



Results-based Plan Briefing Book 2014-15

Ministry of Education

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Part I: Results-based Plan 2014-15

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PART I: PUBLISHED RESULTS-BASED PLAN 2014-15

OVERVIEW

Supporting the Economy and Creating Jobs

Vibrant communities and a prosperous society are built on the foundation of a strong education system.

A unique characteristic of Ontario's successful education system continues to be its four vibrant systems, with English and French, Catholic and public school boards contributing to student achievement and well-being.

The ministry will continue to provide its students with the best possible publicly funded education. The Ministry of Education is working to modernize and build a child care and early years system that is high quality, seamless and more responsive to parents' needs.

Ontario's publicly funded education system is recognized as one of the best in the world. Ninety-five per cent of Ontario children attend a publicly funded school — a testament to the confidence of parents and families across the province.

Together, with our partners, we will inspire our children and youth to become capable adults and fully engaged citizens, ready and able to contribute to their families and communities. Our graduates will develop the skills and the knowledge that will lead them to become personally successful, economically productive and actively engaged citizens. And they will become the motivated innovators, community builders, creative talent, skilled workers, entrepreneurs and leaders of tomorrow.

Renewed Vision: Achieving Excellence

In April 2014, the ministry released its renewed vision, [*Achieving Excellence*](#).

For the last decade, the Ministry of Education has been promoting a strong, vibrant, publicly funded education system that has focused on three goals — increasing student achievement, closing gaps in student achievement, and increasing public confidence in publicly funded education.

Achieving Excellence builds on these three goals and adds a fourth goal on well-being that reaches deeper and broader, raising expectations both for the system and for the potential of Ontario's children and students.

Mission Statement

As part of this vision, Ontario's renewed mission statement for education is:

"Ontario is committed to the success and well-being of every student and child. Learners in the province's education system will develop the knowledge, skills and characteristics that will lead them to become personally successful, economically productive and actively engaged citizens.

Ontario will cultivate and continuously develop a high-quality teaching profession and strong leadership at all levels of the system. Our education system will be characterized by high expectations and success for all. It will be responsive, high quality, accessible and integrated from early learning and child care to adult education.

Together, with our partners, we will build on past achievements and move forward with ambitious goals."

Renewed Goals

These four goals are interconnected. Success in one contributes to success in the others. Our progress over the last 10 years tells us that when educators, students, parents and guardians — and our many other partners — focus on a small number of clearly defined goals, those goals can be achieved.

Our [renewed goals for education](#) are:

- **Achieving Excellence:** Children and students of all ages will achieve high levels of academic performance, acquire valuable skills and demonstrate good citizenship. Educators will be supported in learning continuously and will be recognized as among the best in the world.
- **Ensuring Equity:** All children and students will be inspired to reach their full potential, with access to rich learning experiences that begin at birth and continue into adulthood.
- **Promoting Well-Being:** All children and students will develop enhanced mental and physical health, a positive sense of self and belonging, and the skills to make positive choices.
- **Enhancing Public Confidence:** Ontarians will continue to have confidence in a publicly funded education system that helps develop new generations of confident, capable and caring citizens.

Highlights of Achievements

Ontario is recognized across Canada and around the globe by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as a leader in educational excellence.

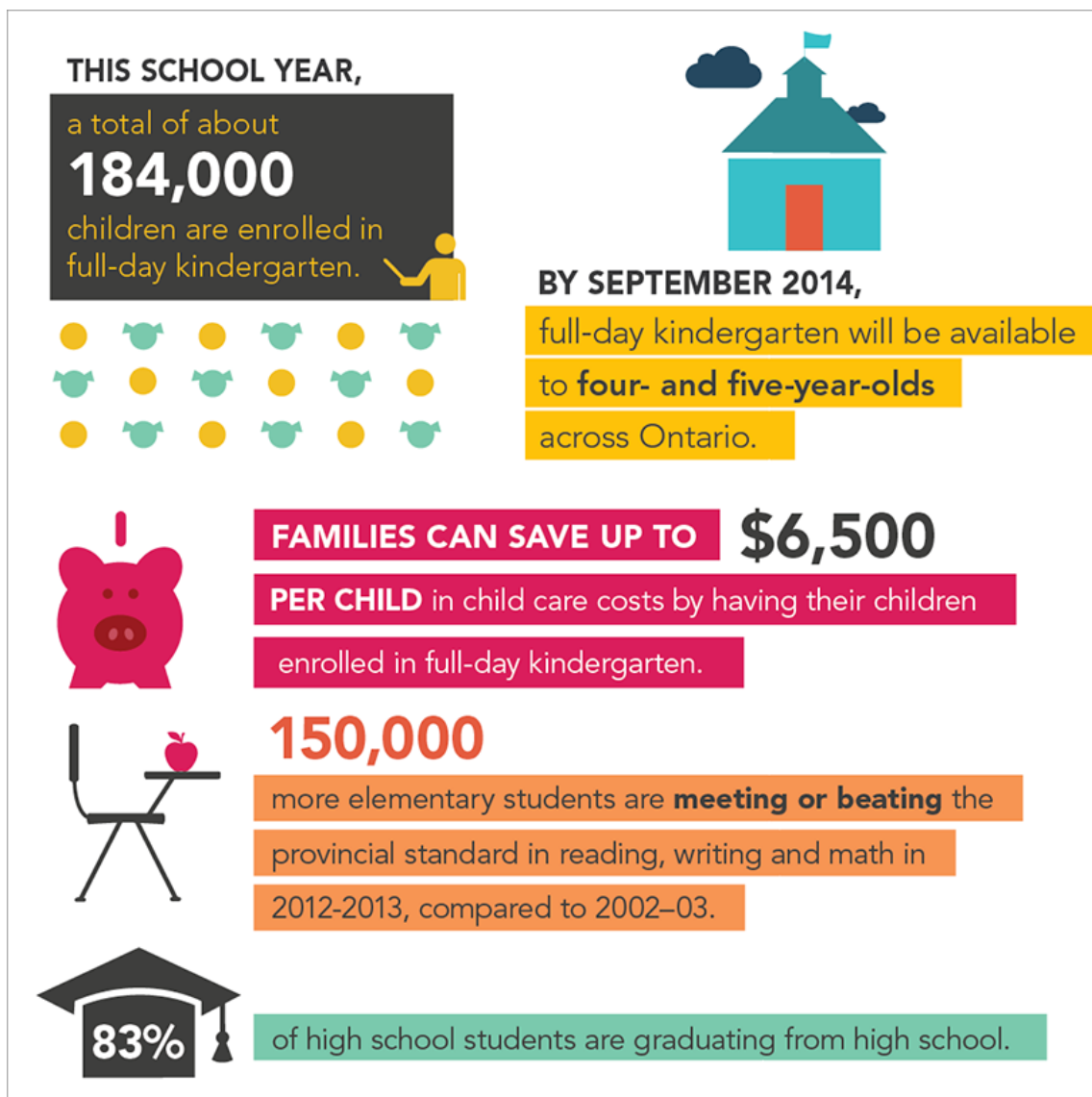
Our students rank among the best in the world when it comes to assessment results like the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), and Ontario students consistently score above the Canadian average in math, reading and science.

