structures to prevent further damage, as in fix the two year old roof leak at Forest Glen.
57	Reducing use of portables and minimum standards for HVAC should be priorities
58	Fix drainage issues to reduce dangerous runoff ice in winter
59	Healthy schools eg. non-toxic cleaning supplies, outdoor classroom/learning spaces, windows that open for fresh air
60	Air Conditioned Buildings
61	Washroom conditions, fountain conditions
62	windows are always welcome. Warm and inviting area's. This is a school community- all need to feel safe, comfortable, and proud of their work space.
63	air quality

**Question 5: To help prioritize the most significant issues in schools from a facilities perspective, please rank the following items in order of priority. The most significant being 1 and the least significant being 10**



## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
1	Administration	Administration cuts in board office
2	Administration	Put pressure on the Ministry of Education to Move the facility that houses student copies of completed OSSLTs to an area that charges less for real estate. Excess money could be available which could mean that more money would be available to boards
3	Amalgamate	Amalgamate with Seperate school board. Less paper more email communication with home.
4	Amalgamate	Combine administration of Catholic and Public School Boards
5	Amalgamate	Support the merger of the public and Catholic school boards.
6	Amalgamate	We don't need two school boards - we duplicate costs and add transport costs. Admin staff should all be tech literate (not as an "option if they are ok with it" to save efficiencies and engender better communication with the parent community. If the principal and office staff are scared of or not comfortable with tech - then we aren't benefiting from the tech investments we are making.
7	Amalgamate	Amalgamate the two school boards into one. Complete waste of money.
8	Amalgamate	Merge with the catholic board to reduce bussing costs and duplicate overhead.
9	Amalgamate	Merge the Catholic and Public boards and resources. For those students that are in the catholic program treat similar to the french immersion. Save a ton of money on expenses and captial investments.
10	Class Size	number of student to teacher ratio can be adjusted to avoid needs of portables in the playgrounds. This will reduce the cost of portables, additional teachers , additional support staff for the portables and at the same time this will create more space for students in the outdoor play spaces.
11	Class Size	Increase class sizes, reduce split classes, decrease ECes, teachers handled these children before full day without issues.
12	Class Size	INCREASE CLASS SIZE. SECONDARY SCHOOLS SHOULD START LATER IN THE DAY AND ELEMENTARY SHOULD START EARLIER.
13	Classroom	Please allow us to buy textbooks for our kids. My kid's school does NOT have MATH TEXTBOOKS! THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
14	Classroom	Its really sad to have to rank classroom supplies vs text books. Things that are essential to learning should be in every school. If you don't have the essential items needed to run a business your business will fail.
15	Classroom	Have books from a good place & get people to use them the right way & then the books would last longer then you don't have to keep buying books every year.
16	Classroom	The board should encourage teachers to communicate with parents about classroom needs (basic supplies, art supplies, manipulatives, books, etc.) as many parents would be happy to provide these.
17	Classroom	make the most effort of the majority of children. Children that disrupt the class take away from our budgets and learning activities
18	Classroom	going paperless and effectively using programs such as School Day.

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number	Response Text	
19	Classroom	I am a parent of a student in the board. I RESENT my child's teacher not having proper textbooks (spelling programs, math textbooks, social studies textbooks, science textbooks) to help with teaching her lessons. I am aware of how time consuming and draining it is for teachers to scrounge around looking for materials with which to cover a curriculum that everyone is aware of. I don't want my son's teachers (who are not subject specialists) to solely be responsible for providing reading materials and lesson activities and explanations to my son. They do enough teaching all day without becoming publishers at night. They are not experts in all of these fields. I want my son coming home with proper textbooks with levelled reading and good quality pictures and explanations that we can work on together at home if necessary if he is ill and misses school or if he needs a repetition of what's being learned in class. No more black line masters paid for by teachers themselves or pulled off the internet in haste. Quality, sequenced learning textbooks.
20	Classroom	I am a teacher. I have no textbooks or good reading resources for social studies, science, and French as a second language. The math textbooks are obsolete. I have 2 learning services teachers sit in my staff room monthly playing on their computer instead of in classrooms teaching their own classes. I also have these LST teachers telling me what workshops to take and how best to teach a lesson with absolutely NO reading materials that have been sequenced for students. WE NEED TO HAVE A WELL FUNDED AND WELL UNDERSTOOD system of purchasing textbook resources (with accompanying music, slides, computer programs) for teachers to use. I am sick of having attending workshops telling me how to use materials I don't have in classrooms. The internet is not the be all and end all of school resources - teachers are committing copyright infringement by printing off sheets, the information is not levelled, much of it is not high quality. In addition, there is not enough computer time and computers in schools for the board to rely on the internet for the base reading materials in elementary classrooms.
21	Classroom	Cost savings shouldn't be a WRDSB or even an Ontario Provincial consideration. When looking at the extent of the damage the public education system has taken in this province it is vital to primarily delegate a greater percentage of Federal and/or Provincial funds into our public schooling systems. As an IB Diploma Candidate at CHCI, I have seen first hand the devastating lack of textbook and teacher resources available not only in the IB programme, but in the Ontario system as well. Although my efforts in this blurb may inevitably be in vain, I hope the people reading these messages (preferably board and/or executive administrators) seriously take into consideration the value of smaller class sizes and the addition of more teaching staff into our public education system (ONLY achievable through the greater delegation of public tax funds into our education system - trust me, the last thing you want this school board to become is what the situations are like in Missouri or Texas). Cutting costs and reducing spending in an already choking system will NOT drive the youth of this region to greater heights and will certainly NOT cater to the intellectual and artistic aspirations of this generation. Nevertheless, I am a strong advocate of reducing spending to expensive educational programs which only cater to very small groups of students such as outdoor education or "alternative education programs" simply aimed at hanging onto the least intellectually promising student candidates of this region in the hopes they will graduate with a high school diploma, in combination to the blatantly obvious solution presented above. Thank you.
22	Classroom	replace whiteboards with chalkboards. Data projectors in every class room. Spend more on textbooks and less on boardroom renovations.
23	Classroom	use money for schools
24	Classroom	More money in the classrooms
25	Classroom	Do away with EQAO testing for grades 3,6, etc. and put the money saved into staffing and resources in the classrooms.

