

**DATE:** April 10, 2012  
**TO:** Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools  
**SUBJECT:** Locally Developed Courses - Renewals  
**ORIGINATOR:** Tanni Parker, Assistant Superintendent  
**RESOURCE**  
**STAFF:** Sandy Forster, John Macnab, Stephen Wright  
**REFERENCE:** N/A

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**ISSUE**

A number of locally developed courses will expire on August 31, 2012 and Board approval is required for these courses to be taught in Edmonton Public Schools from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2015.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the locally developed courses currently in use in the District (Attachment I) be renewed for the period extending from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015.**

**BACKGROUND**

Locally developed courses are developed and authorized by school authorities to provide their students with learning opportunities that complement provincially-authorized programs. Districts may develop their own courses, or they may seek permission to acquire courses from other districts.

The provincial moratorium on new Senior High Locally Developed Courses has been lifted for the second semester 2012-2013 school year. The courses in this Recommendation Report are all renewals of existing courses and are outside of the scope of the moratorium. If approved, these courses will be available to district students beginning September 1, 2012.

Locally developed courses and resources must be approved and renewed every three years by the developing board. In the case of high school courses, Alberta Education also renews courses on a three-year cycle. They are permitted and governed by Alberta Education policies. All courses developed align to these policies including, such guidelines as the following:

- courses are completed within the year they are started
- a certificated teacher is required for instruction
- unique hours of instruction are required for each course
- waiver of prerequisites provision cannot apply to locally developed courses

Elementary and junior high courses are approved only at the Board level; proposed senior high courses are reviewed by Alberta Education.

**RELATED FACTS**

Every course listed on the attachment is already in use in Edmonton Public Schools.

**CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS**

Every course in the list has been shown to be desirable and effective for student learning in the District. Renewal of these courses will not provide new options for students, but will ensure continuity of programming, teaching and learning in these areas.

**ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES**

ATTACHMENT I      Locally Developed Courses to be Renewed for 2012-2015

JM:mp

**Locally Developed Courses to be Renewed  
for 2012-2015**

## Elementary:

- Elementary Dance
- Tanach Studies K-6
- Hebrew Language Arts K-6

## Junior High:

- Arabic Language Arts 7-8-9
- Canadian History – Pre-Confederation
- Creative Writing 7-8
- Discovery Option 7-8-9
- Hebrew Language Arts
- ICT Foundations 7 J
- Military History 7-8
- Punjabi Language and Culture 7-8-9 (12 year)
- Television Production and Writing 7-8-9
- World History – Pre-history to 1500
- Ballet 7-8-9
- Canadian History – Post Confederation
- Dance 7-8-9
- Geometry 7-8-9
- Humanities 9
- Islamic Studies 7-8-9
- Speech and Debate 7
- Study Skills and Learning Strategies 7-8-9
- Women's History 9
- World History – 1500-2000

## Senior High:

- Advanced Acting 15-25-35<sup>a</sup>
- Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35
- Ballet 15-5
- Black History 25
- Creative Writing and Publishing 15-25-35<sup>b</sup>
- Dance Composition 35
- Marine Biology 35<sup>c</sup>
- Painting (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35<sup>b</sup>
- Reading 15
- Sculpting (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35<sup>b</sup>
- Tap Dance 25-35
- Video 15-25A-25B
- Algebra 35
- Audio 15-25
- Ballet 25-35
- Ceramics (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35
- Dance 15-25-35
- Fire Protection 25
- Musical Theatre 15-25-35<sup>b</sup>
- Pre-Engineering 25-35<sup>b</sup>
- Religious Studies 15-25-35
- Shooting the Screenplay 15-25
- Technical Math and Science 35<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Acquired from Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 1

<sup>b</sup>Acquired from Calgary School District No. 19

<sup>c</sup>Acquired from Parkland School Division No. 70