Students born outside of Canada make up 26 per cent of Ontario's publicly funded education system. Ontario is recognized as one of few jurisdictions in the world where students are performing above international standards, regardless of socio-economic background or first language.

We are investing in education because that's how we build a strong workforce, a vibrant economy and a bright future for our children and grandchildren.

Key Results

- Since 2003, licensed spaces in child care centres have increased by approximately 107,400.
- There are 5,050 licensed child care centres in the province with a total capacity of 294,490 spaces, of which 143,020 are in publicly funded schools.
- Since 2003, the province has increased funding for child care by 90 per cent to more than \$1 billion in 2013-14.
- A total of 184,000 four- and five-year-olds are in full-day kindergarten.
- By 2014, full-day kindergarten will be available to every four- and five-year old across Ontario.
- 150,000 more elementary students are meeting or beating the provincial standard in reading, writing and math in 2013, compared to 2003.
- 83 per cent of students are graduating from high school in 2013.



Investing in People, Infrastructure and Building our Knowledge Economy

Education is one of the most valued public services.

To build Ontario's economy we must help our people and communities succeed. That's why we are investing in our greatest strength — our people.

Investing in our school infrastructure is also essential to the growth and development of Ontario's two million students. Schools represent the government's largest investment in building infrastructure. We need schools where they are needed. They are our children's home away from home.

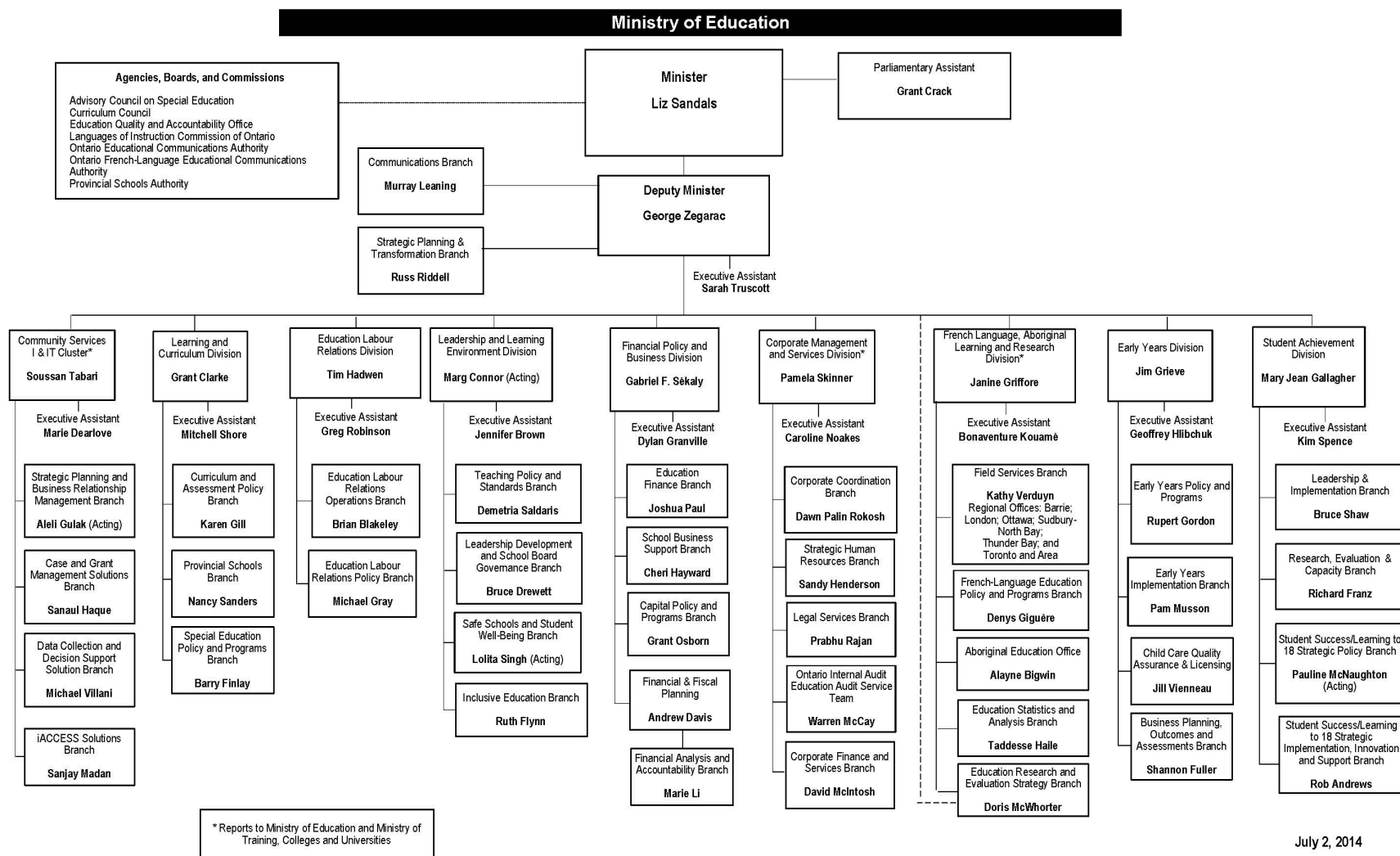
Our continued investments in publicly funded education have delivered higher graduation rates and better test scores.