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
26	Close Schools	Close a school. Enrolment is down. You have extra schools in declining areas. Bus kids to older schools and don't build new or close an older school.
27	Close Schools	Close high schools that are operating severely under capacity.
28	Close Schools	As most of the board's budget is tied up in negotiated deals with unions, that is clearly the best place to save money. It is, however, also the most difficult place to save money. We should also be considering closing schools, especially high schools where the enrolment is declining. Trustees need to get over the fact that people have strong emotional attachments to their school and need to vote to close schools, like Southwood, that are operating inefficiently.
29	Close Schools	Close a secondary school in Cambridge. Population does not support five sites.
30	Facilities	No more Board room "like" enhancements. Do not install safe secure alarms. If so just in high school, where states suggest harm. Why are not hall cameras in place that would help better in a situation. Get rid of JR kindergarden.
31	Facilities	Update schools, not YOUR offices
32	Facilities	Make "unhealthy" classrooms healthy. Tear out mouldy carpets and ceiling tiles. Our children spend more time at school than they do awake at home. It is unhealthy to have them exposed to must and mould for 6-8 hours a day.
33	Facilities	bathroom stalls need to be replaced
34	Facilities	High schools and public schools without air conditioning makes it increasingly difficult to learn. With high humidity and warm weather, students tend to lose their focus faster. This results in poor marks and frustrated teachers which is not what the school board should be striving for.
35	Facilities	Stop pulling Heads out of school for an entire day at an expensive venue. Turn down the air conditioning at the Ed Centre.
36	Facilities	Don't renovate as much, focus on the oldest schools first
37	Facilities	STOP RENOVATING YOUR OWN BUILDING AND SPEND IT MORE WISLY
38	Facilities	Review of board spending on board facilities???
39	Facilities	Stop third party child care providers and other rentals from using school board resources bought with tax payers money (no accountability for damage/cost of replacement and more usage means resources last less time)
40	Facilities	Sensor Lights for hallways, classrooms, to ensure electricity if off when not in use. Better curtains for classrooms that also help save energy. Ensuring the schools are top priority and putting off board needs until a later date.
41	Facilities	Snow removal along sidewalks and cat walks.. Please, one of you, the school or the city, take the initiative and make one if you responsible for these areas. We've been told by 2 schools....it's the cities responsibility AND told by the city its the schools responsibility. For me, it should be the schools responsibility, just as the sidewalks around your house are. But please stop passing it off to each other... that doesn't help kids and parents walking to school, let alone wheelchairs or strollers.
42	Facilities	Turn off lights and unused electrical devices and computers when not in use. This should reduce some expenses.
43	Facilities	Using less electricity during the day (sensor lighting or only using alternative lights) and installing water saving taps and toilets.
44	Facilities	In the KW Record there was a story about the board going over budget on renovations to the board office (High definition screens etc). If there are to be cuts, do it at the top and not in the classrooms.
45	Facilities	Cutting down on paper use, installing low flush toilets, using A/C only when needed, minimize landscape maintenance
46	Facilities	Look at energy savings such as turning off lights and computers when not in use

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
47	Facilities	How many schools have signed with a retailer for their hydro bill? By doing so spending around 40% more on their bill. Don't sign with retailers....they have to make money by charging more.
48	Facilities	Solar panels or wind turbines .....not only would they save on energy expenses, but could generate income from energy sold back to the grid. Also a good learning experience for students.
49	Facilities	Stop renovating the board office. Stop renting expensive venues for meetings. Put a moratorium on all non-essential meetings (including AER) until the budget is balanced. Cut back subject consultant positions.
50	Facilities	Meadowlane and Driftwood are older schools. Why not amalgamate these schools and build 1 larger school in this area. Why are we spending \$700K on FDK at Meadowlane when in 4 years the board is planning on tearing it down? The board is being wasteful.
51	Facilities	Shared use of school facilities - advertise use of facilities after school hours, eg. space rental (does not need to be a high fee, so community groups could afford), but even small fees would add up if schools were used after hours, on weekends, in summer
52	Facilities	Not paying huge amounts of money on your own headquarters, your employed to help the students, not yourselves.
53	Facilities	I doubt the indoor air quality and quality of portable classrooms is safe for occupancy more than 1 hour each day. They should be tested regularly and offer fresh air instead of re-circulated air. Testing reports by a qualified company (not the school board) should be made public and posted on your website.
54	Facilities	Property development - use of surplus property to build rental housing or condos controlled by the Board to raise income.
55	FDK	FDK sucks way too much money from other programs...especially special education.
56	FDK	stop putting all money into all before and after school programs and new furniture for kindergarten classrooms, it is highschool students that need to make sure that they are able to have the support needed to graduate and move on, not drop out stop taking away jobs from Educational Assistants, they support all children with exceptionalities, behaviour issues and academics give resources needed to spec ed
57	FDK	cut the all day kindergarten and before and after school, running the before and after program for 3 kids is a waste of tax payers money
58	FDK	I think Full day Kindergaerten and Extended Day programs are not useful. Children this age are not ready for this especially those still in diapers. In his report Don Drummond identified this as a cost and learning in efficiency. It is nothing more than babysitting, a political alternative to funding private day care. The costs for staffing and utilities could best be used elsewhere. While skilled workers in the trades are needed the OYAP program seems to be a dead end for students since employers are limited to the number of apprentices they can hire by union and provincial government guidelines. How much money is being generated by the use of schools after hours and on weekends by rental groups as opposed to what is being spent to facilitate this use? I would bet that utilities and wages out way the return. Again money best used elsewhere. Once again the theme is utilities, I have visited and volunteered in several schools and have noticed that about 90 percent of classrooms and office area have coffee makers, microwaves, kettles, toasters and other electrical appliances such as fans and water coolers. Are these really necessary, as all schools have a place for students and staff to eat, some even have both a cafeteria for students and a staff room for teaching staff. The hydro cost savings could be passed to more needed areas.



## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
59	FDK	There seems to be a lot of money that is being used for the all day, every day kindergarten program which has its advantages. However, there needs to be more money for providing support to children with special needs in the classrooms from kindergarten all the way through secondary school. There also needs to be more training of staff members around special needs and how to work with these children. There seems to be a lot of fundraising that happens for playground equipment and extracurricular activities. Could some of the fundraising go towards extra support for children that have special needs? If there is not enough funding to provide support, could the school board approach large corporations and ask for donations to support the school? All children could use more support in the classroom to reach their full potential.
60	Fundraising	Schools should fundraise and even ask students if they are willing to donate money towards certain needs of the school. For example I plus many others agree that each school should have AC because from the extreme heat and humidity causes health concerns towards students. AC should be essential towards each school.
61	Fundraising	When doing a school fundraiser, I would like to see an option to simply make a donation to the school. There are times when the fundraiser is not something I can use but I would like the opportunity to send a donation without having to make a purchase.
62	Fundraising	Theme nights for parents, cookie/muffin dough (more purchase fundraisers like buying burgers/hot dogs),
63	Fundraising	A school-board wide endowment fund whereby the proceeds are used for the "discretionary" items outside of the core objectives (ipads, play structures, solar panels on school roofs to generate cash flows... etc) and the board members are predominately parent council / business community and trustees, board facilities---25% each.. All schools can have 1 big fundraiser a year and also get benefits from the fund. (united way for school councils)
64	Fundraising	There are many ways to do fundraising that students could participate in for extra items.
65	Fundraising	More tuck shops, more school fundraising
66	Fundraising	Sponsorships from the technology & corporate sectors, greater transparency on budget.
67	Fundraising	Allow local /national approved sponsors to donate and advertise.
68	Fundraising	Allow School Councils more freedom on what fund-raising monies can be spent on
69	Fundraising	Allow community sponsorships for sports fields
70	Fundraising	All schools need to try to come up with idea to generate revenue such as more fundraising
71	Fundraising	Photography Bundling Services with Pegasus School Images. KCI have saved a lot of money and we use Pegasus for a lot more than photos. Spirit Wear, YEARBOOKS - they are amazing. Best price and best quality I have seen
72	Multiple Ideas	Merge all school boards More actively pressure Government to prioritize increased funding - why don't we hear from school board more in the news? Hire full time SERTs for every school and be sure during hiring that they WANT to do that job, stop the principals from putting whoever is convenient/ wants to enter administration in those positions this creates multifaceted inefficiencies that rarely get discussed. stop cutting grass as often CLOSE A HIGH SCHOOL - stop making other areas take the hit for declining enrollment there. This will help make the community realise the cost of declining enrollment. Put the financial hit in the area where the funding decrease came from! That way everyone can understand why you are doing what your doing. This is integrity.

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number	Response Text	
73	Multiple Ideas	<p>Cutting budgets at the Ed. Centre! Please put money towards the front lines and students, NOT at salaries and office supplies for superintendents, trustees, and other Ed Centre office staff. When looking for savings the classrooms should NOT be the first place to have cuts. Why should a classroom teacher have to put his/her OWN money into classroom supplies when everything is covered at the "Board" level?</p> <p>The board should also train it's facilities staff to be efficient. For example, a classroom has been newly painted but the painters did not prime the cinder-block walls and now all the paint is peeling off! Do it right the first time to avoid having to pay twice!</p>
74	Multiple Ideas	<p>Generating Money - advertise facility rental usage ----- and ---- Cost Savings - cancel "all" Board paid conferences/meetings---- and cancel "all" Board paid catering -- and --- put the Board Benefit Package out for competitive bid there's at least a 15% saving available to negotiate or change the current provider ---- and ---- Operational Efficiencies - train managers to walk the same talk and lead their staff to one vision - evaluate the supervision of staff ratio, currently there's more supervision than staff therefore being top heavy - encourage and enact retirement for all persons who are eligible they all mostly staying for their best of five or because they need the health benefits and if they retire they don't have health benefits (there are ways to negotiate group plans for retirees - the crown corporations do it, the private corporate organizations do it. ---- outsource Payroll service/processing. --- thank you.</p>
75	Multiple Ideas	<p>Please don't spend money on things like tablets and ipads - the educational value of them is so low. The only real technology that should be used in my opinion is that which is actively teaching our children how to use technology, i.e. how to type, how to program, how to use the internet for research. These things are all best done with a computer or laptop. The "apps" that are available for tablets are much less effective than a good teacher.</p> <p>When I was a kid, the older students in a school would help supervise the younger ones at lunch time so that teachers could go for lunch. I realize that there's probably all sorts of liability and legal reasons why this isn't done anymore, however I think the benefits to the children (both older and younger) and the cost savings would far outweigh the risks; I'd love it if this was something that could make a come-back. (We also used to answer the phones in the secretary's office when she went on lunch!)</p> <p>Finally, I don't think the schools do a very good job of tapping into the skills and time resource that parents and the community at large are able to provide. Many parents want to be more involved in their child's education but feel that there isn't opportunity - almost every parent I talk to feels totally cut off from their child's daily life once they start school, and many of them have the time and resources to help but don't feel like they're welcome to. If the schools were open to run more like a co-operative and invite parent participation, I think they would find that they could get significant donations of time and skills to help with things like supervision, communications, greening, etc. School councils make a small attempt to do this, but the stigma associated with school council is often hard to get past for many parents; when they are invited directly by the school to participate (e.g. help supervise a field trip for their class) they are much more likely to get involved. The board really needs to help with a policy to encourage this involvement, rather than leaving it up to the individual principal, as some of them are much less naturally inclined to reach out to the community.</p>

