

For Immediate Release
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LRSD's 2019-2020 Budget Focuses on Supporting the Classroom While Trimming Operating Expenses

WINNIPEG, MB – The Louis Riel School Division (LRSD) adopted its 2019–2020 budget on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. The budget supports a growing and diverse student population by funding existing and new frontline staffing positions, including teachers and educational assistants, while further trimming operating expenses and the divisional administrative expenses to comply with the new government administrative cap of 2.7%.

“This proposed budget is about ensuring optimal learning environments for our students by keeping class sizes manageable and supporting classroom instruction,” says LRSD Board Chair Sandy Nemeth. “We consulted with the community and considered that feedback to find efficiencies while keeping targeted programming investments in place.”

Budget Highlights:

- Projected 330 additional students next fall, for a total projected population of 15,788 students
- Total budget of \$194,359,468 (including unsupported Capital)
- Expenditure increase of 2.38%
- Proposed tax increase of 2.94%** to the average LRSD homeowner (\$4.82/month or \$57.79/year for the average LRSD homeowner).

***The final budget results in a 2% increase to the Special Requirement, in line with the Minister of Education’s request to limit the increase to 2%. The Special Requirement represents the total amount taxes that are collected from taxpayers in a school year and translates into an approximate property tax increase of 2.94% to property owners for 2019.*

The proposed budget funds 11 new full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers, 2.5 new (FTE) student services teachers and 20 new (FTE) educational assistants. To achieve this, we have made significant reductions to operating budgets and divisional administrative expenses.

“The intent of this budget is to find any remaining efficiencies in our operating and divisional administrative expenses so that we are able to place resources into the classroom to support the needs of our growing student population, protect frontline staff, and maintain key investments to mitigate the impact of poverty, Early Years programming and Indigenous Education,” says Christian Michalik, Superintendent of LRSD.

The Louis Riel School Division serves over 15,000 students, along with their parents, and the wider community, at 40 schools in the south-east quadrant of Winnipeg. LRSD aspires to develop caring, literate and capable people who value learning and strive to reach their potential as they pursue the common good. For more information, visit www.lrsd.net or download [LRSD's 2017–18 Annual Report to the Community](#).

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