

TO: The Chairperson and Members of the
Finance Standing Committee

FROM: Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: **EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM (ELP) - EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM
COMPONENT (2010-2011)**

1. Background

In early January, the Ministry released a communiqué that provided details of the Extended Day Program component of the Early Learning Program (ELP). As described by the Ministry, the ELP is to include two components: a core instructional day component (for example, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) and an extended day component (for example, 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 to 6:00 p.m.).

Where parents wish to enroll a child in the extended day component, the child may be enrolled in one or both parts (before and after school) of the extended day. The extended day component would be funded by revenue from parent fees, with some subsidies available for families based as needed.

Currently, the subsidy system and wait lists for child care are administered by the 47 Consolidated Municipal Service Managers and District Social Services Administration Boards in Ontario. The subsidy administrator for extended day subsidies has not yet been determined. Final arrangement for subsidy administration for Fall 2010 will be the subject of discussions with the municipal sector, school boards and other community partners. The Ministry will provide additional information regarding subsidy administration as soon as possible.

The core component of the day will be implemented in the sixteen SCDSB schools approved by the Ministry of Education. Curriculum is being prepared by the Ministry, with training expected to occur in May and July. The Board will be scheduling interviews for the newly created Designated Early Childhood Educator positions in April for all of the ELPs.

The extended day component of the ELP is the responsibility of the Board, delivered by employees of the board. Decisions with respect to programming, which students will have access, times and days offered, and fees to parents are all decisions each individual board is required to make. Prior to the Ministry's assignment of this responsibility, the Simcoe County District School Board had developed successful partnerships with non profit childcare centres to operate extended day programs through the board's permit system. Currently there are approximately thirty eight before and after school permits issued to childcare providers who offer the program to all school aged children from 7:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

2. Current Status

In order to meet the needs of families within the community, it is recommended that all schools offering the ELP also offer an Extended Day Program (EDP), providing there is sufficient demand from the community. This EDP would be available for ELP students and students aged 6-12.

The fees are based on the assumption of a board average of 20 students accessing EDP services. This model anticipates the ability to operate the program on a cost recovery basis. However, our collaborative efforts with our coterminous board lead us to attempt to align our fees as much as possible. These discussions will continue as further information becomes available.

The following parameters apply to the EDP:

- a) Program
The Ministry of Education is currently developing the program model for the Early Learning Program, which will include program delivery for the Extended Day Program for the 4 and 5 year old students only. The Board will prepare a program model based upon best practices for student's ages 6 to 12 enrolled in the extended day.
- b) Minimum Number of Students in Extended Day Program
The Ministry has set a staffing ratio of 1:13. Two adults are required to be in the school for the extended day for safety reasons. Each school will be able to offer the Extended Day Program for students within an ELP, as well as students aged 6 to 12.
- c) Wait Lists
In order for the Board to operate additional extended day rooms, wait lists may need to be used to ensure enough students are enrolled for cost recovery purposes. A waiting list will be developed when there are more than 26, but less than 32 students. At such time that there are 33 or more students, an additional staff member will be hired. This pattern will continue in increments of 13 to 1.
- d) Extended Day Dates – Instructional Days
For 2010/2011, the Extended Day Program will commence on September 7, 2010 and operate until June 29, 2011.
- e) Extended Day Dates – Non-Instructional Days
In order to help families maintain consistency with childcare, the Board will provide Extended Day service for the following non-instructional days, provided there is a minimum of 13 students to ensure a cost recovery model. The extended day service will be offered from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. on the following days for the 2010/2011 school year:
 - a) All Professional Development Days which occur after the first instructional day: October 25 and November 22, 2010, January 24, June 3 and June 30, 2011
 - b) March Break - March 14 – 18, inclusive, 2011
 - c) Winter Break - December 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24, 2011

f) No Extended Day Service Provided

Extended Day service will not be provided on the following days:

Thanksgiving	October 11, 2010
Christmas	December 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31, 2010
Family Day	February 21, 2011
Good Friday	April 22, 2011
Easter Monday	April 25, 2011
Victoria Day	May 23, 2011
Summer Holidays	July 1, 2011 until the first instructional day in September 2011

g) Hours of Operation

The hours of operation will be 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Staff will be present between the hours of 6:50 a.m. and 6:10 p.m.

h) Contract

Families will be required to sign a contract for the extended day for the entire year for instructional days only. Professional Development Days, March Break and Christmas will be addressed within in a separate contract.

A family may choose: Before Care
 After Care
 Before and After Care

i) Breaking of Contract

If a family no longer requires the Extended Day care, they will be required to give the Board two weeks notification of their desire to discontinue the service.

j) Payment

The Board is investigating a third party provider to collect Extended Day Program fees which will be remitted to the Board. It is anticipated that families will pay twice per month through automatic deposits, but exact payment options will be determined once the third party provider has been established.

3. Annual Update

Since this is a new program offered by the Simcoe County District School Board, fees and program delivery should be re-evaluated Spring 2011 to determine if any changes are required for delivery in the 2011/2012 school year.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance Standing Committee recommend that the Board approve the fees for the provision of the Extended Day Program component at all ELP sites where numbers warrant, as set out in APPENDIX A of Report No. FIN-D-3, dated April 14, 2010.

Respectfully submitted by:

Paul Sloan
Superintendent of Education

April 14, 2010

**EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM - EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM COMPONENT 2010-11
 APPENDIX A**

EXTENDED DAY FEE - INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS	FEE PER DAY
Before school care	\$10.00
After school care	\$15.00
Before and after school care	\$23.50
EXTENDED DAY FEE – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS	
Full Day – 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.	\$52.00
LATE FEES	
In order to ensure families are respectful of the extended day hours, late fees will apply to each individual child not picked up before 6:05 p.m. The following is a schedule of the late fees that will be billed to families.	
Between 6:05 and 6:15 p.m.	\$4.00
Between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m.	\$10.00
Between 6:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.	\$16.00
Between 6:45 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.	\$20.00