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number	Response Text	
76	Multiple Ideas	We talk about reduce, reuse, recycle. How much do all schools actually recycle? And I don't mean what goes in the blue box back to the dump. What is being "RE-used"? How much paper have we reduced? It's so easy to copy a sheet, easy to buy prepackaged foods for kids lunches, etc. The stuff that teachers pitch into those big grey bins for shredding (old, outdated papers and books) is unbelievable. Kids don't really re-use a piece of paper over and over. They get a new one and so do teachers. Outdated computers, where do they go? Are they re-used by someone else? Can we sell them to pay for a school project? Or build a school in a poor country? When new buildings are constructed, why not put up solar panels that would generate electricity so the school is run on off the grid? Let schools control their own heat and cooling. So often the AC is on when it doesn't need to be on. Open a window instead in the Spring.
77	Multiple Ideas	The Province should introduce land dedication for school purposes similar to park dedication; earlier school times thereby reducing the time the school has to be open; determine if there are surplus property on schools (e.g. Elizabeth Ziegler) that could be severed off for private development.
78	Multiple Ideas	1) Paid parking at schools, or requiring staff to pay for their own parking (as is required for Regional and City staff in the Region of Waterloo). 2) Reducing the number of students who travel to school by bus (increasing distance of mandatory busing) 3) Energy audits of school facilities (lighting retrofits are available through the free SaveOnEnergy program through all electrical LCDs such as Waterloo Hydro, etc. 4) Retrofitting the parts of school yards that staff can't monitor during recess into community gardens (charging a yearly fee to participate) - another option would be to sever some of the larger properties and sell this land to complimentary users (eg. housing, community use, not industry or commercial) 5) Partnering with other school boards in the Region (eg. French Catholic, French Public, English Catholic) to deliver complimentary programs
79	Multiple Ideas	sharing bus routes with other schools; sharing library locations if schools are in close walking distant; mobile musical programs - bring back ART PROGRAMS for all schools!
80	Multiple Ideas	1. Switch everything to online communications (no more paper newsletters, announcement flyers, report cards, permission forms, etc.) 2. Ability for community groups to rent school facilities after hours (including cost of school rep/staff to be present). 3. Allow more opportunities for parents to volunteer including running after school activities at the school. 4. Encourage schools (or board wide) to make a list of useful items (skates, musical instruments, technology) for parents and community to donate.
81	Multiple Ideas	consider supplier chain - the mandated companies the Board must deal with - are they offering best value? eliminate costly fancy planners - students just need something simple phase out Assistant Superintendents inventory tracking - is it adequate? a centralized tracking for all supplies (not just major) would help reduce the amount of items needing re-purchase due to disappearance new schools should only be built if Public and Catholic Boards can share - see what other Boards have experienced (that have done this) Be the first to implement programs that utilize more co-op students (high school and university, college) - both teaching candidates and early learning educators. Would have significant cost reduction and some very good young individuals would be given opportunities (that they currently have no opportunity for) at little or no cost to the Board.

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number	Response Text	
82	Multiple Ideas	<p>Discourage field trips that are seemingly unnecessary to curriculum - a lot of field trips that are granted are neither useful nor applicable.</p> <p>Find more cost effective contractors to get jobs done - let them bid and heavily compete for the work. Do not allow them to set the prices which we all know are purposefully higher than average - due to it being 'government' funded.</p> <p>Stop funding programs that hinder students in the real-world, especially those that cater to students who are not meant for high school or those who choose NOT to be academically inclined. There's a path for them, they have to figure it out; stop putting money into this unrealistic "success for all" approach. It hinders those students who can actually add value to Canada's future - which is what we need and what employers look for.</p>
83	Multiple Ideas	<p>Ask teachers where they see money that could be better allocated. On the ground in the trenches people should be given a voice. For example large character ed conferences, learning skills posters, renting facilities such as Rockway Golfcourse or the Holiday Inn -- when we have hundreds of buildings with suitable facilities that we could share (i.e) one school take an afternoon to host this PD, another school could host another session. Every school has a gym and/ or a library. This might not seem a perfect idea -- but in our current fiscal situation isn't it something we should look at.</p> <p>- taking a hard look at Digital Learning Teachers, Learning Support Teachers etc. - let boots on the ground teacher who have actually worked with these individuals have a voice -- not to criticize, but rather to weigh the cost vs. benefits</p>
84	Multiple Ideas	<p>Consider implementing a walking buddy program such as this one in Alberta.  <a href="http://www.healthyalberta.com/1646.htm">http://www.healthyalberta.com/1646.htm</a></p> <p>The benefits promoted on their website are mostly focused on wellness and the benefits derived from wellness, but there is an added benefit in that traffic congestion may be reduced. This, in turn, would increase safety.</p> <p>Parents should be encouraged to have their children ride the bus. This would also improve safety by reducing traffic congestion. We already spend the money on bussing a handful of students, so we should try to maximize the value of this expense.</p> <p>Items like tablets are very poor choices for teaching computing skills to children. The user experience for these devices is designed to make consumption of media easy. Production of content on such devices is not a focus for any of the hardware vendors. If you really want students to learn valuable computing skills that will make them active participants in the high-tech community, you need inexpensive devices such as the \$35 Raspberry Pi. There are free educational applications geared to children aged 4-18 (or really 4-99) on these devices. They are lower cost and have a far greater educational value. However, the hidden cost of these devices is in educating the teachers to be able to educate the students.</p>

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
85	Multiple Ideas	<p>Don't worry about dandelions.</p> <p>Consider having a secondary school program that starts later in the day--maybe it will prove so popular that enrolment will go up, resulting in more dollars from the province.</p> <p>Consider reducing layers of management with a goal particularly to reducing the number of highly paid managerial positions earning over \$130,000. Organizational structure should be as flat as possible.</p>
86	Multiple Ideas	<p>Teaching &amp; Administration salaries have skyrocketed, under the 'assumption' that you get what you pay for. We are not getting value eluded to by the current extreme salaries.</p> <p>Year round education: There are numerous successful education programs that run year round. This two month down time is a GIANT deterrent to students who struggle academically, and reduces the actual effective teaching time of the 10 months that remain. Lower income families can't afford three months worth of child care or the down time that teaching and administrative staff can. It's an unnecessary challenge/hurdle for these kids and their families. We are not all harvesting crops anymore, our education system should reflect that.</p>
87	Other	<p>It seems wasteful to bring playground equipment up to "code" or replace them at exorbitant costs when kids would be pleased to have shrubbery, an old-fashioned geo-dome for climbing (questioning why they are torn down), and spaces and materials that allow them to play creatively - these can be recycled materials like rubber tires, cloth etc or natural ones like log pieces that can be moved. The more safe the climbing structures are, the less inspiring. I remember the trees more than the play structures from my elementary school days.</p>
88	Other	<p>Question 5 has no criteria for importance. Are you looking for safety, convenience, academic importance, healthy students?</p>
89	Other	<p>Alternative schools, year round schooling</p>
90	Other	<p>Flaws in survey:question #5 has 9 possible ranks although question suggests 10 are available. Question # 4 is ranked lowest to highest while question #5 is ranked most significant to least....this may affect your results.</p>
91	Other	<p>No</p>
92	Other	<p>Start treat our education system like a business and make student learning the priority.</p>
93	Other	<p>Don't waste it on pointless things.</p>
94	Other	<p>couldn't fill out the survey in #4 and #5... erased answers when I clicked on the next option</p>
95	Other	<p>Less bureaucracy will promote cost savings. More autonomy for individual schools will save the 'middleman' vortex.</p>
96	Other	<p>Have a clear policy that defines the relationship between school board and parent council - what each is responsible for providing and where the money comes from. There are several grant opportunities to fund music programs, outdoor play spaces, etc. More focus should be spent on these options.</p>
97	Other	<p>I feel as though that my school is taking on too many projects, such as redoing our parking lot, paying \$4000 to take a couple pictures from a plane when instead that money could have been used to pay our teachers.</p>
98	Other	<p>Although we have many fundraisers for humanity program at my high school (RCSS), I hope it can be seen that some of that money could be used for keep teachers at our school. Because of the budget costs, we are potentially going to lose some of the most fundamental teachers that do the most at our school. Teachers are retiring this year so it would only make sense to me and a lot of other students to split the money collected to somehow fund the teachers that teach here.</p>
99	Other	<p>This survey is poorly designed.</p>

## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
100	Other	The ranking of questions 5 and 6 is frustrating. It gives a false sense of how much something is valued when items can not be ranked equally. For example, phys ed equipment is ranked behind the others, but I most certainly value physical activity for ALL.
101	Other	Consider the feeder schools. We feel we get forgotten because we are further from the city!
102	Other	Don't spend money on unnecessary things.
103	Other	I think 2 nutrition breaks are ridiculous 20 minutes to eat 20 minutes to play x2 it's like the school wants to create ADD in students or prepare them for a factory work life it's even worse in winter when kids are expected to wear their SNOW PANTS while eating??? many kids go home hungry because there is not enough time to eat - they say. Seems our school is saving money by not running a/c.
104	Paid Parking	students pay for school parking permits. Convert all schools to sensor lighting.
105	Paid Parking	Charge teachers and visitors for parking, it happens at most businesses
106	Partnerships	I would encourage the Board to seek opportunities for partnerships and sharing of resources wherever possible.
107	Partnerships	There are many opportunities for schools to partner with environmental agencies to improve ecological initiatives. More attention, promotion, encouragement and 'matching' (dollar for dollar) would benefit both the schools and the board's budget for things like "shade" and "grounds maintenance".
108	Partnerships	Partnership with area businesses to sponsor programs and resources.... Eg technology companies to sponsor computer labs, landscaping companies to sponsor outdoor projects. gifts in kind go a long way
109	Partnerships	business partnerships with community stakeholders
110	Partnerships	Corporate Partnerships
111	Partnerships	Partnering with the other school boards in the Region on facilities, staff, administration (i.e., payroll). Pursue sponsorships from community organizations, service clubs, municipalities.
112	Programs	Stop taking things out of the school that are being used such as tools in the shops because they are useful and they are not being replaced which hinders our learning. When they are bought and paid for and not broken don't take them and promise new ones. It is expensive and they work. Also I heard that a board room cost a million dollars which is a waste of money. You could maintain lot of schools with that money.
113	Programs	The Arts budget is too small and there needs to be experts in the area of the arts to facilitate greater integration of the Arts into core subjects. Additionally, there should be someone at the board office regularly changing the display areas to demonstrate the exciting things happening in schools.
114	Programs	Have mire science subjects

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
115	Programs	Eliminate French Immersion or have people pay extra for it. Eliminate Shakespear studies in favour of better basic language skills. Eliminate Kindergarten, in favour of an extra year prior to University. This will bring everyone's basic level of education up. Kindergarten is day care. Reduce the number of teachers by having larger class size and higher quality of teachers. (See Malcolm Gladwell's study) Consider renting out wood/machine shops. Consider charging extra fees for IB program or eliminate it. It seems to be elitist and not available to everyone. Revisit breakfast programs and only target areas where they are needed.
116	Programs	Stop doing the OSSLT for grade 10.
117	Programs	Outdoor development for highschoools in particular are un-needed. Budget is better spent on teachers and programs.
118	Programs	Fees for magnet programs
119	Programs	Look for duplication--i.e. at the high school level, non-semestering requires more of the same resources due to classes running simultaneously, than does semestering.
120	Programs	Get rid of learn to 18 and section programs Costly and not working check the stats!
121	Programs	I would not offer French Immersion in most schools. It really takes away from the quality of our schools and adds considerable expense.
122	Programs	Have more mandatory courses like a tech class, business, or careers.
123	Programs	Eliminate French instruction in the primary grades. Eliminate newsletters and paper copies sent home - more electronic communication (Twitter, Instagram, Emails). Have only French Immersion schools - 100% in Grade 1, 2, 3; reduce in the Junior Grades), instead of having it many schools.
124	Programs	Co-op or student leadership projects
125	Purchasing	Competitive bidding for all the contracted activities
126	Purchasing	One way that would save money would be hiring private sector workers to do building projects and maintenance instead of only being able to use unionized companies. Not only would this be a way to save money but this could allow work to be done on evenings and weekends at a substantially lower cost to the board.
127	Purchasing	1. Allow budgetary expenditures of items that do not reduce quality, but are significantly less expensive. Instead of being forced to use a supplier/installer that charges dramatically more. 2. Allow monetary flow between projects or different budgets, instead of being forced to use these monies in a specific way or target.
128	Purchasing	Use Staples for F&E, Schoolhouse is too expensive, poor selection and delivery time. Too many managers at the Ed. Centre.
129	Purchasing	The board should rid itself of granting few companies the rights to secure contracts. They have been charged to premiums for many comparable products. It is time to look at supplier pricing. eg. cost of board approved area rugs that are double the cost of comparable rugs at market value.