Key Investments for 2014-15

- Investing \$22.5 billion in education through the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) for the 2014-15 school year. This is an increase of 56.5 per cent since 2002-03, or \$4,223 per student.
- Transferring full-day kindergarten operating funding into the GSN for 2014-15. This allocation is projected at \$1.45 billion, or \$6,045 per JK and SK student.
- Investing \$3.72 billion in Ontario's rural schools. Since 2002-03, annual funding for boards with remote and rural schools has increased by \$1.12 billion. That means \$4,752 more per student, an increase of 64 per cent.
- Investing \$1.56 billion in Ontario's Northern schools. Since 2002-03, annual funding to Northern boards has increased by \$434 million. That means \$6,410 more per student, an increase of 74 per cent.
- Investing \$1.52 billion in Ontario's French-language schools in 2014-15, an increase of 6.6 per cent from the previous year. Since 2002-03, annual funding for French-language boards has increased by \$764.5 million. That means \$5,953 more per student, an increase of 66.6 per cent.
- Increasing funding for the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Supplement from \$12 million in 2007-08 (when the grant was introduced) to \$46.2 million for the 2014-15 school year. This is an increase of \$3.5 million over 2013-14, and an increase of 283 per cent since 2007-08.
- Funding for special education is projected to increase to approximately \$2.72 billion for the 2014-15 school year. This is an increase of over \$1.09 billion, or 67 per cent since 2002-03.
- Funding for the Language Grant is projected to be \$666 million. This is an increase of 50 per cent since 2002-03.
- In March 2014, the ministry announced over \$700 million in capital priority approvals to school boards for capital projects needed in the next three years.
- Since 2009, providing just over \$1.45 billion in capital funding to school boards to build new classrooms and renovate existing ones to support the implementation of full-day kindergarten.
- Since 2003-04, our government has increased funding for child care by 90 per cent – to more than \$1 billion, annually.
- Our government's investment includes \$346 million over four years to modernize child care starting in 2012-13.
- Starting in 2012-13, our government is investing \$113 million over three years for the Schools-First Child Care Capital Retrofit Policy to support retrofits and renovations of school-based child care spaces to serve younger children.
- Our government has provided investments growing to \$51 million by 2015-16 to support child care operators, parents and children to seamlessly transition into full-day kindergarten.
- Committing \$12 million in new transition capital funding over five years to help non-profit child care centres with retrofits and renovations to provide child care for younger children.
- Providing \$8.8 million to support a mental health leader at every board.

- Providing \$250 million for School Condition Improvement again in 2014-15 for boards to address renewal needs. It will also help boards improve overall energy efficiency of schools and help meet their Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act compliance requirements.
- Providing \$505.2 million through the Learning Opportunities Grant for 2014-15. This is an increase of 70 per cent since 2002-03.
- Investing \$65 million to further support implementation of Ontario's Comprehensive Action Plan for Accepting Schools. This includes the following through the Safe Schools Supplement of the GSN:
 - \$25.6 million for programs for long-term suspended and expelled students;
 - \$11.7 million for para-professionals to work with at-risk students; and,
 - \$10 million for the Urban and Priority High School Initiative. This funding will provide support to selected secondary schools located in urban priority neighbourhoods that face challenges such as poverty, criminal and gang activity, lack of community resources and student achievement issues.
- Investing \$150 million over three years in technology, learning tools and professional development for educators to advance technology-enabled innovative teaching practices and learning.

ORGANIZATION CHART



July 2, 2014

AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (ABCs)

AGE AGENCIES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS*	2014/15 Expenditure Estimates \$	2013/14 Expenditure Interim Actuals \$	2012/13 Expenditure Actuals \$
Ontario Educational Communications Authority (TVO)			
Operating Expense	44,866,300	44,866,300	47,894,505
Capital Expense	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
Office des télécommunications éducatives de langue française de l'Ontario (TFO)			
Operating Expense	24,793,700	24,484,700	24,088,700
Capital Expense	1,000,000	1,800,000	3,000,000
Education Quality and Accountability Office	31,282,100	31,982,100	31,882,100
Provincial Schools Authority	30,100	16,295	8,872
Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education	75,000	75,000	38,843
Curriculum Council	20,000	17,050	6,531
Languages of Instruction Commission	-	-	381

* Not including consolidation adjustments

The ministry is responsible for the following classified agencies:

Operational Enterprise Agencies (sell goods or services to the public in a commercial manner):

Ontario Educational Communications Authority (TVO)

TVO is Ontario's publicly funded educational media organization. TVO provides high-quality English-language educational programming and services through broadcast, distance education, and interactive web access. Distance education for secondary school credit is provided through the Independent Learning Centre. TVO is governed by the *Ontario Educational Communications Authority Act*. Its broadcast licence is governed by the federal *Broadcasting Act* and CRTC licensing.

Office des télécommunications éducatives de langue française de l'Ontario (TFO)

The Ontario French-language Educational Communications Authority (TFO) produces and broadcasts multimedia quality educational and cultural content; produces and distributes supporting complementary products, according to the needs and aspirations of the target audience. Therefore TFO contributes to the civic and cultural fulfillment of the Ontario

French community and makes accessible to them a wide range of products on various multimedia platforms.

