

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

February 8, 2000

TO: Board of Trustees  
FROM: E. Dossdall, Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: Responses to Trustee Requests for Information  
ORIGINATORS: A. McBeath, Department Head  
G. Reynolds, Department Head

RESOURCE

STAFF: Mary-Ellen Deising, Veda Lastiwka, Dean Power, Simon van der Valk

INFORMATION

**TRUSTEE REQUEST #172, JANUARY 25, 2000 (TRUSTEE FLEMING) PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE COST OF INSTRUMENT RENTAL OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS.** Below is a comparison chart of the fees charged for Music Enrichment from 1996-97 to 2000-01.

**Music Enrichment Fees**

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
Instrument Rental – first year	110	125	145	150	170
Instrument Rental – succeeding years	135	150	170	195	210
Owning own instrument	60	75	100	100	110
Orchestra only	n/a	n/a	90	100	140
Elementary Choral	60	80	95	105	110
Senior High Choral	n/a	95	100	110	120
Orff	n/a	95	100	100	115
Out of District – Orchestra	190	355	355	355	355
Out of District – Instruction	190	355	355	355	355
Out of District – Choral	80	250	280	280	280
Out of District – Orff	n/a	250	280	280	280

(M. Deising, 429-8063)

**TRUSTEE REQUEST #173, JANUARY 25, 2000 (TRUSTEE GIBEAULT) PROVIDE INFORMATION ON WHAT PROPORTION OF THE COST OF SUPPLYING TEXTBOOKS IS COVERED BY THE \$51 TEXTBOOK RENTAL FEE.** After surveying some district high schools it appears that the \$51 textbook rental fee covers approximately 55 per cent of the actual costs of textbooks purchased. (M. Deising, 429-8063)

**TRUSTEE REQUEST #174, JANUARY 25, 2000 (TRUSTEE GIBEAULT) PROVIDE INFORMATION ON HOW THE DISTRICT'S TEXTBOOK RENTAL AND CAUTION FEES COMPARE TO EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.** Below is a comparison chart of textbook rental fees charged by Edmonton Public Schools and Edmonton Catholic Schools. Edmonton Catholic uses the wording Learning Resource Rental Plan to describe textbook rental.

**Textbook Rental Fees**

	<b>Edmonton Public Schools</b>	<b>Edmonton Catholic Schools</b>
Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no textbook rental fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$40 learning resource rental plan</li> </ul>
Junior High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no textbook rental fee</li> <li>• refundable caution fee up to \$51 may be charged</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$50 learning resource rental plan</li> <li>• refundable caution fee up to \$65 may be charged over and above rental fee</li> </ul>
Senior High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$51 textbook rental fee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$55 learning resource rental plan</li> <li>• refundable caution fee up to \$65 may be charged over and above rental fee</li> </ul>

(M. Deising, 429-8063)

**REQUEST #175, JANUARY 25, 2000, (TRUSTEE GIBEAULT) PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING WHAT KIND OF STUDENT ACCIDENTS ARE REPORTED FOR THE QUARTERLY REPORT.** All accidents that are reported by schools are included in the summary in the Quarterly Report. The reports are reviewed when received and notice of the more serious accidents is forwarded to our insurance broker immediately. The administration does not compile statistics on the type and location of accidents. Injuries can range from minor cuts and scrapes to broken bones. Once a month a copy of all accident reports is sent to the insurance broker. (D. Power, 429-8141)

**TRUSTEE REQUEST #177, JANUARY 25, 2000 (TRUSTEE BONKO) PROVIDE INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER A MASTERS OR DOCTORATE DEGREE OBTAINED IN AN ACCELERATED COURSE OUT OF PROVINCE IS GIVEN THE SAME WEIGHT FOR PROMOTIONS AS A DEGREE OBTAINED IN A CONVENTIONAL PROGRAM:** In any situation where a factor in the hiring or appointment decision might be whether or not an applicant has a post graduate degree, there

is no process whereby degrees from certain institutions are weighted more or less than those from other institutions. (V. Lastiwka, 429-8088)

**TRUSTEE REQUEST #178 JANUARY 25, 2000 (TRUSTEE NICHOLSON): WHAT IS THE PERCENTAGE OF DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAMS? HAVE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS DECREASED IN SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAMS AS A RESULT OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS NO LONGER REQUIRING A SECOND LANGUAGE AS A MANDATORY PREREQUISITE?** The mandatory prerequisite of a second language at the 30 level for high school students entering the University of Alberta, Faculty of Arts was changed in 1995/96. Since 1995/96 students can enter the faculty with either a second language at the 30 level or Mathematics 30, and if they do not have the second language they are required to take a appropriate language course during their first year of university.

The percentage of high school students taking language courses at the 10, 20, and 30 levels has been steadily decreasing over the last decade.

<b>Year</b>	<b>% of High School Students</b>
September 1992	40.0%
September 1993	38.2%
September 1994	36.0%
September 1995	32.9%
September 1996	30.5%
September 1997	30.1%
September 1998	28.8%
September 1999	27.5%

The number of students taking 30 level language courses peaked in 1994, but has been in decline ever since.

<b>Year</b>	<b># of Students</b>
September 1992	1,375
September 1993	1,529
September 1994	2,313
September 1995	2,108
September 1996	1,727
September 1997	1,642
September 1998	1,637
September 1999	1,520

(S. van der Valk 429-8437)

GR:hc