



**CONSILIUL
ELEVILOR**

Fii vocea colegilor tăi!



Salvați Copiii

Save the Children Romania

School Budget

STUDENTS' OPINION MATTERS!



**Photo: Science class – “Dimitrie Pacurariu” school,
Schela, Suceava county**

Action to raise the awareness of the local authorities on educational needs identified by children at school level



ICELAND
LIECHTENSTEIN
NORWAY

**eea
grants**

FONDUL
ONG



**CONSILIUL
ELEVILOR**

Fii vocea colegilor tăi!



Salvați Copiii

Save the Children Romania

School Budget

STUDENTS' OPINION MATTERS!





ISBN 978-606-8038-05-6

Editura BMI Publishing

First edition: November 2015

© 2015 Save the Children Romania Organization

Title: School Budget – Students’ Opinion Matters!



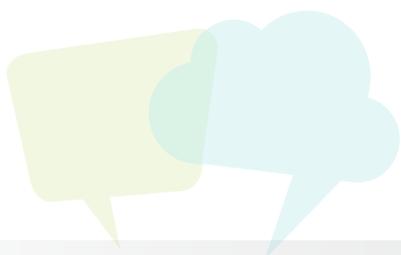
This brochure was printed as part of the “Participation and transparency for better ensuring children’s rights” project financed by SEE 2009-2014 grants, within the NGO Fund in Romania.

The content of this document does not necessarily represent the official position of SEE 2009 – 2014 grants.

For official information on SEE and Norwegian grants, please access www.eegrants.org

This brochure includes:

Introduction	Pag. 4
School budget – from where and for whom? <i>Message for the students in the National Students' Council</i>	Pag. 5
Children's participation, a key principle	Pag. 7
What is there to know about the funding of the education system and school budget? <ul style="list-style-type: none">- How is education funded (where does the money come from and for what)?- Funding request, allocation and spending- What does the school budget look like?- Other important documents- Where can students send their opinion?- When are the decisions taken?	Pag. 9
How can students participate in the setting up of the school budget? <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Some important steps- Advice- Examples from various schools	Pag. 15
Annex – List of winning projects – “Students’ participation in school budget decisions”	Pag. 32



Introduction

Decisions related to school budgets are mostly taken only by adults, without students being consulted on their needs and the priorities of their school. Budget discussions are wrongly considered an adults' matter. Nevertheless, the "Participation and transparency for better ensuring children's rights" project demonstrated that starting from the earliest age, students can express their opinion on the needs of their school and indicate what the priorities should be.

With the support of teachers and "Save the Children" volunteers, students from 25 schools of Bucharest, Suceava, Mures and Timis drafted projects on "Students' participation to school budget decisions". A winning project was selected from each participating school and then put into practice. According to their age and preferences, students conveyed their needs and opinions through drawings, plays, questionnaires, essays, petitions or letters to the school management, to parents and, in some cases, even to the authorities (school inspectorates, municipalities, local or county councils) and the media, asking for their recommendations to be considered when setting up the following year's budget. We wish to thank all the schools involved, students and teachers, for their availability and participation.

Through this brochure, Save the Children would like to invite you to find out more about the school budget and education funding as well as about how students can actively engage in the identification of school needs and priorities and in the communication of their own opinions to decision makers. You will also find examples from projects drafted and implemented by students participating to our exercise. We wish to thank the National Students' Council for supporting this initiative and hope that, thanks to their involvement, the information provided by this brochure will reach as many students as possible throughout the country.

This publication provides important information and can be a source of inspiration for students that we encourage to express their ideas and participate in the decisions that concern them. At the same time, we invite teachers (including school principals), parents and all the other stakeholders to support and capitalize on the students' participation.

*Gabriela Alexandrescu,
Executive President
Save the Children Romania*



"Beautiful drawings and good health" –

School no.1 – TM

Drawing about "My School" – children conveyed the educational needs identified at the level of their school

School budget – from where and for whom?

Message for the students in the National Students' Council

Students are the direct beneficiaries of the Romanian education system and therefore all school related actions should naturally meet their interests and needs. It is a founding education principle, according to article 3 of the National Education Law.

The Romanian education system faces various problems, starting with insufficient infrastructure, difficult teacher-student relations, curriculum that is not adapted to current requirements, old school books, lack of consideration of students' opinion in the educational process. A starting point for solving these system issues would be the education funding. Nevertheless, at national level, education does not benefit from sufficient funding (students, teachers, NGOs and education experts have been asking for 6% of the GDP for several years), plus available money is sometimes inefficiently spent.

The education system is funded by the state budget (national) and by local budgets. According to article 104-114 of the National Education Law, the budget is based on the student as a starting point together with other factors related to school financial needs. The student being the starting point in financial calculations supports once again the idea that students' interest should guide schools actions.

According to a survey of the National Students' Council, less than 10% of Romanian schools take into consideration their students' opinion in the development of their budgetary process and planning or when they receive money for school related investments. In our opinion, this lack of consultation stands proof that the school is not connected to the wishes and proposals of those forming the majority of the school community and directly facing existing system issues, namely students.

Us winning a representative who is able to support students' interests within the School Board and who is present when the school procurement fund and nature is decided can be a starting point for better guidance of school decisions. **Active communication between students and their representative is vital so that their proposals and interests may be heard by the decision makers.** Up to now, members of students' councils have raised the fact that in many schools investments are directed towards areas that do not necessarily need them (the priority being given for example to teachers' stairs, teachers' room, school principal's office) while neglecting other real issues preventing schools to reach recommended quality standards (classrooms, facilities for students with disabilities, school library, laboratories).