Operational Service Agencies (deliver goods or services to the public, usually with no or minimal fees):

Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO)

EQAO is responsible for ensuring greater accountability in and enhancing the quality of education in Ontario. This is achieved through the development and administration of large-scale student assessments and the public release of assessment findings together with recommendations for system improvement.

Provincial Schools Authority

In 1975, under the *Provincial Schools Negotiations Act*, a bargaining unit was created of all teachers, principals and vice-principals employed in provincially operated schools, called Provincial School Authority Teachers (PSAT). The Provincial Schools Authority (PSA) was also established as the employer of record to negotiate collective agreements with the PSAT on behalf of the ministries of Education and Community Safety and Correctional Services. The PSA handles grievances, leaves, and related administrative functions.

Advisory Agencies (provide information and advice to assist the development of policies or delivery of programs):

Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education

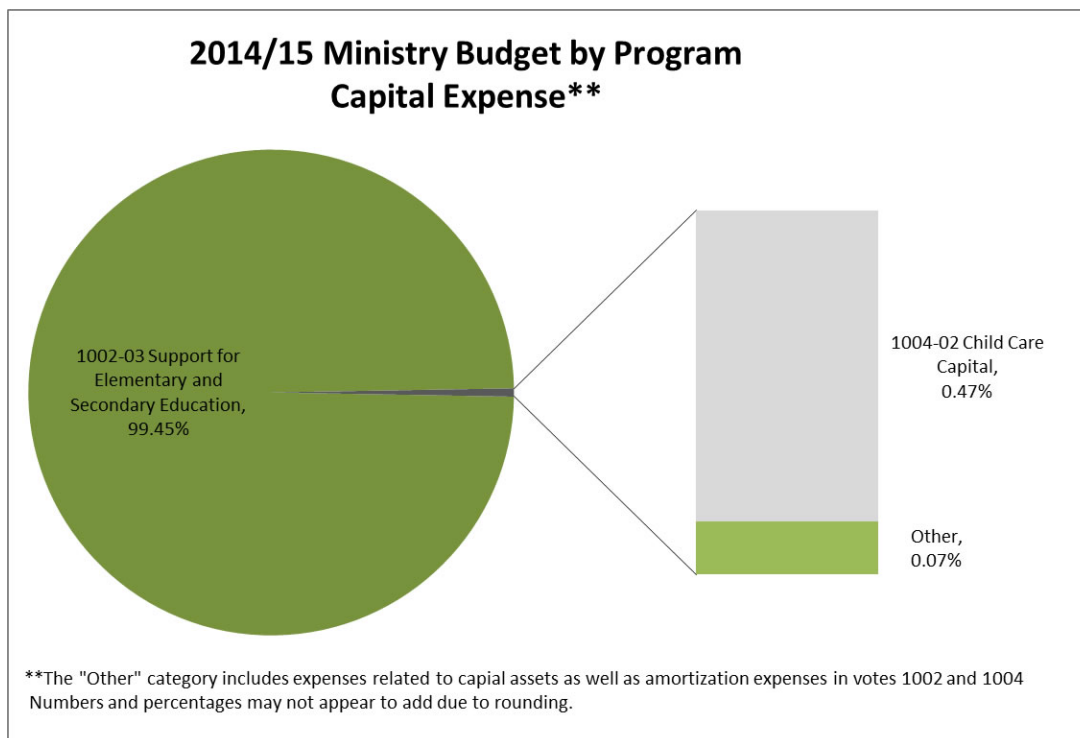
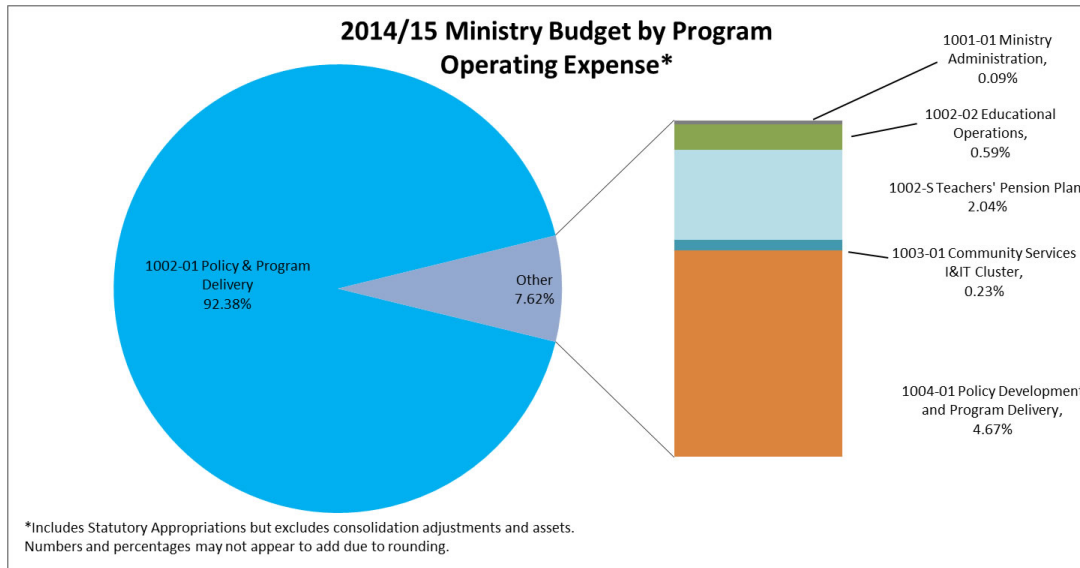
The Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education advises the minister on any matter related to the establishment and provision of special education programs and services for students with special education needs.

Curriculum Council

The Curriculum Council provides high-level strategic policy advice to the minister on issues affecting the elementary and secondary curriculum. The Curriculum Council allows a forum of knowledgeable English-language and French-language education sector leaders to engage in high-level discussion, at the request of the minister, and provide advice, driven by sound educational pedagogy. As required, the Council may convene a working group of experts to gather further information and conduct consultations to inform their deliberations.