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number	Response Text
130	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Putting money into the outdoor facilities like track, and soccer fields would bring in revenue all summer long by rentals. Especially turf fields with lights that could be rented April -Oct until 11 pm.
131	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Yes, advertise on your wifi network, collect that money and use that money for activities for your students
132	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> solar power panels on roofs
133	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> 1. Generating \$ -- attract high quality international students (pay fees to attend high school) 2. Generating \$ - better manage temperature in schools - air conditioning a bit higher (too cold in some schools), and lower heat a bit to save \$ 3. Generating \$ -- reduce/lower or simply turn off lights -- many students prefer less bright/florescent to learn! 4. Proactively market and source alternate uses for the school building when not in use (ie evenings, weekends, summer), and charge a fee to gain revenues
134	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Extracurricular student presentations/paid events. Would need to be investigated to ensure operation costs will not exceed profit. Also, promote more volunteering in a cost efficient way.
135	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Install solar panels on school roofs. Can both teach about sustainable energy while also saving money on electric costs.
136	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Grants for greening td environment
137	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Prostitution
138	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Put solar panels on the roof of each school. Lobby the government to cancel the EQAO and use those funds to offset costs.
139	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Topless Car Wash
140	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> I think the board should be advertising the fact that spaces are available for rent more. Saving measures like rain barrels for garden watering should be implemented.
141	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Comment is that the answers to #3 and #4 will vary depending on the grade level - i.e. the priorities and needs for a Kindergarten or Grade 1 student will be very different compared to that of a student in high school. A suggestion for improvement with this survey would be to ask for the grade level of the student to narrow down and consider the priority resources for the various grade levels - even if it is categorized as elementary,middle,secondary. Consideration for cost savings - aligning more with the Catholic Board, especially with transportation, to encourage even more efficiencies with the cost of transportation. Encouraging pathways to working with community groups/companies to support schools by offering sponsorship or grants towards things like outdoor maintenance, trees, outdoor play equipment. Are we working with the most cost-effective and responsible suppliers - are they being economical with the cost of services and products? Is there a comprehensive system in place to review supplier contracts and put opportunities out for tender to ensure the best pricing is in place?
142	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> SELL METH
143	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> Pass on costs for ESL, Alternative Ed, Continuing Ed, Magnet Programs to students that require it
144	<b>Revenue Opportunity</b> The board should begin a foreign student program to bring in additional revenue. Many students in other countries would like to study in Ontario high schools.
145	<b>Staff</b> How much money do superintendents, principals, board members make? Why would we take money away from students and teachers when we can take money away from the people who already make way too much.



## 2014-15 Budget Consultation

### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
146	Staff	Reduce number of upper management positions within the WRDSB.
147	Staff	Why is there so much upper-level management? We need teachers with the students.
148	Staff	Reduce wages for the Director of Education and board members at the top of the pay scale and put the money back in to education, libraries and resources for the children.
149	Staff	From a parent's point of view, it seems logical that rather than cutting specialized programming such as spec ed and magnet programs, it would be more beneficial to cut staffing at the administrative level.
150	Staff	Teachers are the best resources you have. If you treat them respectfully they will do their best work.
151	Staff	Custodians, tradesworkers should rotate among schools during the day (on call) and do the majority of work in the evening when students are not in the building.
152	Staff	The more special education and social and emotional support (cyw's) given at the elementary and preventative level, the less expense and resources will be needed at a repair active level in high school
153	Staff	Reduction of large salaries to distribute and fund more staff and educational assistance. Summer months to be deducted from salaries. Salaries can be carried over through summer months through continuing education/training for the staff that want to improve and better their abilities and skill-set as educators. Workshops for staff to take place during summer months and not during school year.
154	Staff	Less administration, more faculty, teachers, resource teachers.
155	Staff	Stop over spending with EA's and have teachers actually teach and be accountable for the class and their wage. Work for their salary.
156	Staff	I do not know how many superintendents there are in the Tri-cities, nor do I know what itinerent teachers and consultants do, but perhaps some of those jobs should be cut back. I understand that would be a great deal of money saved. I hope the Board would also consider contracting custodial duties out to private companies. The schools would be cleaned properly because the private companies depend on the renewal of their contracts based on performance.
157	staff	Earlier Retirement - hire new teachers for less \$
158	Staff	When a teacher/administrator is of retirement age they should be expected to retire so new teachers can work bringing forward new ideas
159	Staff	Salaries considered in light of current economics Sick days are a necessary and important part of employment, but accumulating sick days, thinking that they are deserved or owed is an abomination and insult to taxpayers.
160	Staff	More accountability from teachers assigned to Board Office. Effectiveness should be measured.
161	Staff	save supply teacher cost by reducing personal days off for teachers.
162	Staff	If teacher is off for ONE day Do not replace them. More than one day replace them. Fundraising is maxed
163	Staff	Stop hiring retired teachers as supply teachers and try using new graduates.
164	Staff	I'm not convinced that the money spent for release time for some of the PD is money well spent. Often staff go to get trained and are supposed to run a meeting to educate the staff on what they have learned. I think we could continue to utilize technology and online learning. Also, I think some of the money being spent on PD should be given to experienced educators in specific areas to write resources. This seemed to be done more often 15 years ago (i.e. persuasive writing documents gr. 6). Some of these documents are much easier to utilize into a program then watching a presentation on a topic.

