

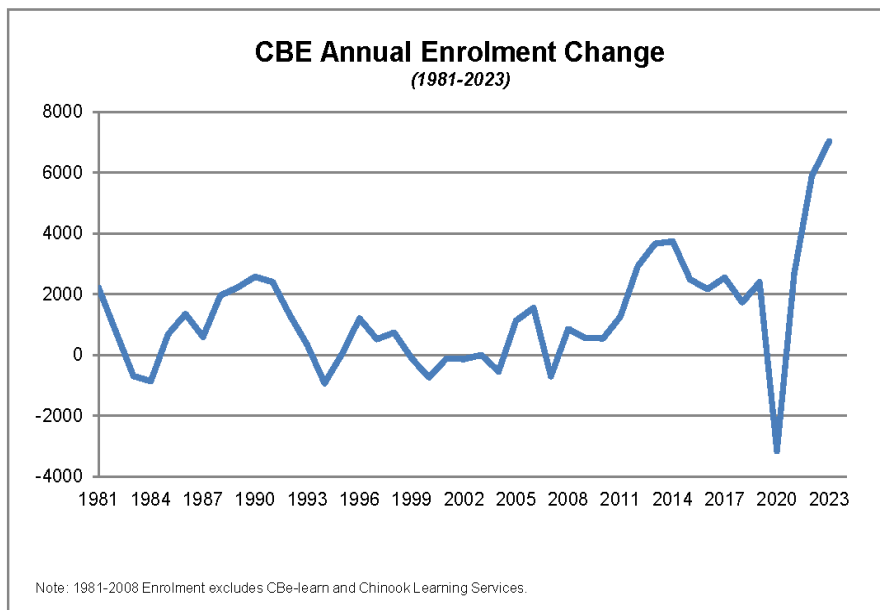


Working Together to Address Urgent Enrolment Growth Impacts

With enrolment increasing at extraordinary rates at CBE, it is important that Budget 2024 addresses the mounting pressures that come with that growth. There is a critical need for new learning spaces and additional funding to support rising costs, increasing enrolment and the growing population of English as Additional Language (EAL) learners.

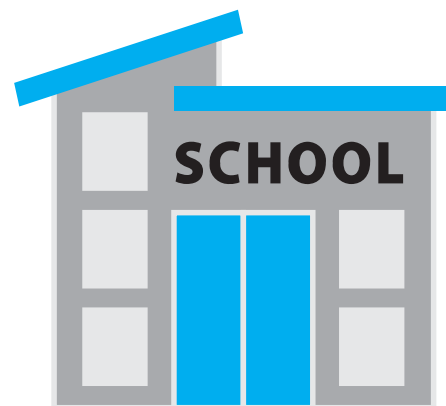
Enrolment is Increasing Fast

- Almost 13,000 additional students over the past 2 years – enough to fill 22 elementary schools.
- September 2023 enrolment was 138,000 students – an increase of 7,000 – the largest recorded annual enrolment growth in our history.
- Another 4,000+ students expected to register post-Sept. 30.
- In 2022-23, we also had 4,000 more students register post-Sept. 30.
- Rapid enrolment growth means students are being overflowed to other schools and additional staff must be hired.



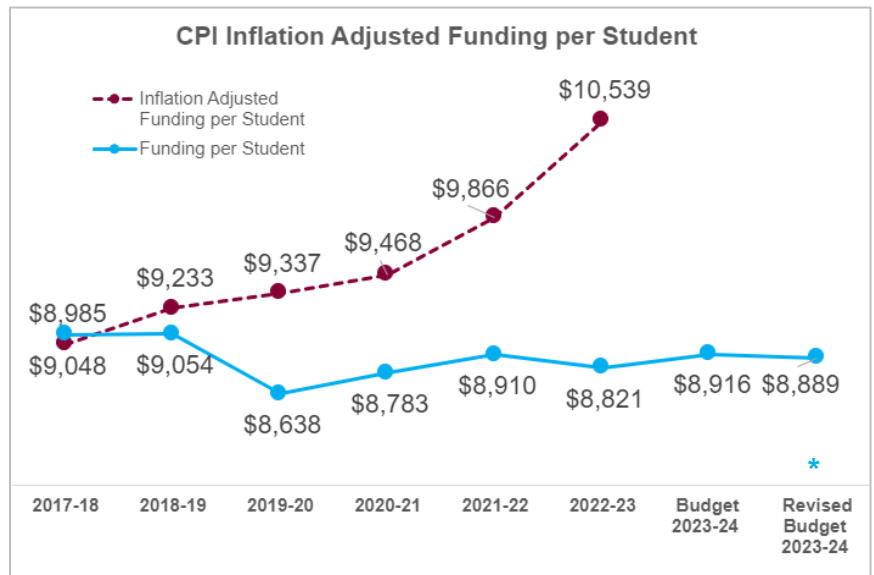
CBE System Utilization will be Over 100% in Just Two Years

