



BUDGET BUILDING PROCESS
FOR 2024-2025

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**APPENDIX B: Suggestions for Budget Priorities
Feedback on Guiding Principles, Criteria, and Related Orientations**

Group/School/Centre: Royal Vale (046 and 146)

1. Budget Priorities:

Within the context of declining enrolment-and therefore decreasing subsidies- establishing budget priorities can realistically imply that these priorities *could* simply be exempted from reductions. In this light, please list, in order of priority, the needs among the schools/centres which you feel are most important:

1. Major bathroom repairs and renovations
2. An extra guidance counsellor (whereas one counsellor would be for mental health, one would be for academics)
3. Extra resource staff (with 50% of the role dedicated to elementary, and 50% to high school)
4. Addition of a full-time caretaker
5. Repairs and renovations to the auditorium (including seating, lighting, and sound equipment)
6. Addition of a Student Supervisor (to assist with lates, cafeteria support, and to support academics and behavioural interventions)

Please note this list is part of the overall budget planning process. As the MEQ funding parameters become known, some funds may have to be directed to specific spending initiatives per budgetary parameters.



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2. GUIDING PRINCIPLES, CRITERIA, AND RELATED ORIENTATIONS

Please provide your comments on the *Guiding Principles, Criteria, and related Orientations* as outlined in the attached document. You may use the reference numbers i) to xi) used in the document.

1. Many of the girls' and boys' bathrooms in our school need extensive repairs and renovations. Plumbing issues, leaks, non-functional faucets, and broken soap dispensers have created unsanitary conditions for students. The bathrooms pose serious health hazards, not to mention mental health concerns when one does not feel they have access to a sanitary place to meet their basic safety needs. Our governing board has made a separate urgent request to the EMSB Director General for repairs to our school bathrooms, as this remains of utmost importance for the hygiene and comfort of our students.
2. With the lingering effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, both elementary and high school students would greatly benefit from additional direct support services, particularly for mental health programs. With the addition of an extra guidance counsellor in the school, one counsellor would be responsible for academics, and a second counsellor would focus on mental health support for students.
3. With the growing student population, an additional resource staff member would allow for better support within and outside of the classroom. Our school strives to support students of all academic levels, and an extra resource specialist (with 50% of the role dedicated to elementary and 50% to high school students) would benefit students with particular needs.
4. Our student body has increased and is likely to continue increasing. Our building consists of both elementary and high school sectors of almost 1000 students, with many high-traffic areas. The lunch period for both elementary and high school is particularly busy, and bathrooms need to be cleaned more often due to the number of users.



5. The auditorium is typically used extensively by our school, the EMSB Choral, the union and several outside organizations. Seats need replacing for entire rows to become usable. Rental of lighting and sound equipment incurs a cost to the school. In addition, the mezzanine section is currently closed to the public and needs major repairs. By providing these necessary repairs, Royal Vale and the EMSB at large can take pride in providing a safe, functional, and updated venue for community events.

6. The addition of a Student Supervisor would alleviate daily tasks and responsibilities, such as managing lates, disciplinary action, and supervising students in the cafeteria. A Student Supervisor would address academic and behavioural concerns and assist in the necessary interventions.