MINISTRY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

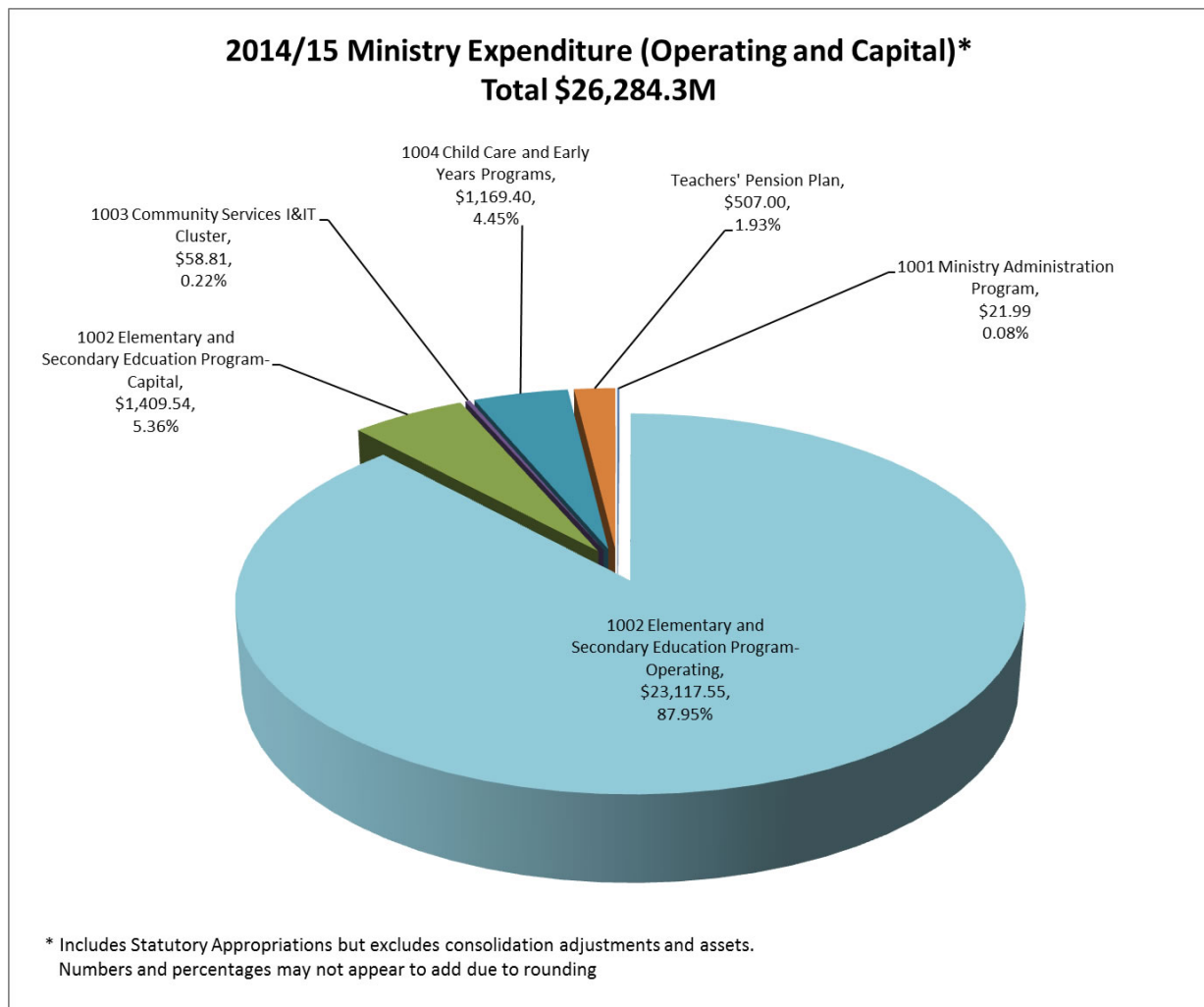
The following chart depicts the ministry's investment in 2014-15 in activities that provide Ontario students with an excellent and accountable elementary/secondary education, so their futures and that of the province will be characterized by continued prosperity, stability and growth.



MINISTRY PLANNED EXPENDITURES 2014-15 (\$M)*

Operating	24,867.4
Capital	1,416.9
TOTAL*	26,284.3

*Includes Statutory Appropriations but does not include consolidation adjustments. After consolidation adjustments (for agency and school board expense), the total 2014/15 planned expenditure including statutory appropriations is \$25,346.9M. This total, excluding statutory appropriations is \$24,838.7M.