Basic and supplementary funding being covered by public sources, we requested for the budget to be publicly displayed so as to be accessible to all educational stakeholders. **Do not forget, you all have the right to be aware of your school budget, of how it was, is or will be invested in the school and to request financing for your projects and priorities** (Law 544/2001 on free access to public interest information, as well as transparency as a founding principle of the education system according to article 3 of the National Education Law)!

We request that a larger percentage of the school budget be directed towards equipping laboratories for practical classes as many of them lack the equipment and raw material necessary for the carrying out of experiments, even the simplest ones.



“Class exhibition” – Ion Neculce Scool, Iasi

Information campaign on the needs of children in special situations



We also believe that students’ projects and initiatives deserve greater attention and support from school decision makers (as per Youth Law 350/2006 and article 105 of the National Education Law). Schools should dedicate part of their budget to supporting youth activities as they increase entrepreneurial spirit among students and promote active citizenship.

It is of utmost importance to be aware that education is for your own benefit, that you have the right to be consulted and to be informed on the money invested in your school. Starting this year, you have a student representing you in the School Board when the budget is decided and you are fully entitled to propose projects, activities, raise the problems you are facing at school and the school management must give priority to your wishes!

Horia Șerban Onița,

President

National Students’ Council (CNE)

Children's participation, a key principle

The *UN Convention on the Rights of the Child* is based on a key principle, children's participation. Thus children have the right to be informed and involved in making all the decisions that affect them. Children's opinion is important and their participation should be fostered since the earliest age.

Children's participation should not be merely *formal* or limited to topics such as the organization of school festivities. Unfortunately, many adults believe students do not have the necessary maturity therefore do not involve them in making important decisions. If the answer to the question "*Is this decision impacting children?*" is "*YES*", then children should be consulted and their opinions considered, according to their degree of maturity.

Children's participation is enshrined in the law

Children's participation is a fundamental principle and the *UN Convention on the rights of the child* is an international legally binding document. Following its ratification by Romania in 1990, the Convention is also enforced in our country, with articles 12 and 13 stipulating that:

- Any child has the right to express his/her views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child
- Any child has the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, through any media of the child's choice, without prejudice to other people's rights.

Information provided to children must be adapted to their level of understanding.

Moreover, the right to participation is also indicated in the Children's Law (*Law 272/2004 on the protection and promotion of children's rights*), in article 29:

- The child who is able to form an opinion has the right to freely express his/her view on any matter affecting the child.
- Any child can request to be heard. If refused, the relevant institution must provide a reasoned explanation.
- The child's opinions shall be considered and given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child
- The child has the right to request and receive information including on the possible effects of his/her opinion but also on the effects of any decision affecting the child.



Students' consultation on the educational needs of their school

Responsibilities

Just like any other right, participation has limitations and carries responsibilities:

- Only children who wish to participate shall do so, without being pressured to.
- The rights of a person end when prejudicial to other people's rights and freedoms. Remember that the others also have the right to express their opinions, even though you might disagree with some of them. Show respect and defend your view without offending the others. When decisions that affect a larger group are taken (for example all the students of a class or a school), the majority's opinion must be observed although it may not be your own.
- Participation comes with the responsibility to finish what you committed to do, thus investing time, energy and discipline.

