

Addition of special classes (Appendix XLVIII)

1. Context

Guaranteed in the collective agreement that the addition of special classes for at-risk students and students with handicaps and social maladjustments or learning difficulties (EHDA) begun in 2019-2020 will continue at a rate of 75 classes per year for the entire public system until 2023-2024. With respect to the commitment for 2023-2024, being beyond the term of the 2020-2023 entente, this is a very rare practice. It was important for the FSE and QPAT to ensure that this direction for special classes could continue even if there was a change of government or simply a change of *Ministre de l'Éducation*. In the end, with the 225 additional special classes for students with special needs already opened in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, an additional 450 special classes will have been added to the public network over 5 years. These 450 classes represent approximately 4,500 fewer students with special needs in regular classes, thus improving the situation in several hundred classes. These additions will also allow for greater homogeneity in the composition of special classes in some settings.

2. Content

APPENDIX XLVIII AMOUNTS ALLOCATED FOR THE ADDITION OF SPECIALIZED CLASSES FOR HANDICAPPED STUDENTS OR STUDENTS WITH SOCIAL MALADJUSTMENTS OR LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

The Ministère agrees to fund the addition of 150 specialized classes over a two-year period beginning in the 2021-2022 school year for all school service centres, including the *Centre de services scolaires du Littoral*, and English school boards.

For the 2023-2024 school year, the Ministère is allocating an additional amount to fund the addition of 75 more specialized classes.

The funds are dedicated to promoting the educational success of students with handicaps, social maladjustments or learning difficulties, when their integration into a regular classroom is not possible in accordance with the Education Act (CQLR, chapter I-13.3) and the policy on the organization of educational services for students with handicaps, social maladjustments or learning difficulties in effect.

The distribution of the amounts between the school service centres and the school boards is made according to the budgetary parameters established by the Ministère.

The board shall determine the distribution of classes in its territory following the recommendations made by the parity committee provided for in clause 8-9.04.

Amounts not used in the school year in which they were allocated shall be carried over to the next school year.