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
165	Staff	Cut positions at the board office. Fewer administrators Cut special ed. positions that do not directly support students in classrooms. Cut PD programs such as CILM
166	Staff	If teachers had better training there would be less need for educational assistants.
167	Staff	Teachers who do the most for a school should not be dismissed or relocated. Teachers like SAC directors often do the most and need to be kept to ensure student involvement. Cutting those who do so much is illogical.
168	Staff	On several occasions, the teachers at the school where I volunteered held PA Day style meetings and conferences during actual teaching school days. Many supply teachers would be brought in to teach the students while the regular classroom teachers sat in the library (which was closed for the day, thereby denying the students access to resources) conferring at various meetings. This is a blatant waste of taxpayer dollars, in my opinion. Why can't the teachers hold these meetings after school, or on P.A. Days? Once upon a time, I taught in Peel Region. All our meetings happened over the lunch hour, or after school. Yes, we had to give up some personal time, but that's why we were paid the big bucks. I suppose this arrangement is some union concession. All the more reason to scale back on union power. Also, "personal days" should be looked into, and whether or not they are abused, again, at a cost to the taxpayer. I understand that everyone needs a day to attend to a sick loved one, or attend a funeral or what have you. I can understand a teacher taking a day for those reasons. But should it be okay for a teacher to take a day off because she really felt the need to have a manicure and massage, but could not wait one more day until the weekend? And is it really smart for a teacher to openly discuss her inappropriate use of taxpayer money in front of parents in the school office. The school paid this woman to pamper herself for the day, then had to pay a supply teacher to teach my child. Really not happy about that. Then there is the whole subsidized daycare in the guise of full-day kindergarten issue, but that would be an essay in and of itself. There are many ways in which the school board could save money. Unfortunately, I believe you would have to break a couple of unions in order to do so.
169	Staff	fire all french teachers, fire all crappy teachers, replace 10 crappy teachers with 2 excellent teachers.
170	staff	As I look around my school, I often think that money could be "better" spent. Although we have many custodians (day and evening combined), our school is not always cleaned very well. As a result, some teachers in the school clean their own desks and floors. That is time NOT spent on planning and assessing. As cost saving measures are considered, it is always a good example to begin "at the top" and consider what jobs can be combined or eliminated at the board offices.
171	staff	Ask teachers, custodians, those 'in the field' where they see waste . . . and better ways to spend tax dollars
172	Staff	Eliminate some of the consultants. They were originally there to support teachers now they only seem to support superintendents. If anything they seem to generate more work for teachers rather than produce resources that are useful to teachers.
173	Staff	Cut back on teacher PD
174	Staff	There should have been a full wage freeze with the last contract. With the next contract looming, the wages should be frozen only for the employees who received increases the last two years, including management. Also, would suggest the board is too top heavy. Maybe some layers of management need to be eliminated. Also, maybe offer an incentive for employees to voluntarily leave the Board.

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
175	Staff	Fire some teachers.
176	Staff	Reduce numbers of consultants.
177	Staff	If teachers get paid in the summer months when they are not working then you could stop that and save money!
178	Staff	Paraprofessional staff should be utilized fairly and across the board. Too many are 'attached' and so many students are not able to receive the support they so greatly need and would benefit from.
179	Technology	Technology
180	Technology	Not spending it on stupid stuff like iPads and terrible netbooks
181	Technology	Use green initiatives to decrease energy usage. Improve use of tech by teachers and students to further reduce paper usage (teachers are inconsistent with their tech/paper use, and even when there is a digital version provided, some insist on a paper copy as well).
182	Technology	-lots of money seems to be wasted on computers that are not necessarily used to truly increase the quality of student learning (lots of passive, rote-learning-type games and activities going on in the computer lab)
183	Technology	Chromebooks for students to reduce cost of photocopiers and paper.
184	Technology	SEA Equipment allocation: get rid of SEA printers, scanners and ensure each resource room has WIFI printer/scanner option. Get rid of the desks and create a locable, rolling cabinet for storage that is vertical for efficient space.
185	Technology	<p>There are several approaches the board could take to improve not just the financial budget (generating money, saving costs, etc.), but even the overall structure, and efficiency of the schools in the board. I'll try to be brief, and to the point.</p> <p>Firstly, we need to stop wasting money on costly items such as iPads, or other "new" gadget-like technologies, which render nearly useless in the classroom setting. If we want to incorporate technology in the classroom, which we should since we are developing into a technologically geared society, then we can invest in computer labs or netbooks (to an extent, although it should be taken into consideration that most already have such technologies at home, and thus we don't need to purchase them when we don't need too). The worst is when we purchase ludicrous technologies such as mobile devices, iPads, or recently the Chromebooks for classrooms, especially since we have such a tight budget.</p> <p>Secondly, we should not be cutting funding to magnet programs (e.g. International Baccalaureate), since the students in these programs know exactly which direction they want to take with high school, and post-secondary. We want students to be prepared, and planned for this 'real-world', thus cutting funding to these programs is only deterring this responsible, and mature behaviour (no matter the magnet program).</p> <p>Conclusively, it would be fantastic if we could stop wasting money on virtually useless, and extremely costly technologies, when there is clearly no need, or improvements demonstrated through their use. Further, funding programs where students are encouraged to have this structured approach to their academics will lead to better, more organized, student populations. Moreover, forget the aesthetic appeal of schools, and focus on the core, hire teachers, staff, create jobs, spur growth, and create a board where intelligence, and creative thinking are encouraged, not "cut" due to a lack of funding.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, and consideration.</p>

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
186	Technology	Please continue to invest resources toward making more use of online education opportunities to improve classroom time, and increase student and parent participation. i.e. flipped classroom, digital literacy, administrative communication
187	Technology	Don't give elementary schools funding for ipads when high schools who have students that are taking classes such as the arts or languages and serious about going into that career get next to no funding or very little. Also, chrome books were a waste of money, there is very little you can do on them. The school board could probably also save itself ALOT of money in the long run if they did a mass purchase ( and would probably get a discount too ) of e-readers instead of textbooks! Also, short term solutions that are frequent cost you more than one investment. INVEST IN OUR SCHOOLS with transferable resources such as ereaders, instead of unnecessary renovations, libraries that are fine as is don't need to have money put into them when art rooms sinks are regularly breaking down due to only being given quick fixes instead of long term ones.
188	Technology	Too many resources are being put into the technological equipment which does not connect and integrate the right/brain systems and this at times seems to be taking precedence over basic skills that should be learned such as hand writing. Hand writing has shown to impact and improve neurological/emotional/behavioral/academic functioning when introduced and aids in the advancement of brain function. It is not something that should be merely introduced with no continued support or left out of the curriculum entirely. Many studies have shown that when handwriting programs are implemented and are actually continued, there is an increased benefit in academic performance with improved behavioral/emotional skills as handwriting integrates the functioning level of both sides of the brain. We are putting are children at a disadvantage with these basic skill sets and continue to further spend money on ipads and are seeing an increased need for special educational support services. Perhaps we need to go back to the drawing board and bring back some of the basic elements which actually help children's brain develop and succeed. Handwriting is not just a menial task that should be relegated to the dump in view of new technology and increased spending elsewhere. Your need for increased spending in special educational/continuing educational/Alternative educational programming etc will continue to increase until we look at children's brains as a whole rather than a machine with separately functioning parts that need repair. Also, photocopying costs could be reduced by actually having math text books for children from grades 2-6 to work from. Thus blending the new form of teaching math with an older version..perhaps enabling math scores to be increased in elementary schools thus requiring less special educational resources.
189	Technology	Technology is very expensive to keep updated. Drop this to a lower priority.
190	Technology	Printing to photocopiers for teachers. Power usage reduction plan through ITS and Facilities. More freedom in school-based fundraising and asset acquisition.
191	Technology	You should have considered the obvious shortfall problem ahead of time. Spending excessive amounts of money on items such as iPads, computers, will not improve education. Use some of that money for teacher evaluation....it will result in more educational success.
192	Technology	Less money for technology; the important things in the classroom don't come from a computer. We need expertise in the classroom, lower student-teacher ratios, and more professional supports for students at risk. There is no reason we need ipads in the classroom. Focus on our teachers and cut out the distractions of screens in the elementary years. They get enough of that elsewhere.
193	Technology	Eliminate paper. No newsletters, flyers, more bring your own devices at schools

