



Community Budget Information Meeting – Part 2

March 10, 2025

creating student success

Agenda

- Land Acknowledgement
- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- Budget Update
- Recap
- Questions & Comments

Question & Answer

- Use the question (Q&A) feature on the live stream.
- Please identify yourself (we will not answer anonymous questions).
- Questions will be read aloud.
- Duplicate questions will be answered once.
- All pertinent questions not addressed during the meeting will be answered and posted in Q&A on the RETSD website.

Opening Remarks



Board of Trustees

Brianne Goertzen,
Chair—Finance, Facilities,
Transportation & Technology
Ward 3 Trustee



Administration

Sandra Herbst
Superintendent/CEO

The Reality

- Since its inception, RETSD has had to deal with an inequitable and inadequate funding formula.
- Previous governments, and now the current government has tried to fix the funding formula with band-aid solutions and grants.
- Government failed to deliver on their promise of a new funding formula.
- RETSD needs to rebuild its surplus (currently 1.9%, recommended 4%) and set aside funds for the new school (including furnishings and technology) and much needed resources and supports for students and staff in the classroom.
- Remedies:
 - An equitable funding formula
 - Properly funded public education
 - Increase education taxes

The Reality

- The Board of Trustees has spoken over the last number of years to MLAs, ministers of education, and our community about the continual and cumulative effects of underfunding and reductions to RETSD.
- RETSD has made several presentations about a new and equitable funding model, but more importantly funding that supports public education.
- Due to the lack of funding and an inequitable funding model, we are expected to do more with less as the student population continues to grow.

Inequitable Impact of Funding on Average Home (2023)

School Division	Special Requirement	Tax increase to average home	Tax decrease to average home
SJASD	2%		\$94.00
PTSD	2%		\$5.00
LRSD	2%	\$2.00	
RETSD	2%	\$13.00	

Provincial Funding Announcement

- February 10th, the Province of Manitoba announced education funding for the 2025-26 school year.
- RETSD received an additional \$4.0M for 2025-26 which is half of what we received last year.
- The only significant change to the funding formula is that enrolment is no longer projected it is the best of the last three years.
- The change to enrolment does not benefit school divisions with increasing enrolment, like ours.

Enrolment Comparison

School Division	September 2022	September 2023	September 2024	September 2025
Sample division	10,000	9,700	9,500	9,300
RETSD	17,401	18,276	18,761	19,144

Sample division's funding for September 2025 = 10,000
RETSD's funding for September 2025 = 18,761

Status Quo Budget

- A status quo budget represents the funding that is required to maintain current levels of programs, programming, and services for students and staff based on estimated student enrolment for the 2025-2026 school year. It also includes increases to fixed costs (e.g., such as negotiated salary increases, insurance, utilities, statutory benefits).
- The funding model does not take into consideration the increased costs to cover the status quo budget.
- Government funding does not cover the status quo budget.

Status Quo Budget

The status quo budget includes additional costs for the following:

- Staffing increases for the projected growth.
- Reconfiguration costs to convert spaces to classrooms, including furnishings and technology.
- Additional buses for reconfiguration and to replace buses that are over 15 years old. The cost of a bus has increased to \$225,000.

Beyond the Status Quo Budget

The budget includes the following increases due to expected increased enrolment and expansion of programs:

- An increase in teaching staff of 35.9 FTEs (includes classroom, resource, inclusions teachers, substance use counsellor, teacher librarians and clinicians).
- An increase of over 44 Educational Assistants, including speech language.
- Increased mental health services for students.
- Purchase of 8 buses to accommodate growth and bus replacement.

Budget Highlights

- The 2025-26 budget is \$268.3M.
- The revenue available, including provincial funding, totals \$136.3M.
- The difference of \$131.97M must be raised by increasing taxes to balance the budget.
- Mill rate increase of approximately 5.8%.
- Increase to the average home in RETSD valued at \$360,600 is \$560.80, or \$46.73 monthly.

New Tax Rebate

For 2025, the province announced a new education tax rebate called the Homeowners Affordability Tax Credit (HATC).

- The tax credit is applied directly to the property tax statement up to a maximum of \$1,500.
- The tax credit only applies to a taxpayer's principal residence.

(FRANÇAIS AU VERSO)

**THE CITY OF WINNIPEG YYYY
SCHOOL AND MUNICIPAL TAXES**

1 STATEMENT DATE: MAY 01, YYYY
2 ROLL NUMBER: 12345678900
3 Property Address Information:
 123 ANYWHERE AVE
 JOHN AND JANE DOE
4 Title No.: 1234567890
5 Mortgage No.:
6 Part of Lot: Lot: Block: Plan: Parcel:
 12 3 456 78 90 01

Assessment Information				
STATUS	CLASS	%	VALUATION	PORTION
CODE				VALUE
Residence 1	Residence 1	60.0	207,000	129,180

School Taxes	12 SCHOOL DIVISION NAME (Inquiries: 204-888-8888) (129,150 x R #####)	\$1,844.91
	13 MANITOBA EDUCATION PROPERTY TAX CREDIT ADVANCE*	-700.00
	14 NET SCHOOL DIVISION LEVY	\$1,144.91
	15 NET SCHOOL TAXES	\$1,144.91

Municipal Taxes	16 MUNICIPAL TAXES (Inquiries: 311 or toll free 1-877-311-4974) (129,150 x R #####)	\$1,815.33
	16 STREET RENEWAL - Frontage Levy	513.75
	Local Improvements	
	WATERMAIN	210.98
	WASTEWATER SEWER	154.22
	ORNAMENTAL STREET LIGHTING	151.53
	LAND DRAINAGE SEWER - LATERALS	72.86
	24" x 6" CONCRETE STREET PAVEMENT	646.92
18 TOTAL MUNICIPAL TAXES	\$3,564.59	

