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Province to give more funds to both York Region boards

JENNIFER BROWN
Metroland Staff

The province's new education funding model will deliver more money to the classrooms of both York Region school boards, but officials are still skeptical they will have enough cash to run their operations.

Under the new classroom-focused formula, the York

Region separate school board will receive \$256 million for the 1998/99 school year — representing a 4.6 per cent increase in operating funds for that year and smaller increases over the next two years.

Initial estimates show the public board will take in an additional \$5 million next year, for a total budget of \$505 million.

The public board's operat-

ing funds rise by 1.1 per cent, followed by increments of 3.4 per cent to the year 2001.

But the news was received with caution the day after Education Minister Dave Johnson delivered his revolutionary funding formula.

"It's too early yet to determine how much more or less money we'll actually need to fund our operations," said separate board chairperson

Tina Rotondi Molinari.

"We're cautiously optimistic in general terms. Catholic boards across the province have been saying it is a necessity to fund on a per-pupil basis. As an assessment-poor board, we had been disadvantaged by the previous funding formula."

Public board chairperson Bill Crothers said prelimi-

■ Please see page 3. ■

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