



Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association

March 26, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons and Directors of Education
- All Catholic District School Boards

CC: OCSTA Directors and Staff
Board Secretaries and Administrative Assistants

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: Provincial Budget Announcement 2024-2025

On Tuesday March 26, 2024 the Ontario Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy, released the 2024-25 provincial budget.

The budget included the following new funding initiatives that will be of interest to Catholic boards:

- Building, expanding and renewing schools and child care spaces by investing \$23 billion over 10 years, including about \$16 billion in capital grants. This includes \$1.4 billion for the current school year to support the repair and renewal needs of schools;
- \$172 million for the 2024–25 school year for targeted math and reading supports and an updated kindergarten curriculum starting in September 2025, including \$15 million for new digital math tools;
- \$65 million for “dedicated educators” to work with small groups of students in Kindergarten to Grade 3;
- \$18 million to improve special education services
- \$30 million that is being dedicated to security cameras, security lighting and vape detectors.
- The Ontario Autism Program will receive an additional \$120 million on top of its current budget of \$667 million
- Investing an additional \$16.5 million annually over the next three years through the Skilled Trades Strategy to support a variety of programs that attract more young people into the skilled trades;

For further details on the budget please refer to the attached PDF document or select the following link: [Building a Better Ontario | Ontario Newsroom](#).

The OCSTA will on behalf of Catholic School Boards advocate strongly for additional funding with regard to planning for the 2024/2025 school year. We will continue to impress upon the Ministry of Education the need to provide sufficient resources to support the health and safety of students and staff as well as the necessary funding for mental health, student transportation, special education and capital planning.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at pdaly@ocsta.on.ca or Nick Milanetti at nmilanetti@ocsta.on.ca

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PDaly', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Patrick Daly
President