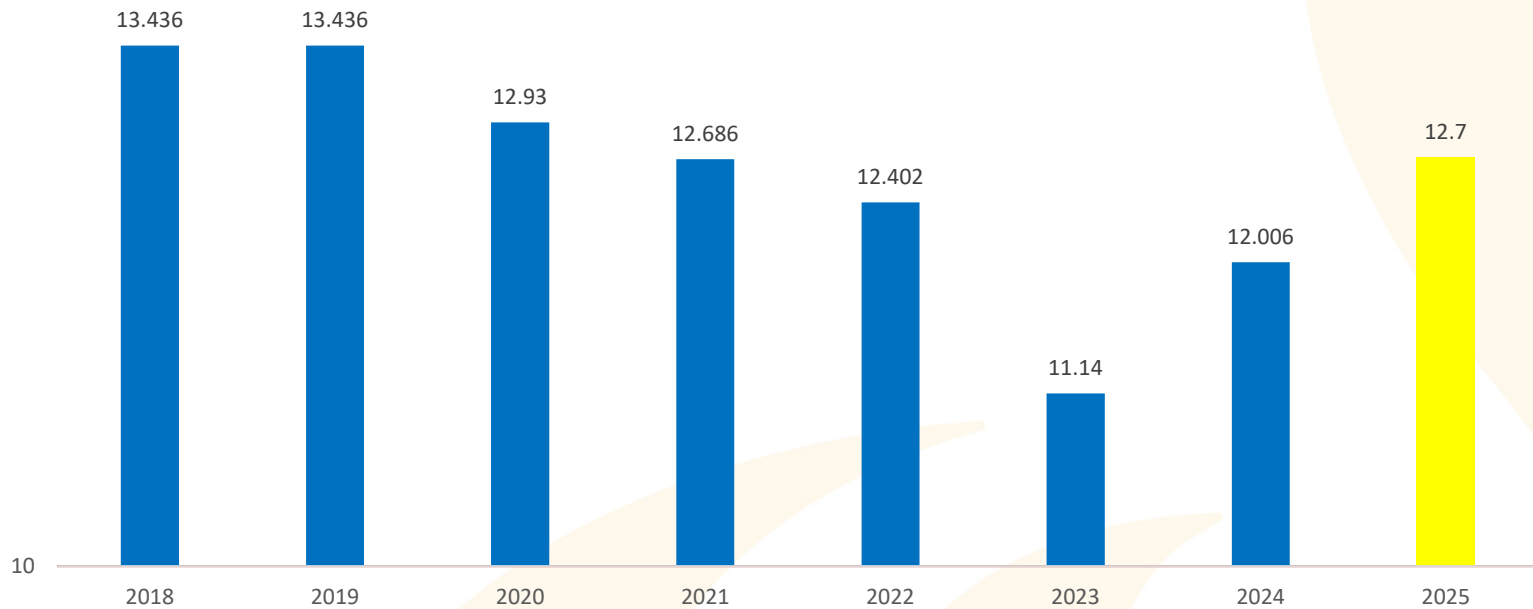
19 NET PROPERTY TAXES	\$4,709.50
20 Arrears (EXCLUDES PENALTIES TO APRIL 01, YYYY)	0.04
21 BALANCE DUE	\$4,709.54

TOTAL TAXES DUE	
School Taxes	\$1,844.91
Municipal Taxes	3,564.59
Total Current Taxes	\$5,409.50
Provincial Credit(s)	-700.00
Arrears	0.04
TOTAL TAXES DUE	\$4,709.54

IMPORTANT MESSAGES - Visit our website at: www.winnipegassessment.com

*If you do not reside at this residence you may be eligible for Manitoba Education Property Tax Credit Advance. Please 204-888-8888 for eligibility rules. If you are interested in enrolling in the Tax Instalment Payment Plan, contact 311 or toll free 1-877-311-4974. Payments made after April 01, YYYY will not be reflected on this Tax Bill.

RETSD Mill Rate History



Recap

- The funding formula did not change as we had hoped. It continues to be inequitable. We will continue to advocate for a new equitable funding formula that supports public education.
- The Board of Trustees does not want to cut classroom staffing and resources so the difficult decision was made to increase taxes so that we can maintain and improve services and programs within RETSD.

Budget Considerations

- The RETSD community has identified, through ThoughtExchange, the community forum, and virtual meetings, that they do not want reductions to current programs, programming, and services, but rather a strengthening of what already exists.
- After years of reductions, to reduce RETSD's budget any more would have devastating and permanent impact, including increased class sizes and a reductions in classroom teachers and educational assistants.

Question & Answer

- Use the question (Q&A) feature on the live stream.
- Please identify yourself (we will not answer anonymous questions).
- Questions will be read aloud.
- Duplicate questions will be answered once.
- All pertinent questions not addressed during the meeting will be answered and posted in Q&A on the RETSD website.

Process Update

- This is the second information meeting with our community.
- The board intends to approve the budget before Friday, March 14, 2025.
- A budget press release will be issued the day after the budget is approved and the budget issue of *The Torch* will be available in early spring.
- As always, Trustees are available to answer further questions.

Contact Information for Premier, Education Minister and Local MLAs

To advocate for additional funding and an equitable
funding model



Contact Information

- Contact your local trustee:
‘Board of Trustees’ found at retsd.mb.ca
or
- Email the school division:
‘Contact us’ found at retsd.mb.ca

