

Adequate Supports for Students



All CBE students have the right to be successful in their learning. However, CBE teachers have identified that classrooms are becoming increasingly complex, creating barriers for learning. Schools provide support for a wide range of learning, behavioral, physical and mental health needs, but as this complexity continues to grow, the gap between what is provided and what it costs to support students and their learning is also increasing.

Students with complex learning needs



* The CBE spends approximately \$136 M every year to adequately support students with complex learning needs. This creates an annual shortfall of about \$58 M.

Students go through a rigorous process to be identified with special or exceptional needs. About 21,000 students have identified special needs (17% of CBE students). This is equal to the size of the Rockyview school district. Students who meet the criteria receive programming and supports to ensure they can succeed in their learning in community schools, specialized classes or a special setting school.

Specialized supports include braille assistants, deaf and hard of hearing specialists, mental health specialists, occupational and physical therapists, speech language pathologists, cultural diversity advisors and more. These supports eliminate systemic barriers to success and are critical to our students.

Transportation for students with complex learning needs



* The CBE spends approximately \$21 M every year to transport students with complex needs to school. This creates an annual shortfall of about \$12 M.

Every year, the CBE transports about 2,400 students requiring specialized transportation. The cost is more than double the funding received. Those families do not pay fees because they attend their designated school.

* All figures from the 2017-18 budget.