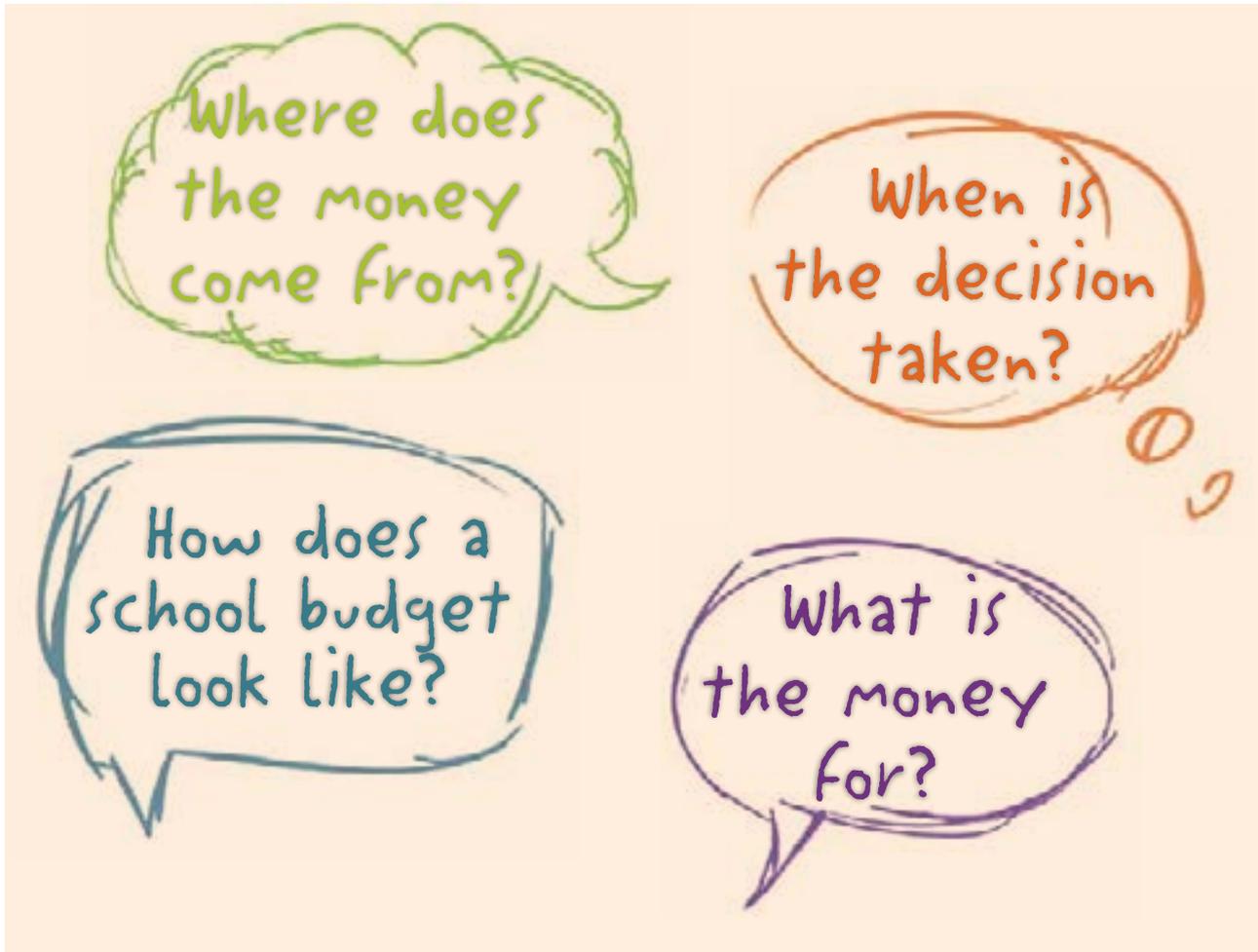


You have the right to participate to the making of decisions at your school level, which includes being informed and consulted on your school budget!

The information provided to you and consultation methods must be adapted to your level of understanding.

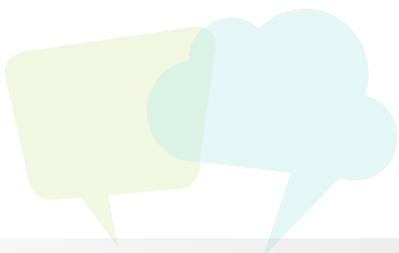
If certain matters that affect you are not clear enough, you are entitled to ask for clarifications.

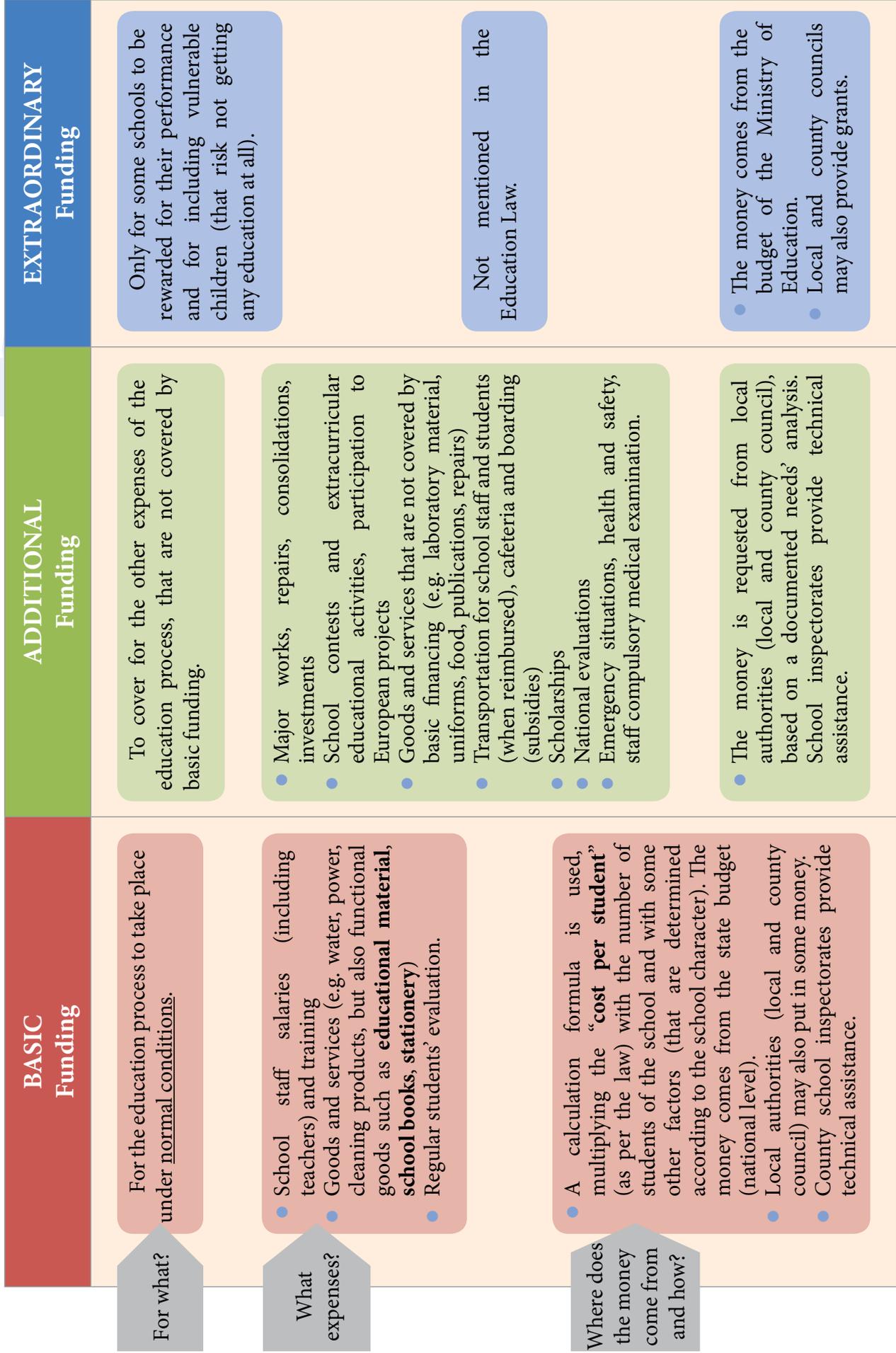
What is there to know about the funding of the education system and school budget?