- We have reached 92% system utilization (almost two years ahead of projections) and expect to be above 100% within two years.
- Even if **all** schools are approved on the current capital plan, system utilization will still be over 100% capacity by 2027.
- Only one school (Evanston Middle) is scheduled to start construction this spring.
- All 80 new or relocated modular classrooms requests are urgently needed to address enrolment pressures.
- 30 schools (12%) are currently being overflowed.
- There is an urgent need for high school spaces. Two-thirds of high schools (14 of 21) are already at or above 100% utilization.
- The 2025-28 Three-Year School Capital Plan will include significantly more requests.



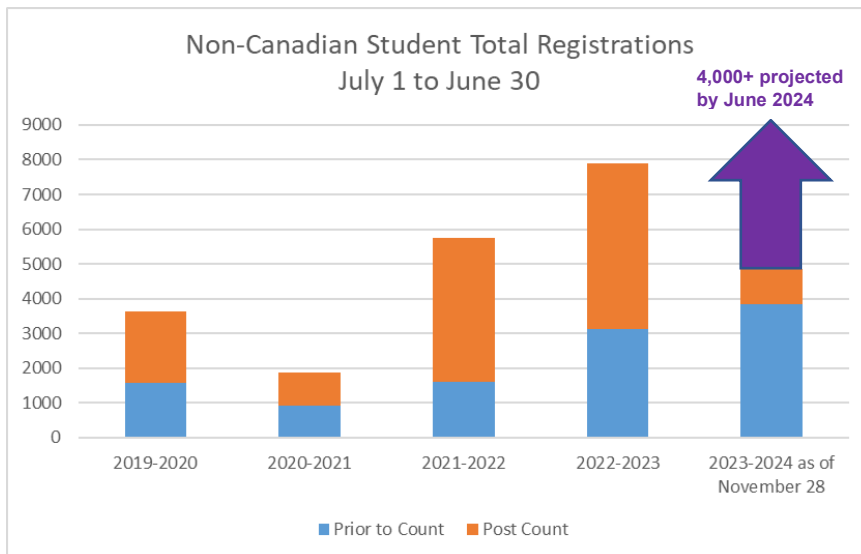
Per-Student Funding is Not Keeping Pace with Inflation

- The dollars we have today purchase significantly less than 2018-19.
- Per-student funding has declined from \$9,054 in 2018-19 to \$8,889 today, a 1.8% decrease.
- Between 2018-19 and now, the average teacher salary has increased from \$100,453 to \$103,990. That is a 3.5% increase. Together, this represents a 5.3% decrease in purchasing power.
- The result is increasing class sizes and fewer dollars available to address complexity.



*Revised budget includes Supplemental Enrolment Grant Funding of \$5.6 million

Targeted New Funding for EAL is Needed*



- About 29% of CBE students (40,000+) are English as Additional Language (EAL) learners.
- CBE spends significantly more than the Student Learning Support grant provides to ensure students have the supports they need.
- There is a significant increase in the level of complexity and need.
- Students across all grades who identified at an overall [language proficiency \(LP\) level](#)** of 1, 2, or 3 increased from 12,591 (2020-21) to 17,125 (2022-23), an increase of over 4,500 students in three years.
- From 2021-22 to 2022-23, the number of high school students identified at an overall LP level of 1, 2, or 3 increased by 747 students. These students require more time to complete high school.

***Providing one-time or ongoing targeted funds while not increasing overall base funding will not mitigate these challenges.**

**Note | Teachers report English skills in English Language Proficiency (LP Level). English language proficiency levels tell you how much English a student knows and how well a student can use that English. LP1 = beginner LP2 = high beginner LP3 = intermediate LP4 = high intermediate LP5 = advanced

Contact us

403-817-7933

BoardofTrustees@cbe.ab.ca

Public education is a shared responsibility. By working together with government, industry and community partners, we can make a difference for students today and create a strong Alberta for the future.

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