EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

December 14, 1999

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Dosdall, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Outreach Policy and Programs

ORIGINATOR: A. McBeath, Department Head

RESOURCE

STAFF: Gloria Chalmers, Faye Parker

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That board support for the Alberta Learning outreach policy, which states, "All students are entitled to an education and Alberta Learning supports the transition of student dropouts back into school through an Outreach Program," be confirmed.
- 2. That board support for the application to offer an outreach program under the auspices of Centre High be confirmed.

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Background: The district currently offers five provincially-approved outreach programs under the administration of L.Y. Cairns, Kenilworth and Braemar. An additional six district-approved programs serve students at the junior high level. The district seeks provincial approval for sites offering senior high programming as it makes the district eligible for double funding for the first 400 credits earned by students attending the particular site. Using the procedure for previously-approved sites, the district submitted a request for an additional site to be affiliated with Centre High. The administration was subsequently advised that for the request to be considered, the district would need a board policy on outreach and a board motion in support of the site. The district was advised that affirming or confirming the provincial outreach policy was acceptable.

Rationale for Recommendations: Approval of the first recommendation would expeditiously meet the provincial requirement that the district have an outreach policy. The district can support the intent of the policy as it is stated, and the administration believes it would serve appropriately as a board policy statement. Approval of the second recommendation would result in Alberta Learning consideration of our request to open an outreach site under the administration of Centre High to serve fourth and fifth year high school students who are not finding success in a more structured, full-time program.