



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

2009/2010 Student Nutrition Program Service Subsidies

Date:	May 4, 2009
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 2009/2010 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 \$3,255,327.00, which includes an amount of \$298,073.53 that will be held for appeals/late applications within the recommended allocation for the Toronto Foundation for Student Success.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that:

1. City Council enter into agreements totalling \$3,255,327.00 with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$2,800,954.90) and the Angel Foundation for Learning (\$454,372.10) to administer the Community Partnership and Investment Program funding to eligible student nutrition programs across the City of Toronto;
2. 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 Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Ontario Minister of Health Promotion, the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

Financial Impact

This report recommends that the 2009 approved Operating Budget of \$3,255,327.00 for the Student Nutrition Program be allocated to the Angel Foundation for Learning (\$454,372.10) and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success (\$2,800,954.90), including \$298,073.53 in reserve for appeals/late applications.

The Deputy City Manager & 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. The municipal funding for student nutrition programs approved in the 2009 operating budget is \$3,255,327.00, which represents an enhancement of \$455,987.00 from 2008.

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 programs by the Toronto Partners for Student Nutrition Steering Committee. Standardized meal costs per student are used to estimate program costs.

COMMENTS

Application and Review Process

The allocation process began in January 2009, when the 2009/2010 funding applications for municipal/provincial funding were distributed to all existing Student Nutrition Programs and to new provincially designated school communities. Applications were also posted on the Toronto Public Health website. The website and the mailing included instructions on how to complete the application. Non-city staff members of Toronto Partners for Student Nutrition assisted sites in preparing applications on an individual program basis.

An applications review panel, comprised of staff from Toronto Public Health, both boards of education and community partner representatives, met 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 (62 school communities, including 76 programs)	\$ 454,372.10
2. Toronto Foundation for Student Success (316 school communities, including 508 programs)	\$ 2,502,881.37
3. Toronto Foundation for Student Success (reserve for appeals/late applications)	\$ 298,073.53
Total (378 school communities, including 584 programs)	\$ 3,255,327.00

The money held in reserve for appeals/late applications will be used to make adjustments to the allocations as required and to distribute program funds prior to December 31, 2009. The entire municipal 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 2010. 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 administers 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 provincial contribution for 2009/10 grants for Student Nutrition Programs in Toronto is confirmed for \$4,052,508.00. This amount is comprised of \$2,817,500.00 for existing and new morning meal programs in 432 designated communities in Toronto and \$1,235,008.00 in program grants for non-designated communities and/or for non-morning meal programs in designated communities. This includes an enhancement to the designated program funding of \$88,114.00, an increase of approximately 3.2% to offset the increased cost of food. Provincial funding for 2009/10 of \$1,284,000.00 is also confirmed for community development and administration, for a total of \$5,336,508.00 in annual provincial funding. In designated school communities, provincial funding provides up to 15% of

total program costs. Non-designated school communities are only eligible for the provincial base grant, which provides programs with a lower level of funding, estimated at about 7-8% of total programs costs for the 2009/10 provincial fiscal year. Thus, programs in higher need areas, where parental contributions and local fundraising are expected to be lower, receive a higher rate of provincial funding.

Use of Municipal Budget Enhancement for 2009

City Council approved an enhancement of \$455,987.00 from 2008 for the 2009 operating budget, which aligns with the 2009/10 school year. The additional funding will be utilized to offset the increased cost of food, to provide approximately 12% of total program costs in both elementary and youth programs and to fund programs in some of the provincially designated new communities, specifically the 24 new youth communities and approximately 20 of the 166 new designated elementary school communities. This means that municipal funding is not available for the other 146 elementary school communities. A five-year plan will be submitted shortly to the Board of Health and the Community Development and Recreation Committee to consider future needs of student nutrition programs in Toronto.

Parental Contributions and Local Fundraising

Parental contributions and local fundraising comprise the major components of local Student Nutrition Program funding. 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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