

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.