

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 11, 2003

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee B. Dean, Planning and Policy Committee
Trustee G. Gibeault, Planning and Policy Committee
Trustee S. Hansen, Planning and Policy Committee

SUBJECT: Approval of Board Policies: HD.BP - Instructional Time & HGAF.BP-
French Language Education

ORIGINATOR: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

RESOURCE
STAFF: Sandy Forster, Bob Holt, Stuart Wachowicz

RECOMMENDATION

1. That policy HD.BP Instructional Time be approved and that current board regulation HD.BR Instructional Time be deleted (Appendix I).
2. That policy HGAF.BP French Language Education be approved (Appendix II).

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Rationale

Recommendation one updates the details of the Instructional Time for Kindergarten, as specified in the most recent Alberta Guide to Education (September 2002). This has been reviewed by principals on the principal's curriculum committee. The issue of recess time was discussed and it was their unanimous decision that a morning and afternoon recess was essential, but that there should be a clause added that permits a principal to waive a recess in the afternoon of an approved early dismissal.

In regards to recommendation two, the district currently does not have policy or regulations to govern French Language programs. Given that French is an official language, and given the district receives annually a significant amount of funding through the federal Official Languages in Education Program (OLEP), a policy is recommended.

The federal government has decided to make a substantial increase to OLEP resources, and having a policy in place supporting French Language programs would be in the district's interest.

SW:dh

APPENDIX I: Policy HD.BP Instructional Time
APPENDIX II: Policy HGAF.BP French Language Education

CODE: HD.BP
TOPIC: Instructional Time

EFFECTIVE DATE:

DRAFT

ISSUE DATE:

REVIEW DATE:

A. DEFINITIONS

Instructional time is defined as time scheduled for purposes of instruction, examinations, and other student activities where direct student-teacher interaction and supervision are maintained.

Instructional time of 475 hours for Kindergarten does not include: teacher conventions, professional development days, teacher planning days, staff meetings, statutory and school authority-declared holidays, lunch breaks, recesses, time taken for the registration of students.

Instructional time for Grade 1 to Grade 9 does not include teacher convention, professional development days, parent-teacher interview days, teacher planning days, staff meetings, statutory and school authority-declared holidays, lunch breaks, breaks between classes, recesses, time taken for the registration of students, or extracurricular activities.

B. INSTRUCTIONAL TIME

1. Kindergarten students shall have access to a minimum of 475 of instructional program activities for each child in a centre during a fiscal year, or at least 22 in-home visits for one-and-a-half hours duration or more (child must be in attendance) to each child in an in-home program during the fiscal year, or the equivalent in a combination of centre hours and in-home visits.

A maximum of 35 hours may be used as instructional time for activities such as:

- . “transitional” home visits that promote the transition of children from home to school and encourage communication and relationship building
 - . staggered entry
 - . small group days
 - . child-parent-teacher conferences for demonstration of child learning (child must be in attendance)
2. Elementary students shall be provided with 950 hours of instructional time per year.
 3. Junior high students shall be provided with 950 hours of instructional time per year.
 4. Senior high students shall have access to 1000 hours of instructional time per year.

C. HOURS OF OPERATION

1. The principal shall organize the instructional day to meet the programming needs of the students and the student transportation requirements.

D. RECESS PERIODS

1. A recess of at least 15 minutes shall be provided for each Early Childhood Services class.
2. A recess of at least 15 minutes shall be provided both morning and afternoon for elementary students. Afternoon recess time may be waived on days when the school has an afternoon involving an approved early dismissal.

Reference(s):

School Act, Section 25(1), 40(1)

IHFA.AR - Guide to Education ECS to Grade 9 Handbook and Guide to Education, ECS to Grade 12, September 2002.

APPENDIX II

CODE: HGAF.BP
TOPIC: French Language Education

EFFECTIVE DATE: **DRAFT**
ISSUE DATE:
REVIEW DATE:

Given that French is an official language of Canada, and is important in international, economic, political, diplomatic and cultural exchange, all Edmonton Public School District students will have access to French language programming in schools that offer French as a second language (FSL) programs and in designated school sites through French Immersion (FIM) programming.

Reference:
