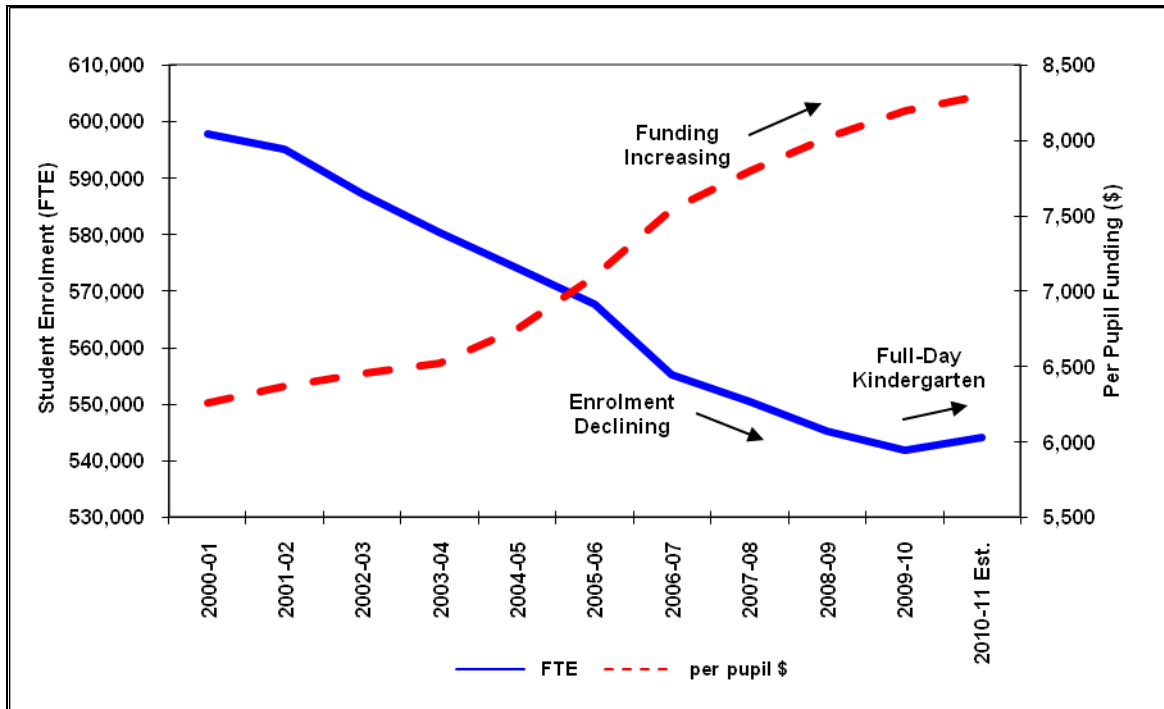


BACKGROUND

March 15, 2010

Ministry of Education

FUNDING CONTINUES TO RISE DESPITE ENROLMENT DECLINE



| Year | Operating funding | FTE students | Per student funding |
|---------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 2000-01 | \$3.72 billion | 597,948 | \$6,262 |
| 2001-02 | \$3.77 billion | 595,157 | \$6,375 |
| 2002-03 | \$3.79 billion | 587,247 | \$6,455 |
| 2003-04 | \$3.79 billion | 580,484 | \$6,529 |
| 2004-05 | \$3.88 billion | 574,230 | \$6,752 |
| 2005-06 | \$4.03 billion | 567,823 | \$7,102 |
| 2006-07 | \$4.23 billion | 555,414 | \$7,547 |
| 2007-08 | \$4.35 billion | 550,582 | \$7,799 |
| 2008-09 | \$4.47 billion | 545,269 | \$8,020 |
| 2009-10 | \$4.55 billion | 541,917 | \$8,196 |
| 2010-11 | \$4.66 billion | 544,223 | \$8,301 estimated |

- Fifty-two of 60 school districts are estimating a combined enrolment decline of 5,976 full-time equivalent students between grades 1 and 12.
- Enrolment is projected to increase in 27 school districts next year, mostly due to the implementation of full-day Kindergarten.

- Kamloops-Thompson forecasts the largest drop with 222 fewer FTE students. At the same time, total funding for the Kamloops-Thompson school district will be unchanged from 2009-10.
- The next five largest forecasted enrolment declines are Campbell River with 162 fewer FTE students, Vernon with 156, North Vancouver with 149, Cowichan Valley with 149, and Qualicum with 126.
- Despite significant enrolment decline, North Vancouver is estimated to receive an additional \$600,000.
- The funding for Campbell River, Vernon, Cowichan Valley and Qualicum will remain the same as in 2009-10.
- Since 2000-01, the average per-pupil grant has increased by \$2,039 to an estimated \$8,301. That's an increase of 33 per cent.

Technical Review Committee

- A technical review committee, comprised of school district superintendents, secretary-treasurers and ministry staff, is convened annually to examine the operating grant funding formula.
- The committee provides advice and recommendations on which elements of the funding formula should be changed, maintained, or eliminated. The committee follows the principle of providing a funding system that is student-based, understandable, comprehensive and transparent. In addition, the committee uses the principles of equity, efficiency, and autonomy in bringing forward recommendations.
- The current membership includes representatives from SD91 (Nechako Lakes), SD 41 (Burnaby), SD 67 (Okanagan Skaha), SD19 (Revelstoke), SD36 (Surrey), SD83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap), as well as ministry staff.

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