The law says that compulsory education is free. The money for the education sector comes from public funds from the central budget (at national level, meaning from the Government) and from local budgets (meaning from local, sector or county councils). A school can also have its own resources, from sponsors and donations.

3 types of financing are available for school, please see the table on the next page:





Besides these types of funding, the Ministry of Education may also carry out investment and modernization projects (including equipment or revamping works), international projects, teaching staff trainings, contests or festivals, etc.



The information provided in the above table may seem very technical. But it is important as it helps you understand where you need to turn to according to your request.

For example if you wish for your school to grant money for a specific extracurricular educational activity, you need to know that you should not only turn to the school management (school board and school principal), but also to the local authorities, namely the mayor, the local and county councilors (or general councilors in the case of Bucharest). Ask them to support your project and include related costs within the additional funding.

Funding request, allocation and spending

Please note that the budget covers a calendar year and not a school year.

The school comes with a **draft budget** (1) that is submitted to the local and central authorities for verification and approval. They make a decision and send back to the school the **approved budget** (2).

During the year, the authorities review the financial situation which means that your school budget may increase or decrease. This is called “budget modification” and can take place several times a year.

At the end of the year, you can see what has actually been spent and this is called “**budget execution**” (3).

Very often, the amounts in the **approved budget** are different from the amounts in the **draft budget** (for example, the authorities do not believe some of the school requests to be justified or make some corrections to the calculations). **Budget execution** can also be different from the **approved budget** (for example in case the school has not spent all the amounts allocated or has received additional amounts through the modifications).

What does the school budget look like?

The budget is presented as a table listing the amounts allocated for various types of expenses, such as:

- **staff expenses** – school staff salaries;
- **goods and services** – here the list is long and includes, among others, office supplies, cleaning supplies, lighting and heating, fuel, transportation, communications (post, internet, telephone, etc.), functional materials and services (this is an important category as it includes teaching materials), maintenance goods and services (for the maintenance of green areas and

equipment, for security, copying, etc.), repairs (repainting, furniture repairs, floor repairs, etc.), stock items (uniforms, equipments, other goods), laboratory items, food (if the school also has a cafeteria), etc.

- Other expenses – scholarships;
- Capital expenditure – including consolidation, modernization works;
- Non financial assets, fixed assets – including major repairs (also called “capital repairs”), constructions, furniture and office equipment, etc.

Please find below an illustration of incurred expenses (budget execution) in an ordinary school:

- RON -

NAME OF THE INDICATORS	Line code	Indicator code	Year 2012
HEADING II GOODS AND SERVICES	30	20	564030
Goods and services	31	20.1	374145
Office supplies	32	20.01.01	5000
Cleaning supplies	33	20.01.02	6932
Heating, lighting and motors	34	20.01.03	2422000
Water, sewerage and waste	35	20.01.04	57425
Fuels and lubricants	36	20.01.05	
Spare parts	37	20.01.06	
Transportation	38	20.01.07	
Post, telecommunications, radio TV, internet	39	20.01.08	9799
Functional materials and services	40	20.01.09	5989
Other maintenance goods and services	41	20.01.30	47000
Current repairs	42	20.02	118935
Food	43	20.03	0
Human food	44	20.01.01	
Pet food	45	20.01.02	
Medications and medical supplies	46	20.04	0

(The school budget also includes various codes related to the types of expenses, as seen above, please ignore those.)



Compulsory education is free. Therefore all the necessary expenses (including chalk, markers, remodeling or new equipment for your classroom and school) must be covered by the school budget and not out of students', parents' or teachers' contributions.

Other important documents

When sending its budget to be approved, the school also attaches several documents that explain the school needs and justify the requested amounts. These are called “**explanatory notes**” and “**spending estimates**”. You should be aware of those because if you send your needs and priorities to the school management, you can ask them to make public these explanatory notes and check if your opinions have been considered.

The **procurement plan** details what the school wants to buy.

Schools also have a **management plan** mentioning their priorities for the school year.



Documents are not secret and you are entitled to be informed. Students are directly impacted and therefore entitled to be consulted on their content.

Express your ideas! Think about what the priorities of your school should be and make them known when the management plan is drafted.

Communicate your proposals on what should be bought and what should be changed in your school!

Where can students send their opinions?

You should send your opinions to all the people and institutions involved in the decision making and able to influence this process.

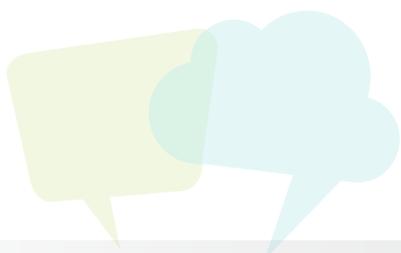
At school level

Important decisions are taken by the school board, made of 7, 9 or 13 people such as: the principal (who also chairs this board) and other teachers from your school, representatives of local authorities (local council/mayor’s office or, in case of special schools, county council/general council for Bucharest), representatives of parents and students.

The students’ representative in the board should be aged over 18 in order to have the right to vote and participate to all meetings. Otherwise, in those schools where there are no students over 18, the principal must call the students’ representative to all the meetings where issues related to students are discussed but in this case the students’ representative is only an observer and has not the right to vote.

At the level of local and county authorities, you need to turn to:

- local councilors
- the mayor
- county councilors and the president of the county council (for Bucharest general councilors)
- the general school inspectorate



Your views and general recommendations on the funding of education can also be sent to **central authorities**:

- the Prime Minister
- the Ministry of Education
- the Ministry of Finance
- MPs (members of the Romanian Senate and Chamber of Deputies), especially those who represent your city/area.

When are the decisions on school priorities and budget taken?

