

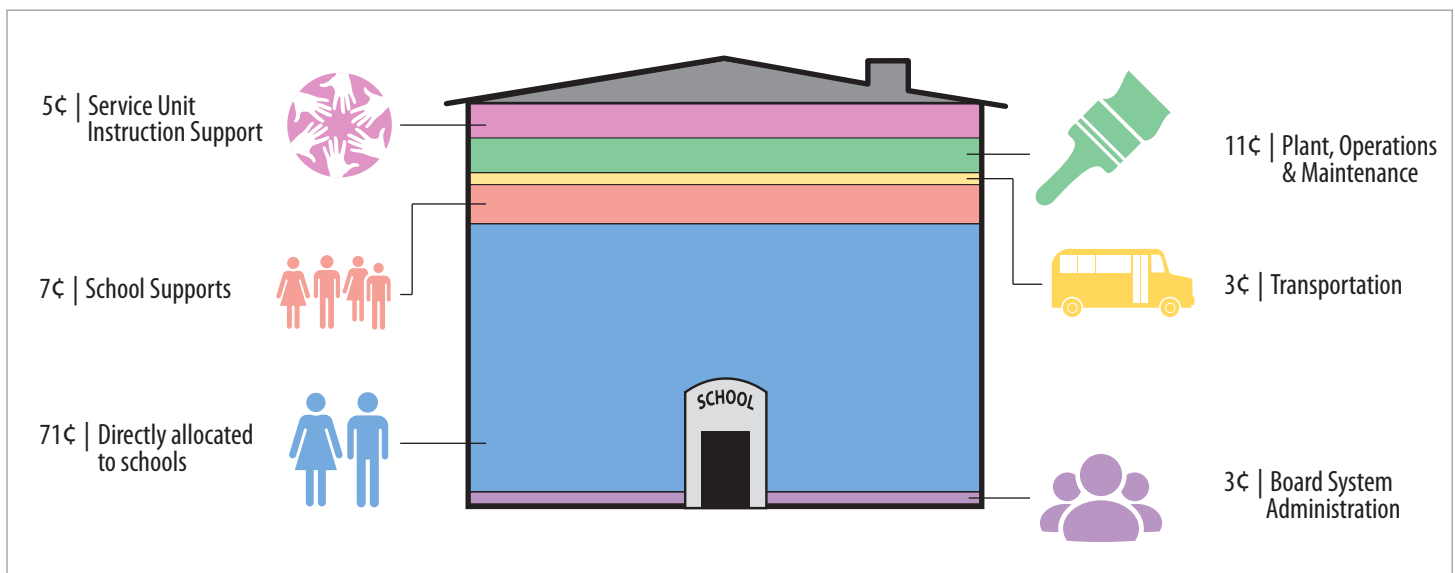
# Issue: Where does school funding go?

Students are at the centre of everything we do. Our budget reflects that.

As of Dec 5, 2017

Each dollar of Alberta Education funding is seen in or affects our schools.

While the majority of our funding from Alberta Education goes directly to schools, a portion of it is also held centrally. This enables us to give schools the resources they need. For example, each school cannot afford several full-time specialists in different fields. But when specialists are paid for centrally, they can be deployed to schools as needed and shared amongst schools.



## How can Alberta Education funding be seen in our schools?

**71 cents of every dollar goes directly to schools.**



Numbers based upon  
2017-18 budget

Money is provided to schools via a process we call RAM (Resource Allocation Method). Monies allocated through the RAM fund the learning experience in schools, which includes teacher and staff salaries and benefits. These funds enable schools to meet our learning outcomes. This method is designed to allocate resources equitably while providing principals and schools with choice in the assignment and deployment of those resources to best meet the unique needs of students within their schools.

This 71 cents also includes custodial services provided in schools which ensure a clean and healthy learning environment.

Six of the 71 cents go to pay into the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund as part of our collective agreement with teachers. This is a contractual obligation over which the CBE has no direct control. Although this cost is not rolled out as part of the RAM, it is an essential cost of teacher compensation and is included in this category as a direct cost of schools.

## But what about the remaining 29 cents?

Our entire organization supports student learning. Some specific school and instruction supports are administered on behalf of schools, rather than directly by schools, as it is more efficient and effective to provide these at a system level rather than to duplicate these at individual schools. Central administration relieves schools and principals of administrative burden and allows them to focus on students and their learning. However the majority of funds are allocated directly to schools.



**Calgary Board  
of Education**



### 7 cents of every dollar goes to support learning in schools by funding school supports.

This includes the many specialized services for students that are available for principals to access including psychologists, braille assistants, deaf and hard of hearing specialists, mental health specialists, occupational and physical therapists, speech language pathologists, cultural diversity advisors and more. These central supports are critical to our teachers, particularly to the almost 21,000 students identified with special education needs, and to the almost 30,000 students identified as English language learners. These specialists work in various schools supporting learning.

This funding also provides learning supports in Area offices. The Area learning team is the first support to school learning teams as they work to meet student needs.

While our schools do excellent work day in and day out, our Area offices ensure that the entire system of schools remains integrated and coordinated so that our students have a seamless learning experience. Our substitute teachers for long and short-term absences are also funded here.



### 5 cents of every dollar goes to service unit instruction support

This funds the instructional and programming support to teachers and schools that is provided by service units.

Support is offered in areas such as Indigenous education, attendance, suspensions, student records, expulsions, counselling, kindergarten, multicultural services and specialized assessment. Funding provided to service unit instruction support also includes programs such as school health, school nutrition, off-site and off-campus learning programs, outreach programs, community partnerships, home schooling, online learning and high school success initiatives.

This funding also supports our Human Resources department with teacher recruitment, enabling us to find the best, most qualified candidates for teaching in our classrooms.



### 11 cents of every dollar goes to plant, operations and maintenance

Schools are safe and secure thanks to funding for plant, operations and maintenance. This also funds facility maintenance and repairs, and provides utilities and insurance for schools.

### 3 cents of every dollar goes to transportation



Transportation dollars help fund how our students get to school each day.

Other transportation needs are also funded in this category, such as busing aides, charter services, attendants, Licensed Practical Nurses, Calgary Transit passes and taxis/Handi-Bus services as needed.

### 3 cents of every dollar goes to board and system administration



These dollars are seen in schools every day through services provided by the Board of Trustees, Chief Superintendent's office, Human Resources, Technology Services, Financial Services, Legal Services, and Communications and Community Engagement. Board and system administration funds the Board of Trustees and superintendents who provide the overall direction to the system, along with many important services that affect our schools. Examples include accessible technology design for schools, supply chain operations, administration and operation of our website, communications assistance for schools and school councils, and community engagement, and the administration of payroll and benefits for all employees.