

For Information Only

Before and After School Programs

Presented To: Community Services Committee

Presented: Monday, May 14, 2018

Report Date: Tuesday, Apr 24, 2018

Type: Correspondence for Information Only

Resolution

For Information Only

Relationship to the Strategic Plan / Health Impact Assessment

This report supports the Strategic Plan adopted by the City of Greater Sudbury, as it aligns with the Quality of Life and Place pillar, by offering programs and services designed to improve the health and well-being of youth, families and seniors.

This report will have a positive impact on the Social Determinants of Health in the area of Human Health/Well-being as the Before and After School Programs support children and families.

In addition, this initiative aims to improve the quality of life and place for citizens of Greater Sudbury as it will promote Population Health in the areas of Indigenous Youth, Building Resiliency, Investing in Families and a Compassionate City.

Report Summary

In January 2017, the Ministry of Education released new policies and guidelines related to Before and After School (BAS) Programs for school boards.

As of September 2017, school boards are required to ensure the provision of BAS Programs for Kindergarten to grade 6 in each elementary school where there is sufficient demand.

This report will provide an update to the 2017 Ministry of Education directive to all school boards regarding the provision of before and after school care in all elementary schools.

Financial Implications

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Monique Poirier
Manager of Children Services
Digitally Signed Apr 24, 18

Health Impact Review

Monique Poirier
Manager of Children Services
Digitally Signed Apr 24, 18

Division Review

Luisa Valle
Director of Children and Citizen Services
Digitally Signed Apr 24, 18

Financial Implications

Jim Lister
Manager of Financial Planning and Budgeting
Digitally Signed Apr 24, 18

Recommended by the Department

Catherine Matheson
General Manager of Community Development
Digitally Signed Apr 27, 18

Recommended by the C.A.O.

Ed Archer
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed Apr 27, 18

Currently, most of the local elementary schools have Before and After School (BAS) Programs, therefore few new program expansions will be required. Any new programs required will be funded through the province's child care expansion funding and there will be no municipal tax levy impact.

Background

Before and After School (BAS) Programs support parents who require care for their school-aged child between the hours of approximately 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. These programs can be offered at either the school itself, or in a community-based site. These play-based programs complement the regular school day with a mix of exploration, guided independent activities, quiet times and outdoor play.

Prior to the introduction of full-day kindergarten (FDK) in September 2010, there were no provincial guidelines regarding the provision of BAS Programs for children in school settings. Since the introduction of FDK in 2010, school boards have been required to ensure the provision of BAS Programs for FDK students where there is sufficient demand.

In January 2017, the Ministry of Education released new policies and guidelines related to BAS Programs for school boards. Effective September 1, 2017, school boards are required to ensure the provision of BAS Programs for Kindergarten to Grade 6 in each elementary school where there is sufficient demand. School boards are required to survey parents prior to the end of the school year, to assess the need for new Before and After School (BAS) Programs for the upcoming school year. These programs would also include non-instructional days.

Current Environmental Scan

In the City of Greater Sudbury (CGS), Before and After School (BAS) Programs are currently available in over 98% of elementary schools (56 out of 57). Programs can be offered by the school boards directly or through a third party licensed child care operator.

As of January 2018:

- Jean Hanson Public School has no BAS Program – however as an alternative day/treatment program, it is exempt from this requirement
- Queen Elizabeth Public School has a full BAS Program for 4 and 5 year olds, and a combination of licensed and free recreational programs for 6 to 12 year olds for before and after school care
- St. David Catholic School has an after-school program only, for 4 to 12 year olds and no before school program as there is no demand

Currently only Conseil scolaire public du Grand-Nord, the French Public School Board, directly operates the BAS Programs in their schools. The remaining three school boards utilize third party providers to operate the BAS Programs.

In addition to the provincial operating grants Children Services Section administers to the child care operators, Children Services Section also provides provincial child care fee subsidies to eligible families who use the BAS Programs. As new expansion funding has been provided to Children Services Section from the province at 100%, there is no municipal levy impact for any new BAS Programs that may be added.

Next Steps

Currently, the City of Greater Sudbury is well positioned with Before and After School Programs as these programs are available in 98% of elementary schools.

Children Services Section will support any resulting expansion of services, within existing funding, for child care fee subsidies and operating grants.

The four local school boards will continue to survey families annually each spring to determine the need for before and after school care for the upcoming school year.