

Special Education Advisory Committee brief to VSB Budget process: April 21, 2010

Special Education Enrolment in Vancouver

Number of Students	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11: Estimated	Percentage change 2000/01 to 2009/10
A - Physically Dependent				60	63	66	72	81	78	82		
B - Deafblind				4	4	3	3	3	6	4		
C - Moderate to Profound Intellectual Disability				208	211	210	209	201	189	162		
D - Physically Disability/Chronic Health Impairment 3				381	448	509	561	627	711	768		
E - Visual Impairment				35	27	29	31	31	32	34		
F - Deaf or Hard of Hearing				155	151	158	154	131	125	125		
G - Autism Spectrum Disorder				296	346	391	426	452	509	574		
H - Intensive Behaviour Interventions/Serious Mental Illness				560	562	514	485	459	624	673		
K - Mild Intellectual Disability				242	201	175	166	148	130	126		
Q - Learning Disability				1,553	1,783	1,978	2,103	2,136	2,188	2,221		
R - Moderate Behaviour Support/Mental Illness				386	450	404	323	398	416	447		
Total designated Special Education students	3,870	3,987	3,594	3,880	4,246	4,437	4,533	4,667	5008	5216	5216	35% increase*
Total Low incidence students			1,516	1,699	1,812	1,880	1,941	1,985	2274	2422	2422	
P - Gifted				2,529	2,255	1,695	1,518	1,334	1050	981	981	
Total Special Education + Gifted students				6,409	6,501	6,132	6,051	6,000	6058	6197	6197	
<i>Change: # of Special Education students vs previous year</i>		<i>17</i>	<i>-400</i>	<i>286</i>	<i>366</i>	<i>191</i>	<i>96</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>341</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>0</i>	
<i>Change: # of Low incidence students vs previous year</i>				<i>183</i>	<i>113</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>289</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>0</i>	
Staffing												
Special Education teachers	451	443	345	348	322	330	332	333	334	369	336	25% decrease**
Sp Ed Teacher/student ratio	8.6	9.0	10.4	11.1	13.2	13.4	13.7	14.0	15.0	14.1	15.5	
Special Education Aides			450	495	520	586	620	640	698	674	657	
Aide/Low incident student ratio			3.4	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.7	

* The Special Needs student enrolment projection for 2010-11 conservatively projects no increase, although enrolment in this population has grown significantly every year (except 2002) for over a decade.

**The staffing projection for 2010-11 conservatively estimates that only 1/3 of the 43 non-enrolling teachers being cut provide special education services. The actual proportion would likely be much higher if the proposed cuts go ahead.