In general schools send the necessary information for the approval of next years' budget in November. This is why when participating in your school budget planning, you should organize consultations with your schoolmates and communicate your needs and priorities to the school management (board) in the first half of October.

In October and November you should go on and send your opinions to local and county authorities.

The management plan is usually prepared shortly after the beginning of the school year so you should hurry and identify your priorities as soon as possible to make sure you have sent them in due time.

Don't forget that the school budget can be amended also during the year (budget modifications), so you can also send your ideas at that time.



The above timing is only indicative. Deadlines for discussing and approving the various documents are different from one school to another. This is why you need to ask when the discussions take place in your school and what the deadlines for sending your ideas are. Don't forget to also turn to the authorities!

How can students participate in the setting up of the school budget?

Some important steps

1. Plan your action

- **Task distribution:** Make a list of the activities you are going to carry out, decide what students will be involved in the organization and divide the work between you
- **Contact list:** Make a list of the names and contact data of all the persons involved in making the decisions on the school budget and priorities (please see pages 13 to 14 on the institutions, councils and persons you should include in your list)
- **Working calendar:** Find out the deadlines to make your ideas known in order to be aware of how much time you have at your disposal. Ask the people in your contact list when the important documents are going to be discussed (see page 13) and draw up a calendar with clear deadlines.

2. Prepare your points of view

- **Identification of students' needs and priorities:** you can work in smaller or bigger groups, or by classes, whatever comes easier. *Please see below some advice and examples.*
- **Message drafting:** after collecting students' opinions, you should decide WHAT messages you will communicate and HOW you want these messages to be heard. Prepare your documents or actions for the next step.

3. Convey your messages

- **Dialogue with decision makers:** Turn to your contact list and make your opinions known at the right time (consider the calendar you prepared at the first step). You can **organize events** at school level or at a public place and invite decision makers. You can send your documents or organize meetings and debates with them.
- **Media communication:** you can advocate your activities and ideas through the media. E.g. invite a local paper to your event.

4. Check the impact of your actions

- **Getting answers** from decision makers: do not stop after having conveyed your messages, insist in order to find out to what extent they will be considered.
- **Reminder of the promises that have been made:** after a while, there is always a risk that your messages be forgotten, so remind decision makers about your ideas and, where necessary, of the promises they made you. You can do so through new meetings with decision makers or by sending letters or messages.
- **Impact analysis:** once the decisions have been taken, check if your opinions and requests have been actually considered (for example you can check the important documents that have been approved and you can speak to the school management). Discuss about what you learned from this experience so that next time you should be better prepared. Enjoy this experience and celebrate what went well.



Advice

You can work at class level or you can very well organize an event at school level. Your school students' council may play an important role there and coordinate this action for several classes.

There are many methods students can use in order to indicate their needs in view of a high quality education in their school. These methods depend on their age, interest and inspiration. The following are possible:

- questionnaires filled in by the students
- drawings, collages, mock-ups (for example each student can imagine that the school budget us 100 ron and draws or writes on a piece of paper how he/she would distribute this amount so that the most urgent problems of the school may be solved during that school year); exhibitions
- essays, letters or messages
- sketches
- petitions...

... the examples may go on, so use your imagination and find the activities that seem right to you.

Choose the right topic

Think of an inspiring topic for your activities, such as:

“an ideal school”

“wishes for my school”

“students' needs”

“if I were school principle for one day”

“my school's budget”

“school priorities according to students”

“needs' box”



Please note that funds are limited so select your most important requests. In order to do so, you may use the following question:

„What does our school need for all students to learn under normal conditions and benefit from high quality education?”

(For example, although many of us may like to find an ice cream dispenser in our school, the truth is that that doesn't have anything to do with education. On the other hand, having stationery, chemical substances for our lab, visual aids and mock ups for our biology class, clean toilets, access platforms for our disabled schoolmates or heated classrooms in winter time are not mere whims but necessities).

Take the initiative, encourage and support the engagement of as many schoolmates as possible. Respect others' opinions. All students have the right to participation, including the youngest ones (they can express themselves through drawings or may right notes about their needs).

Examples from schools

We encourage students from 25 schools in 5 Romanian counties to prepare projects entitled “students’ participation to school budget decisions”. Below some of their ideas.

Find inspiration in these projects and then put your own ideas and actions in place in your school.



My Opinion Matters – School no. 162 - B

Through drawings / essays children conveyed their view on the educational needs of their school

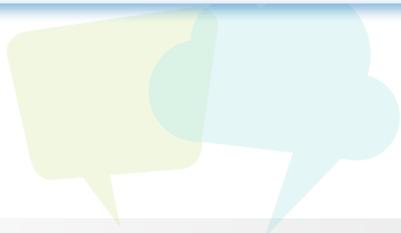
School 162 Bucharest

Message development

- Essay writing on the topic “My Opinion Matters” allowing students to express their views on the necessary improvements and equipments for their school. The youngest prepared drawings instead of essays.

Message communication

- Essay and drawing contest.



Grigore Moisil national high school, Bucharest

Message development

- A magnetic board was used in order to draw the school plan. Students wrote what changes they wished for on small notes and placed them on the relevant areas of the school (gym, classrooms, toilets, yard, etc.)
- A document listing the students' ideas was drafted based on the little notes placed on the school plan..

Message communication

- The school mock up was publicly displayed and the document handed to the school principle.

School 198 Bucharest

Message development

- Writing the views of the students on boards.

Message communication

- Flash mob and display of the boards during an event hosting management, parents and mayor's office representatives.

Dimitrie Bolintineanu high school, Bucharest

Message development

- Drawing contest on the topic "my school's needs".

Message communication

- Drawing exhibition in the school yard, publicity thanks to a football championship.
- School principal, teachers, parents and local council representatives – invited to the event.

