



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

2007/2008 Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies

Date:	April 30, 2007
To:	Board of Health
From:	Medical Officer of Health
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report requests that the Board of Health adopt the recommendations of the Toronto Partners for Student Nutrition (TPSN) Steering Committee regarding the 2007/2008 Student Nutrition Program service subsidy allocations.

The TPSN Steering Committee requests that the Board of Health recommend the City of Toronto execute agreements with the Angel Foundation for Learning and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success, for a combined total of \$2,799,340. An amount of \$100,000 will be held for appeals.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. the Board of Health recommend that City Council enter into agreements totalling \$2,799,340 with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$2,502,715.73) and the Angel Foundation for Learning (\$296,624.27) to administer the Community Partnership and Investment Program funding to eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto;
2. the Board of Health recommend that City Council grant authority to the Medical Officer of Health to take the necessary action to give effect to Recommendation (1), including the execution of agreements with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success and the Angel Foundation for Learning on behalf of the City; and

3. the Board of Health forward this report for information to the Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Minister of Health Promotion, the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

Financial Impact

The recommendations in this report will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the 2007 City budget.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

On August 26, 1998, the Board of Health approved administrative and operational structures to support the Student Nutrition Program and the process of allocation of municipal funding.

The Medical Officer of Health submits a report to the Board of Health annually after the City budget has been finalized, to begin the process of allocations to student nutrition programs for the upcoming school year.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In 1998, an administrative structure was established with mechanisms to support programs and to ensure program quality and accountability. This structure, now known as Toronto Partners for Student Nutrition, is made up of a Steering Committee and a number of sub-committees (including an Allocations Sub-committee). The partnership structure is comprised of student nutrition stakeholders, including Toronto Public Health, school boards and their foundations and community representatives.

Funds are allocated to school/community programs according to an equity funding formula approved by the Steering Committee. The current formula is based on 2004 census data for income. Programs in higher need areas, where parental contributions are expected to be lower, receive a higher rate of funding than those in lower need areas. Standardized meal costs per program per student are used to estimate program costs.

COMMENTS

Application and review process

The allocation process for municipal funding began in January 2007, when the 2007/2008 Funding Applications were distributed to all existing Student Nutrition Programs. Applications were also available to new programs and were posted on the Toronto Public Health website. The website and the mailing included instructions on how to fill out the application. Non-city staff members of Toronto Partners for Student Nutrition assisted sites in preparing applications on an individual program basis.

Review committees made up of staff from Toronto Public Health, both boards of education and community partner representatives met twice to review applications.

Reviewers were instructed on consistent review of applications using standardized review forms, and followed appropriate conflict of interest guidelines. Applications that were recommended for funding were forwarded to the TPSN Steering Committee for final approval.

Summary of Allocations and Recommendations:

The TPSN Steering Committee received and approved the following recommendations for the distribution of funds:

Foundation	Funding Amount
1. Angel Foundation for Learning (60 programs)	\$ 296,624.27
2. Toronto Foundation for Student Success (436 programs)	\$ 2,352,715.73
3. Toronto Foundation for Student Success (reserve for capital enhancements)* (reserve for appeal purposes)*	\$ 50,000.00 \$ 100,000.00
Total (496 programs)	\$ 2,799,340.00

* The money held in reserve for capital enhancements will be used to assist programs in replacing broken kitchen appliances or to upgrade equipment to meet food safety requirements. The money held in reserve for appeal purposes will be used to make adjustments to the allocations as required and to distribute funds among all programs, based on the funding formula, prior to December 31, 2007.

Additional programs may be considered as late applicants in the fall 2007 Appeals Process. The entire grant is distributed among programs and none of it is used for administration or overhead. Local programs will receive their allocated municipal funds in three instalments, one in early September, one in December and one in March, 2008. Programs must submit detailed monthly financial reports to their respective foundation and address all program requirements to receive subsequent instalment cheques.

Provincial Funding

The municipal application review also serves as the review for provincial funding. The Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services administer the provincial funds via the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TFSS). TFSS then allocates funding for the Catholic program sites to the Angel Foundation for Learning. Programs will receive their provincial funding at the same time as the municipal funding. The 2006/2007 provincial contribution to Toronto’s municipally funded Student Nutrition Programs was \$1,444,008. The MCYS has not made any announcement to date regarding their financial contribution to programs in 2007/2008.

Parental Contributions and Local Fundraising

Total parental contributions and local fundraising will exceed municipal funding, as per the criteria of the Student Nutrition Program. This does not include in-kind contributions such as school space and school staff-time to operate the programs.

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SIGNATURE

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