

Quebec raises subsidy for homeschooling to \$1,000 per year

The minister of education announces subsidy increase starting in September

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The Couillard government is increasing its subsidy for school boards for homeschooled children to \$1,000 per year starting in September.

The decision follows a spike in the number of homeschooled children from Quebec's Hasidic community.

- [Transgender student opts for home-schooling to avoid being called a girl](#)

In September, 2015, more than 600 Hasidic Jewish children were registered with the English Montreal School Board and were homeschooled.

The chair of the EMSB, Angela Mancini, said the board needed extra resources to handle the demand.

"We need extra personnel to verify the portfolios, for example. It's challenging to find the resources to follow-up," Mancini said.

- [Hasidic school raid puts spotlight on conundrum facing Education Ministry](#)

The subsidy from Quebec is up 62 per cent from \$616.

School boards need resources

Sébastien Proulx, the minister of education, said it was important school boards have the resources to supervise children taught by their parents.

"We want to increase the school boards' capacity to supervise homeschooled children to ensure they are taught to a high standard," Proulx said.

For the 2014-2015 school year, there were 1,300 children in official home-schooling programs. For the following school year, the number was projected to be closer to 2,000 including Hasidic students.

Over the past few years the Education Ministry had reduced the subsidy for homeschooled students by 28 per cent.