Total Operating and Capital Summary by Vote

Votes/Programs	Estimates 2014-15 \$	Change from Estimates 2013-14 \$	%	Estimates 2013-14* \$	Interim 2013-14* \$	Actuals 2012-13* \$
OPERATING EXPENSE						
Ministry Administration Program	21,927,400	(26,600)	(0.1)	21,954,000	16,604,100	17,747,462
Elementary and Secondary Education Program	23,117,546,800	564,145,000	2.5	22,553,401,800	22,438,638,600	22,298,887,184
Community Services Information and Information Technology Cluster	58,810,400	9,889,400	20.2	48,921,000	49,514,700	46,349,169
Child Care and Early Years Programs	1,162,015,800	103,578,900	9.8	1,058,436,900	1,054,864,300	1,054,333,436
Less: Special Warrants	4,490,976,400	4,490,976,400		-	-	-
Total Operating Expense to be Voted	19,869,324,000	(3,813,389,700)	(16.1)	23,682,713,700	23,559,621,700	23,417,317,251
Special Warrants	4,490,976,400	4,490,976,400		-	-	-
Statutory Appropriations	507,064,014	(432,000,000)	(46.0)	939,064,014	873,064,014	894,518,297
Ministry Total Operating Expense	24,867,364,414	245,586,700	1.0	24,621,777,714	24,432,685,714	24,311,835,548
Consolidation Adjustment - Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO)	60,800	275,900	128.3	(215,100)	2,286,000	(2,727,780)
Consolidation Adjustment - Ontario Education Communications Authority (TVO)	10,918,500	(163,900)	(1.5)	11,082,400	10,842,300	11,577,000
Consolidation Adjustment - Office des télécommunications éducatives de langue française de l'Ontario (TFO)	634,000	(529,100)	(45.5)	1,163,100	6,006,500	(2,478,000)
Consolidation Adjustment - School Board Trust Debt Payment Reclassification	(65,836,500)	-	-	(65,836,500)	(65,723,500)	(65,836,548)
Consolidation Adjustment - Schools	(220,720,700)	(99,976,800)	(82.8)	(120,743,900)	(367,941,800)	(2,217,015,435)
Consolidation Adjustment - Hospitals	(3,500,000)	(500,000)	(16.7)	(3,000,000)	(4,000,000)	(3,915,079)
Consolidation Adjustment - Colleges	(21,578,000)	2,330,100	9.7	(23,908,100)	(21,578,000)	(23,856,854)
Total Including Consolidation & Other Adjustments	24,567,342,514	147,022,900	0.6	24,420,319,614	23,992,577,214	22,007,582,852
OPERATING ASSETS						
Elementary and Secondary Education Program	2,300,000	300,000	15.0	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,965,200
Community Services Information and Information Technology Cluster	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	-
Less: Special Warrants	575,000	575,000		-	-	-
Total Operating Assets to be Voted	1,726,000	(275,000)	(13.7)	2,001,000	2,000,000	2,965,200
Special Warrants	575,000	575,000		-	-	-
Statutory Appropriations	-	-				
Ministry Total Operating Assets	2,301,000	300,000	15.0	2,001,000	2,000,000	2,965,200

Total Operating and Capital Summary by Vote: Continued

Votes/Programs	Estimates 2014-15 \$	Change from Estimates 2013-14 \$	%	Estimates 2013-14* \$	Interim 2013-14* \$	Actuals 2012-13* \$
CAPITAL EXPENSE						
Elementary and Secondary Education Program	1,409,140,000	(144,250,800)	(9.3)	1,553,390,800	1,293,510,900	1,196,967,015
Child Care and Early Years Programs	6,662,700	(1,875,000)	(22.0)	8,537,700	9,461,600	8,592,301
Less: Special Warrants	462,615,900	462,615,900		-	-	-
Total Capital Expense to be Voted	953,186,800	(608,741,700)	(39.0)	1,561,928,500	1,302,972,500	1,205,559,316
Special Warrants	462,615,900	462,615,900		-	-	-
Statutory Appropriations	1,125,700	449,900	66.6	675,800	520,300	375,841
Ministry Total Capital Expense	1,416,928,400	(145,675,900)	(9.3)	1,562,604,300	1,303,492,800	1,205,935,157
Consolidation Adjustment - Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO)	(60,000)	(273,700)	(128.1)	213,700	(213,100)	242,000
Consolidation Adjustment - Ontario Education Communications Authority (TVO)	2,253,300	(225,600)	(9.1)	2,478,900	2,478,900	3,852,000
Consolidation & Other Adjustment - Office des télécommunications éducatives de langue français de l'Ontario (TFO)	1,562,600	304,300	24.2	1,258,300	1,781,500	(1,922,000)
Consolidation Adjustment - School	(641,154,600)	160,020,200	20.0	(801,174,800)	(581,433,400)	(475,320,177)
Total Including Consolidation & Other Adjustm ents	779,529,700	14,149,300	1.8	765,380,400	726,106,700	732,786,980
CAPITAL ASSETS						
Elementary and Secondary Education Program	4,915,000	(258,600)	(5.0)	5,173,600	5,137,400	376,341
Child Care and Early Years Programs	4,546,200	(2,113,800)	(31.7)	6,660,000	6,660,000	3,219,639
Less: Special Warrants	2,473,000	2,473,000		-	-	-
Total Capital Assets to be Voted	6,988,200	(4,845,400)	(40.9)	11,833,600	11,797,400	3,595,980
Special Warrants	2,473,000	2,473,000		-	-	-
Statutory Appropriations	-	-		-	-	-
Ministry Total Capital Assets	9,461,200	(2,372,400)	(20.0)	11,833,600	11,797,400	3,595,980
Ministry Total Operating and Capital Including Consolidation and Other Adjustments (not including Assets)	25,346,872,214	161,172,200	0.6	25,185,700,014	24,718,683,914	22,740,369,832

* Estimates, Interim Actuals for the previous fiscal year and Actuals for 2012-13 are re-stated to reflect any changes in ministry organization and/or program structure. Interim actuals reflect the numbers presented in the 2014 Ontario Budget.



Appendix

Ministry of Education 2013-14 Annual Report

2013-14 Annual Report

The following pages provide a selective list of the initiatives contributing to the ministry's success in funding public education.

[Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario](#)

Our renewed vision builds on the progress of the last 10 years. It is guided by the input and advice from thousands of Ontarians, with whom we have consulted extensively since last September — making it a made-in-Ontario vision for our province. It focuses on achieving excellence for both our students and our educators.

The renewed vision has four key goals:

- Achieving excellence
- Ensuring equity
- Promoting well-being
- Enhancing public confidence.

While there is a continued focus on the basics of reading, writing and mathematics, we are also placing a greater emphasis on higher-order skills, like critical thinking, communication, collaboration and entrepreneurship. A key aspect of the “made-in-Ontario” renewed vision is to embrace the role of technology in supporting teaching and learning, and helping our students succeed and excel.

[Early Years and Child Care](#)

In January 2013, the [Ontario Early Years Policy Framework](#) was released. It sets out a vision, guiding principles and strategic direction for early years programs and services for children from birth to age six and their families. One of the action areas is to create an effective approach to implementing Best Start Child and Family Centres by September 2014.