George Calinescu middle school, Bucharest

Message development

- Questionnaires to be filled in in order to identify the needs of the students (in terms of school equipment and improvements).
- Debate on the results of the survey within the students' council
- "My School" paper presenting the needs identified following the survey.

Message communication

- Presentation of "My School" paper to school management, school inspectorate and sector mayor's office.



"My School" paper – George Calinescu middle school –
B Students' consultation on the educational needs of their school

Technological high school Iasi

Student information on school budget and other economical aspects

- Economic paper (Econosofia) with four issues per year, informing students on their school budget: presentation of the ongoing budget, expenditure analysis, information on the importance granted to students' views on the budget.
- Regular dialogue with the school management, school board and students' council on the school budget and priority expenses

“Class exhibition” – Ion Neculce school, Iasi
Campaign to inform local authorities on the educational needs identified by children in their school – local media coverage



Ion Neculce school, Iasi, Iasi county

Message development

- Meetings with students from other classes and teachers with a view to identify class and school needs.

Message communication

- Meeting with school management.

Vasile Alecsandri high school, Iasi, Iasi county

Message development

- Questionnaires to be filled in.

Message communication

- Debate on the school budget with a view to communicate survey results to the school management and to inform as many students as possible about this topic.

National High School, Iasi, Iasi County

Informing the students about children's participation, including to the school budget

- Interactive seminar for 31 students on the topic of child rights, participation and school budget
- Treasure hunt on child rights and participation (including the topic of students' participation in school budget decisions).



National High School Iasi, treasure hunt, students learn about their right to be involved in school budget decisions



Elena Cuza school, Iasi



Elena Cuza school, Iasi, Iasi county

Message development

- The student team implementing the project wished to request funding for remodeling the sports ground and purchasing the necessary equipment for practicing various sports. Students organized a survey in order to find out if their proposal would be supported by their schoolmates. A petition followed.
- Mock ups of the sports ground students wished to have.

Message communication

- Petition to school management and parents' association
- Display of and discussion about the mock ups.

Nicolae Balcescu school, Targu Mures, Mures county

Message development

- Questionnaires to be filled in by students about their needs
- Hand-made items carrying messages such as "Get Involved" or "Your Opinion Matters" intended for schoolmates.

Message communication

- Exhibition of hand-made items
- Meeting of students' representatives with school management in order to discuss students' needs. The principal and his deputy talked to the students and promised their suggestions would be included in the management plan for the following school year.

Alexandru Ioan Cuza school, Targu Mures, Mures county

Message development

- Meetings with schoolmates in order to identify needs and priorities
- Drawings presenting the identified needs.

Message communication

- Drawing exhibition.

Transylvania economic high school, Targu Mures, Mures county

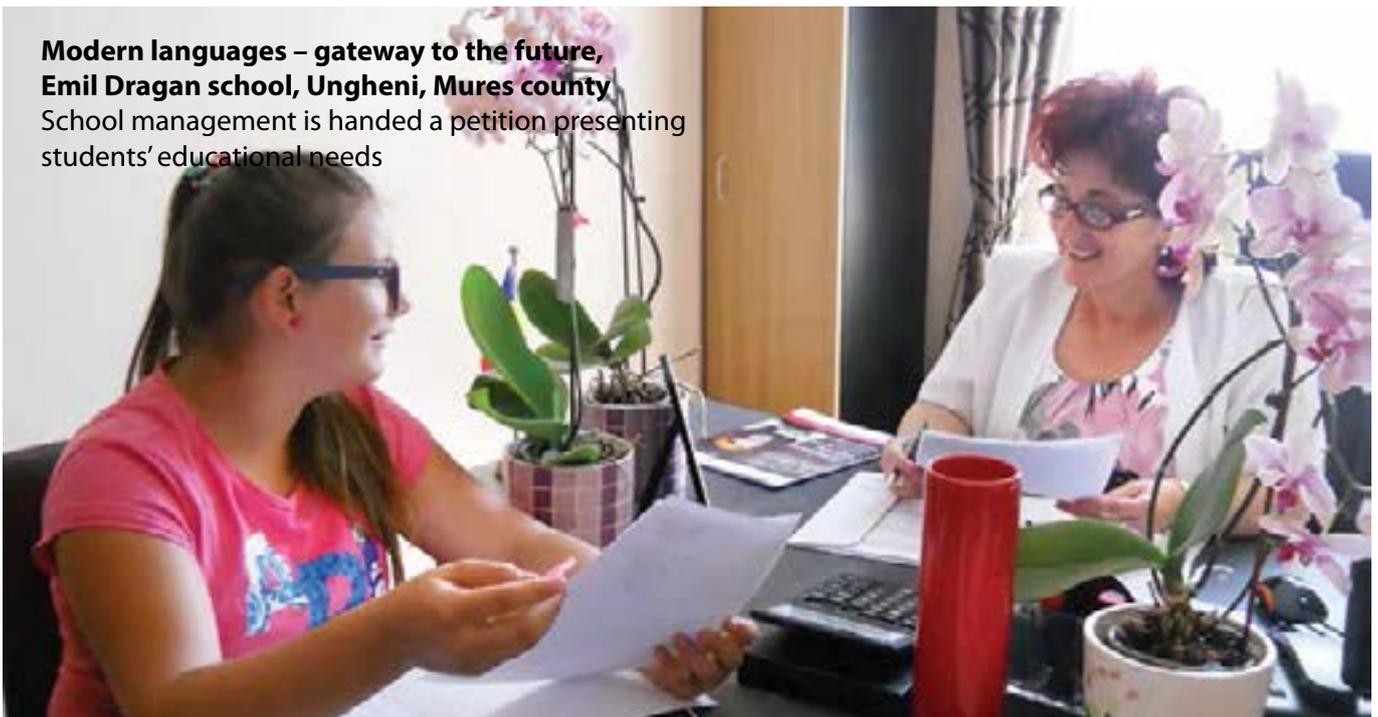
Message development

- Drawing up of a memo emphasizing the need for students to have appropriate educational materials in their economics and technological lab (part of the specific economics curriculum): materials for arranging presentation stands, paper, business cards and other items needed in their practical activities.

