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NEWS

7 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET

KATHY YANCHUS
kyanchus@metroland.com

Trustees approved a budget of almost \$803 million for the 2020/2021 school year.

HDSB trustees also approved a capital budget of approximately \$117 million and a one-year deficit elimination plan of just over \$5 million.

91.4 per cent, or \$737.3 million, of the operating budget comes from the province, which includes per pupil funding or Grants for Student Needs. Halton still remains one of the lowest funded boards in the province.

At this time, Ontario's Ministry of Education has confirmed \$25 million in COVID-19 funding, but al-

location of the funds by the board has not been announced.

HDSB's enrolment projection is an increase of two per cent over last year, with 722 new students in Milton, 690 new students in Oakville and 11 new students in Burlington. Student enrolment is projected to decrease in Halton Hills by 150 students.

The 2020/21 budget was developed based on a number of "assumptions and uncertainties as they currently exist," said superintendent of business Roxana Negoi. These included the challenges of planning for a September reopening of schools and "cost pressures" for health and safety needs, as well as additional resources to address

growth, support student needs and increase special education programs, she said.

Provincial funding does not reflect the needs of the board, commented director of education Stuart Miller, as it's based on a 2006 census and trajectory and the board has "changed significantly in those 14 years." The greatest challenge is in funding for students with special needs, but there are also rising needs for ESL, said Miller.

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Leathertown Lumber COVID-19 Store Policy



August, 2020

WE ARE NOW OPEN!
Monday to Friday 8am - 4pm

Leathertown Lumber would like to thank all of our customers for their patience during this Covid-19 pandemic.

An increase in demand and new hurdles in the processing of orders has resulted in increased lead times which we know have been frustrating. Thanks again for your patience.

At this point we have reopened the store following the guidelines put forth by the government of Ontario. Strict physical distancing will be in effect, along with reduced store capacity. Please be patient and kind to our staff who continue to work very hard to provide you with the best experience possible at this time.

WELCOME BACK!

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