As more four- and five-year-old children enter the school system through full-day kindergarten, Ontario's child care providers will adapt to serve younger children. We are providing \$346 million in child care funding over four years to stabilize this transition, and to continue modernizing the child care system.

- Since 2003, licensed spaces in child care centres have increased by approximately 107,400.
- There are 5,050 licensed child care centres in the province with a total capacity of 294,490 spaces, of which 143,020 of them are in publicly funded schools.
- Since 2003, the province has increased funding for child care by 90 per cent to more than \$1 billion in 2013-14.

- We have provided investments growing to \$51 million by 2015-16 to support child care operators, parents and children to seamlessly transition into full-day kindergarten.
- We are providing \$12 million over five years to help non-profit child care centres with renovations that will improve the care of younger children.
- Since 2011, we have invested an additional \$9.2 million to support on-reserve child care for First Nations.
- We are providing \$113 million to school boards to support retrofits and renovations for school-based child care services, so that high quality child care is available where families need it.

Child Care Modernization Act

In July 2014, Ontario introduced legislation to strengthen oversight of the province's unlicensed child care sector while increasing access to licensed child care options for families. If passed, the proposed Child Care Modernization Act, would make [other key changes to the child care system](#) to ensure families have access to safe, modern child care and give children the best possible start.

Full-Day Kindergarten

By September 2014, full-day kindergarten (FDK) will be available to all four- and five-year olds.

In September 2013, [the ministry released a study](#), conducted in partnership with Queen's and McMaster universities. It showed that FDK is giving children a better start in school and preparing them for success in Grade 1.

Capital

Ontario has invested \$12 billion in school infrastructure since 2003, including nearly 650 new schools, over 620 additions and renovations, and 27,000 repair and renewal projects. Ontario has also helped make more than 2,600 publicly funded schools more energy efficient.

In March 2014, the ministry announced over \$700 million in capital priority approvals to school boards for [capital projects](#) needed in the next three years.

Curriculum

The ministry continues to review and update curriculum documents to ensure they are current and relevant.

Revised curriculum policy documents released in 2013-2014 include:

- Social Studies, Grades 1 to 6
- History and Geography, Grades 7 and 8

- Social Sciences and Humanities, Grades 9 to 12
- Canadian and World Studies, Grades 9 and 10
- French as a Second Language
 - Core French, Grades 4 to 8
 - Extended French, Grades 4 to 8
 - French Immersion, Grades 1 to 8.

21st Century Learning and Technology

In 2013-14, the ministry provided a total of \$10 million for all 72 district school boards and provincial schools for a third round of 21st century teaching and learning projects for innovation research. Over 1,600 schools, more than 4,500 educators and more than 100,000 students are involved in these innovation projects.

To support its renewed vision, the province announced that it will [invest \\$150 million](#) over three years in technology and learning tools such as new digital tablets, netbooks, cameras, software and professional learning for educators. This fund will support modern, evidence-informed technology-enabled teaching and learning practices. It will also help students achieve higher order skills, knowledge and characteristics to prepare them for future jobs in the global economy.

E-Learning

E-Learning Ontario supports technology-enabled learning and teaching in all school boards. As of March 2014, approximately 240,000 students and educators are using the virtual learning environment. Approximately 125 online secondary credit courses and 31 elementary blended learning subject packages are available to English-language school boards. Teachers and students can access over 31,000 English-language online resources in the [Ontario Educational Resources Bank](#). Pilot projects have now increased access to various tools to students in First Nations' schools, students in Section 23 programs and teacher candidates within Ontario's Faculties of Education.

There are 73 French-language online courses available to French-language school boards. French-language teachers and students can access approximately 8,000 online resources in the [Banque de ressources éducatives de l'Ontario](#).

Math Supports

The province is helping students improve and build their math skills by giving teachers and students more tools and resources. Ontario is investing [\\$4 million](#) to create new learning opportunities in mathematics for educators, including support for Additional Qualifications in mathematics.

Students in grades 7 to 10 who need extra support in math can access [Homework Help](#), Ontario's free online math tutoring program for English-language schools.

[SOS Devoirs](#) is a tutoring service to help students in French-language schools from grades 1 to 12 with their homework.

Aboriginal Education

The ministry continues to focus on meeting two primary objectives by the year 2016:

- 1) Improve student achievement and well-being among First Nation, Métis and Inuit students.
- 2) Close the achievement gap between Aboriginal students and all students.

We want to ensure that First Nation, Métis and Inuit students have every opportunity for success.

In August 2013, the ministry released its [second progress report](#). It includes Ontario's first baseline data on First Nation, Métis and Inuit student achievement, based on voluntary, confidential Aboriginal student self-identification data for the 2011-2012 school year.

On March 5, 2014, the ministry released its [implementation plan](#) to build on the [Aboriginal Education Strategy](#). The plan builds on progress to date in the implementation of the *Ontario First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education Policy Framework* and guides the work of the ministry and school boards from now through to 2016.

Ontario continues to work with the federal government and First Nation partners to improve the relationships between provincially funded schools and First Nation schools.

French-language Education

Since 2003, our government has increased French-language education funding by 67%, which is an increase of \$609 million. In 2013-14, French Language boards will receive approximately \$1.36 billion.

In March 2014, a new Ontario-Canada Agreement on Minority Language Education and Second Official Language Instruction was signed. The purpose is to cover the additional costs of delivering French-language education in a minority setting and of second language education. Ontario will receive \$395.4 million (\$79.1 million annually) over a five-year period for minority-language education and second-language instruction at the elementary, secondary and postsecondary levels.

Mental Health and Well-being

In 2013-14, \$120,000 was allocated to each of the 72 school boards and one school authority to hire a mental health leader.