Message communication

- Students suggested their memo be sent to local authorities and school management.
- Schoolmates have been informed through a project fair.

**Modern languages – gateway to the future,
Emil Dragan school, Ungheni, Mures county**
School management is handed a petition presenting
students' educational needs





Modern languages – gateway to the future, Emil Dragan school, Ungheni, Mures county
 School management is handed a petition presenting students' educational needs

Emil Dragan school, Ungheni, Mures county

Message development

- Each 5 to 8 grade filled in a questionnaire on their needs and a list of priorities per class has been established.

Message communication

- Meeting of class representatives with school management. Students' representatives presented the list of priorities of their class and the principal promised to consider children's views.
- Students' presentations were recorded and the CDs may serve for promotion purposes.

Alexandru Papiu Ilarian national high school, Targu Mures, Mures county

Message development

- Survey and report with students' needs by order of priority.

Message communication

- Presentation of the report to school management.

Ioan Bancescu School, Adancata, Suceava county

Message development

- Survey to identify students' needs (in terms of teaching materials).
- Questionnaire examination and identification of priorities.
- Information letter to the municipality indicating school's priorities.

Message communication

- Meetings with the deputy mayor and various local companies, presentation of students' needs, search for solutions. The letter is handed to the deputy mayor.
- "Our own supports education" – local information campaign about the students' project
- "10 for my school" – parents, local council and school inspectorate are informed about the project (intention to carry out such projects in the future too).



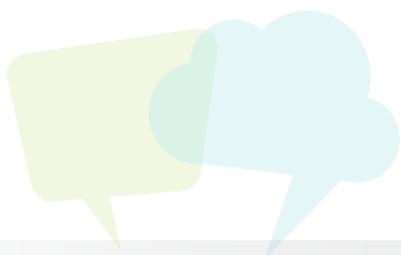
Oltea Doamna technological high school, Dolhasca, Suceava county

Message development

- Survey among students – answers show the need to modernize existing teaching materials.

Message communication

- Biology class attended by local authorities, school management, parents and schoolmates. Use of both traditional and modern teaching materials (such as functional heart and human chest models), showing how the latter facilitate learning and contribute to high quality education. Students were promised to be invited to the debates on school budget and on teaching materials to be purchased.





Science class – Dimitrie Pacurariu School, Schela, Suceava county.

Raising the awareness of local authorities on the educational needs identified by children at school level

Dimitrie Pacurariu School, Schela, Suceava county

Message development

- Is education expensive? survey among students, parents and teachers.
- Accurate figures: students' message says there has to be an accurate calculation of the amount needed for a child to have all necessary materials.

Message communication

- Flash mob organized during a science contest: students gather in the school yard and solve math exercises in to convey their need for accurate figures.
- Municipality invited to the event.

Valea Moldovei School, Suceava county

Message development

- A forum-type of play referring to various literary characters and challenging the audience to a discussion about the current Romanian education system and allowing students to express their educational needs and wishes.

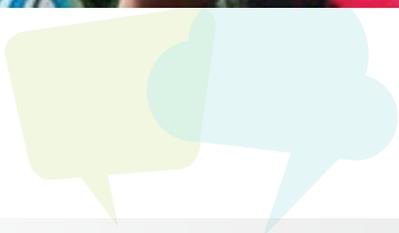
Message communication

- Play and debate attended, among others, by a representative of the mayor's office, the school accountant, students from the students' council and one parent
- Publicity in the school paper (wrote by the students).



Science class – Dimitrie Pacurariu School, Schela, Suceava county.

Raising the awareness of local authorities on the educational needs identified by children at school level



**Science class – Dimitrie Pacurariu School,
Schela, Suceava county.**
Raising the awareness of local authorities
on the educational needs identified
by children at school level