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6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
194	Technology	Use Ipads/tablets in classes as opposed to Labs; use online textbooks, use more electronic files STOP with so much photocopying in the classroom!! too much paper waste!!
195	Transportation	I would be willing to pay for my children to take a bus. Right now my son is eligible for a bus and my daughter isn't. This past winter was terrible and not safe for my children to walk to school. It is not efficient having an unsafe school neighbourhood because everyone has to drive to the school.
196	Transportation	Change the bell times back to normal and save costs in other areas! Changing bell times impacts working parents significantly and financially.
197	Transportation	pay per service school busing encourage students to attend school team completions..\$1.00 to attend and have a 50/50 raffle for monies paid. encourage investing with school raise funds to earn growth and teach kids at same time.
198	Transportation	cut the bus transportation. make it private by request available to all kids who really need it . free the parents who are paying high taxes

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number		Response Text
199	Transportation	<p>Yes, you should consider that making high schools' bell times earlier is a VERY BAD IDEA. Firstly because the studies have shown that waking a teen at 7am is like waking an adult at 3am.</p> <p>How can we expect our teens to do well in school when we are setting them up for failure!? They already have a hard enough time getting up for their 8:20-8:45 bell times.</p> <p>Why on earth would the board not have considered making elementary kids bell times' earlier?? Young children are usually up early anyways and now they have the before and after school care programs so parents can drop them any time after 7:30.</p> <p>I have heard many teachers discuss how much the Board would save if they implemented a Mon-Thurs school week for high school. Why can't this be a possibility? Then students could have 3 full days a week for their homework and jobs.</p> <p>I still can't believe that the so called intelligent and well educated people at the school board, would make this call to make high school bell times 15- 20 minutes earlier all in the name of saving money.</p> <p>This will negatively impact most teens and their morning extra curriculars.</p> <p>It could cause teens to falter academically from being so tired and increase the chance of them being late or skipping.</p> <p>I have not heard from one student who believed this time shift could be positive.</p> <p>But I have heard from many who are dreading it and are angry about the impact on their morning extra curriculars.</p> <p>The question is does the school board care about what the students think more or less than it cares about saving money via bus schedules.</p> <p>For the love of all things logical, please, please consider other policies or ideas!</p> <p>Do what we are paying you for and THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!</p>
200	Transportation	<p>Consider, if there are additional spaces on a bus, allowing parents to purchase passes for older siblings when the younger qualifies for busing and the older does not. The bus for our child in JK is probably only 1/2 full and that seems a waste. I know my family and at least one other on that route that would use a pay service for their older child to help subsidize the cost of the bus.</p>
201	Transportation	<p>Elementary schools should start before high schools.</p>
202	Transportation	<p>Bus routes that actually make sense, and a better plan for closing schools due to bad weather. Create a new scale for what deems schools to be closed, even in the city, not just the country schools.</p>

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### 6. Are there any other suggestions for generating money, cost savings or operational efficiencies that the Board should consider? Please explain:

Number	Response Text
203	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>Bussing is not the responsibility of the school but the parents. School is for education first and foremost. If busses were cut there would be far greater scope for appropriate resourcing, especially at the high school level and even grades 5 and above.</p>
204	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>Transportation distances need to be re-evaluated- I would rather see cuts made here- parents, unless it is a great distance, should be responsible for getting students to school in more cases</p>
205	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>Don't move the school start time from 8:30</p>
206	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>increase walking distance for students [less bussing] at secondary, encourage paperless - less printers, photocopies [put teacher limits], change antiquated Department Head structure [there are heads of departments with minimal staff and impact]- move towards assessment and evaluation internal support and make it a term [two years] in order to avoid heads for life, hire library technicians at secondary, coop coordinators could handle multiple schools - such as the online coop - rather than traditional in school model [more centralized pooled resource], increase fees for magnet programs such as IB, deconstruct the outdated Fast Forward WR program and move towards locally developed or essential level courses at all community/home schools [increase engagement, sense of community and hopefully success rate for the learners], close at least one secondary school [particularly Cambridge - south Cambridge], increase elearning platform and look at challenging the contractual agreement whereby an elearning teacher could handle a much greater number of pupil contacts [closer to 45/course], have trillium set up to send attendance/grades and information to parents directly from work station, smart lighting in all buildings, green roofing in new buildings, installation of solar panels for larger buildings, and that is just a start.</p>
207	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>Examine boundary issues as per your own report. Kids are being bused past schools with declining enrollment.</p>
208	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>If you don't start school so early, it would make students more excited to learn (after a good rest) and that would put me in the money-giving mood. School just starts at a foolish time, no child should have to be up that early.</p>
209	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>On the topic of bell times, might I recommend having high schools start later in the day next year, and elementary schools earlier? Most high school students can and do get themselves to school. Be it on the school bus, the city bus, cycling, driving, or walking; they do it independently. Many children in elementary schools, however, rely on parents to drive them, accompany them on the walk, etc. It's my understanding that most parents are employed and need to be at work before 9 o'clock. Having elementary schools start earlier would make it easier for many parents to take their children to school in the morning and still make it to work on time. Giving high schools later bell times would solve the problem of under-slept high school students.</p>
210	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>Asking parents to decide at the beginning of the year if they are going to send their children on the bus. If not, then relooking at schedules to accomodate busing needs amd costs. My child is allowed to take the bus, but we don't do it. Her spot could go to someone else or buses routes could be amalgamated.</p>
211	<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>walking school buses</p>