

**From:** [Government of British Columbia](#)  
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**Subject:** MORE FUNDING FOR K-12 EDUCATION IN 2011-12  
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NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Education

MORE FUNDING FOR K-12 EDUCATION IN 2011-12

VICTORIA - Funding will increase once again this year as B.C. school districts are set to receive a new record high of \$4.721 billion in operating funding, which means more than \$24 million invested in K-12 education every school day.

The \$58-million increase will help complete the transition to full-day kindergarten, providing more flexibility and support to students and families throughout the province.

Quotes:

Minister of Education Margaret MacDiarmid:

"In the coming school year, we're increasing the basic allocation amount provided for every student by \$44. This gives districts more money up front, allowing them to plan budgets more effectively and address cost pressures they've identified."

"We've continually increased funding to school districts since 2000-01 and I'm delighted to say we are providing a further increase to make full-day kindergarten available for all students. The numbers speak for themselves, with 11 consecutive years of per-pupil funding increases and a new record high next year of \$8,357. Our government is committed to providing sound, sustainable funding to strengthen our education system and adapt it to meet the evolving needs of our students."

Funding facts:

- \* School districts will receive \$4.721 billion in operating funding in 2011-12 - an increase of \$58 million over current funding levels.
- \* Per-pupil funding for 2011-12 is an estimated \$8,357 - the highest in B.C. history.
- \* Since 2000-01, the average per-pupil grant has increased by \$2,095. That's an increase of 33 per cent.
- \* During that time, funding to school districts has increased by a total of nearly \$1.4 billion - this includes \$977 million in operating funding and \$407 million in one-time grants.
- \* Despite declining enrolment in many districts, funding protection ensures that no district will receive less funding at the September 2011 enrolment count than they received the previous September.

Enrolment facts:

\* Districts forecast 557,282 FTE (full-time equivalent) students at B.C. public schools in 2011-12 - a net increase of 951 FTE students over this year.

\* This enrolment increase is largely due to the implementation of full-day kindergarten, which will be available to every five-year-old in B.C. this September.

\* While full-time kindergarten enrolment will grow, enrolment in grades 1-12 is expected to decline by another 5,576 FTE students next year.

For more information:

Provincewide enrolment and funding information for 2011-12:

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/k12funding/>.

Audio clips: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/news/av/>

Backgrounder - Highest per-pupil funding ever:

[http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/news/docs/2011/bg\\_PreliminaryOperatingGrants\\_1103.pdf](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/news/docs/2011/bg_PreliminaryOperatingGrants_1103.pdf)

Factsheet - School districts receive \$58-million increase in operating grants:

[http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/news/docs/2011/fs\\_PreliminaryOperatingGrants\\_1103.pdf](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/news/docs/2011/fs_PreliminaryOperatingGrants_1103.pdf)

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