[Supporting Minds, An Educator's Guide to Promoting Students' Mental Health and Well-being](#) was released as a draft for consultation to district school boards and posted on the EDU website in August 2013. This resource guide for Kindergarten to Grade 12 was developed to provide educators with information on the early signs of mental health and addiction problems, along with strategies that can be used in the classroom to support students.

The ministry is further enhancing the Ontario curriculum to promote healthy development and mental health, including the production of video resources/viewer guides to support educators to implement the curriculum as it relates to mental health and addictions.

Students with Special Education Needs

After continued consultations with stakeholders, we are making changes to special education funding to be more responsive to the needs of students receiving special education programs and services. This will increase the focus on supporting student outcomes, while responding to requests for a more fair and equitable High Needs Amount (HNA) allocation.

The Special Education Grant (SEG) is projected to increase to approximately \$2.72 billion in 2014-15. This is an increase of \$1.09 billion or 67 per cent since 2002-03.

Student Success Programs

In 2013-14, more than 1,600 [Specialist High Skills Major \(SHSM\)](#) programs in 19 sectors are offered in over 660 secondary schools to about 42,000 students.

About 22,000 students are participating in the [dual credits](#) program. Students earn credits that count toward both their high school diploma and their college diploma/degree or apprenticeship certification.

Student Voice

Across Ontario, [SpeakUp projects](#) are helping students engage academically and socially by leading projects that they design and implement with the support of their learning community. In 2013-14, there have been 1,200 projects in 941 schools, involving thousands of students across Ontario.

In 2013-14, nine Students as Researchers forums were held across Ontario. Eighty student-teacher research teams were trained to conduct collaborative inquiry on questions they created. Topics included student engagement and learning. Student Research teams will share their findings and recommend next steps with school boards and the ministry.

Summer Learning Programs

In 2013-14, funding for summer learning programs doubled to almost \$3 million. This helped an additional 1,000 elementary students across the province improve their reading, writing and math skills during the summer.

Healthy Students, Healthy Schools

In 2013-14, the province has invested a total of \$2.2 million in its [Healthy Eating in Secondary Schools](#) program. This initiative provided grants of up to \$50,000 for innovative projects in high schools and school boards to encourage students to eat healthier.

The ministry is also investing a total of \$1 million in the Physical Activity in Secondary Schools Grants. This funding supports the efforts of school boards and secondary schools

to promote healthy active living and student well-being. The grant intends to increase the number of secondary students participating in physical activities outside of instructional time.

The ministry released a [Concussion Policy/Program Memorandum](#) to ensure all school boards have policies on the identification, prevention and management of concussions. School boards should fully implement their policy as soon as possible, but must have their concussion policy fully implemented no later than January 30, 2015.

The ministry, along with Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, launched a [concussion web portal](#) that brings together critical information on concussion prevention, identification and management.

[Safe, Inclusive and Accepting Schools](#)

Ontario is leading the country with strong [legislation](#) and resources to help young people develop healthy relationships and address bullying and victimization through prevention and intervention.

The ministry continues to provide funding for safe, inclusive and accepting schools. Between 2004-05 and 2013-14, the government has invested over \$425 million in safe schools and equity and inclusive education to support the work of school boards and school communities.

[Parent Engagement](#)

Provided \$3.5 million in funding for nearly 2,200 projects in 2013-14 to support and enhance parent engagement at the local, regional and provincial levels through the [Parents Reaching Out \(PRO\) Grants](#) program.

[Parent Involvement Committees \(PIC\)](#)

Every school board receives funding through Grants for Student Needs to support the parent engagement activities of their school councils and PICs. School councils receive \$500 per school, and PICs receive \$5,000 plus \$0.17 per student.

[PIC Symposium](#)

The ministry hosted its fourth annual PIC symposium for parent representatives of PICs from across Ontario in April 2013. There were more than 200 participants from across the province. The fifth symposium was held in April 2014.

[Enhanced Teacher Education](#)

Ontario is modernizing teacher education to help new teachers get jobs and provide students with the best possible education. The enhanced program will extend learning time from two semesters to four semesters and give future teachers more practical experience by increasing classroom placements from a minimum of 40 days to a minimum of 80 days.

The curriculum for teacher education will also be enhanced and updated to provide new teachers with additional expertise in tailoring teaching methods to diverse student needs and working with students who have mental health and addictions issues.

School Boards Collective Bargaining Act

In April 2014, Bill 122, The School Boards Collective Bargaining Act, passed third reading in the Ontario legislature and received Royal Assent. This legislation will allow the province to move forward with its commitment to make the collective bargaining process in the education sector clearer and more reliable.

The act establishes a clearer process for addressing key collective bargaining issues and creates better defined roles and responsibilities for all participants, including the government, trustees' associations and unions during labour negotiations in the province's education sector.

Moving Forward to Achieving Excellence

Ontario has made significant investments to support our youngest learners. Our education system goals include the modernization and integration of child care, becoming a truly connected system from birth to adulthood.

Our accomplishments have built a strong foundation for future success. We have so much to be proud of in Ontario — especially higher test scores and graduation rates. And now is the time to aspire to even greater accomplishments for all of our learners.

Building on all that we have achieved — including higher test scores and graduation rates — we are once again raising the bar for Ontario's publicly funded education system, for our students, and for the future prosperity of this great province.

We will continue to engage our education partners in our journey, including Ontario's educators, students, principals, board staff and parents.

By working together, we can make our renewed vision *Achieving Excellence*, a reality. We can give all of our children the opportunity to reach their potential. We can support their success inside and outside of the classroom to build a better province for all Ontarians.

Ministry Interim Actual Expenditures (\$M) 2013-14*

Operating	24,432.7
Capital	1,303.5
Staff Strength** (as of March 31, 2014)	1,756

*Includes Statutory Appropriations, Bad Debt Expense, and reconciliation adjustments but does not include consolidation adjustments. This number is based on Restated Interim Actuals, and final actual expenditures will be stated in 2013/14 Public Accounts.

**This number excludes seasonal staff, students, employees on leave, and secondees.