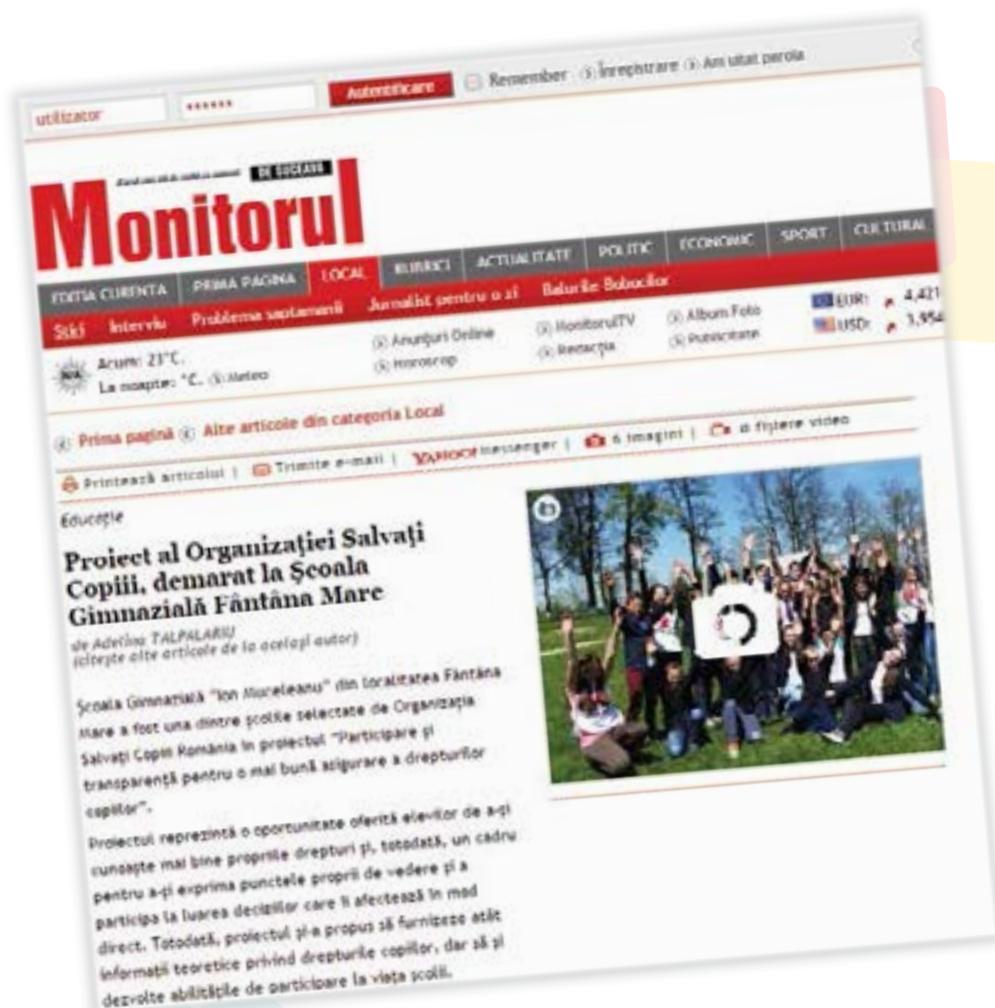
Ion Muceleanu school, Fantana Mare, Suceava county

Message development

- Survey among students on educational needs showing they would like to have video documentaries and modern teaching materials.
- Contest: students conveyed school realities through art.

Message communication

- Debate with local authorities, school management, parents and students about students' needs (according to the survey). Exhibition with students' art works. During the debate, students negotiated the award of a certain percentage of the basic funding to modern teaching materials.
- Local media coverage of the students' initiative.



School no 16, Timisoara, Timis county

Message development

- Fifth grade students acted as mentors for their younger schoolmates, helping them learn more about the rights of the child and participation (through games, interactive activities). Students also prepared a photo collage showing what they liked and disliked about their school.

Message communication

- The collage was sent to the principal who appreciated this special communication method.

School 21, Timisoara, Timis county

Message development

- Play focusing on problems faced by students because of the lack of material resources.

Message communication

- The play was acted in the presence of school management.

Dimitrie Leonida high school, Timisoara, Timis county

Students' information on the right to participate in school budget decisions

- The students involved in the project wanted their schoolmates to learn more about the participation right and organized a contest in order to find the best methods to convey their opinion about what is needed in their school.

School no 25, Timisoara, Timis county

Message development

- The starting point for the project team was that students' nutrition should be more substantial and diverse. They suggested writing a petition in order to draw the attention on the need for students to eat other types of food than milk and croissants

Message communication

- Petition sent to local authorities.

School no 1, Timisoara, Timis county

Message development

- Seventh grade students made drawings about "My School", expressing certain reasons for dissatisfaction. Their intent was to help school management make decisions on what should be changed or improved in their school.

Message communication

- Children's drawings were collected and displayed in the school, in order to be seen by the principal, by teachers and parents.



"Beautiful drawings and good health" – School no.1 – TM
Drawing about "My School" – children conveyed the educational needs identified at the level of their school

ANNEX

List of winning projects – “Students’ participation in school budget decisions

SCHOOL	PROJECT
Bucharest	
Grigore Moisil national high school	School mock up
Dimitrie Bolintineanu high school	My school needs: a football championship and a drawing contest
George Calinescu middle school	“My School” paper
Middle school no 162	My Opinion Matters!
Middle school no 198	Flash mob – drawing the attention on the importance of educational facilities
Iasi county	
National High School, Iasi	Children Rights Hunt
Technological high school, Iasi	Econosofia magazine
Ion Neculce middle school, Iasi	Our class exhibition
Vasile Alecsandri high school, Iasi	Participation – empowerment!
Elena Cuza middle school, Iasi	Sports ground
Mures county	
Alexandru Papiu Ilarian national high school, Targu Mures	Purchasing specific school books for international English exams
Nicolae Balcescu middle school, Targu Mures	Hand-made exhibition
Transylvania economic high school	Business generation
Emil Dragan middle school, Ungheni	Modern languages – gateway to the future
Alexandru Ioan Cuza middle school, Targu Mures	Our school – our home
Suceava county	
Ioan Bancescu school, Adancata	A chalkboard for my school
Oltea Doamna technological high school	Mens sana in corpora sano
Ion Muceleanu middle school, Fantana Mare	Education for the future
Dimitrie Pacurariu middle school, Scheia	Science class
Valea Moldovei middle school	A nicer room for our Romanian language classes
Timis county	
Middle school no 1, Timisoara	Beautiful drawings and good health
Middle school no 16, Timisoara	Be a teacher today
Middle school no 21, Timisoara	Theatre world
Middle school no 25, Timisoara	Substantial and diverse nutrition for a healthy brain
Dimitrie Leonida high school, Timisoara	Recreation, communication and better relations through extra-curricular activities

This brochure was printed as part of the “Participation and transparency for better ensuring children’s rights” project financed by SEE 2009-2014 grants, within the NGO Fund in Romania.

The content of this document does not necessarily represent the official position of SEE 2009 – 2014 grants.

For official information on SEE and Norwegian grants, please access www.eeagrants.org