

DATE: March 21, 2017

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Michael Janz

SUBJECT: Motion re Government of Alberta Allocation of Capital Project Funding

REFERENCE: [Trustees' Handbook – Section 5.2.2 – Notices of Motion](#)

ISSUE

Notice of motion was served at the March 7, 2017, Board meeting.

RATIONALE

There is no other issue more critical to the future of public education than being able to provide the right schools in the right places right now. I want to ensure that provincial decisions are made in a fair, transparent, and equitable way.

RELATED FACTS

1. All schools, portables modernizations, and capital funding to Public and Catholic schools are awarded by the provincial government.
2. Transparent policy from the provincial government is lacking explanations as to how schools are prioritized and awarded between different school districts.
3. Public students and families across Alberta, especially in Edmonton, need their fair and equitable share of capital funding, especially for new schools.
4. Despite only 25 per cent of Albertans being Catholic, the government appears to provide them an inequitable amount of school dollars, sometimes between 30-50 per cent.
5. Fairness and equity in transparent, defensible provincial decision-making would prevent unreasonably advantaging one group over another.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Edmonton Public School Board advocate to the Government of Alberta to develop a framework to ensure Public schools get a fair and equitable share of schools, modernizations, portables, and capital project spending.

NEXT STEPS

Should the Board of Trustees approve the recommendation, a letter will be sent to the Minister of Infrastructure.

MJ:sj