

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 8, 2005

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Acting Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Advanced Placement Examination Results: 2005

ORIGINATOR: T. Parker, Executive Director

RESOURCE
STAFF: Anne Mulgrew, Lorie Welk, Corrie Ziegler

INFORMATION

The Advanced Placement Program (AP) is a challenging enriched academic program designed to provide high achieving students with exposure to post-secondary level material in a high school setting. Students who complete AP courses are very well prepared for their first few years of university. AP students demonstrate their mastery of the subject material by writing internationally recognized examinations prepared and graded by the College Board, Princeton, New Jersey.

The objectives of the program are

- to prepare as many students as possible for optimum success at university
- to provide students with an enriched and challenging academic program in the company of like-minded students
- to develop and extend students' skills of acquiring, organizing and evaluating ideas and information
- to stimulate students' critical and creative thinking skills as well as divergent and abstract thinking abilities
- to nurture students' independence and autonomy in learning
- to broaden students' experiences through structured interactions with resource persons in the community.

In May 2005, a total of 357 district students from four high schools (Eastglen, J. Percy Page, Jasper Place, and Strathcona) wrote 651 Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations. This is an increase of 21 students and 23 examinations compared to 2004. Tables 1 and 2 provide district, Alberta, Canadian, and global information for the May 2005 test administration.

**TABLE 1
NUMBER OF STUDENTS WRITING
ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS: MAY 2005**

Subject	EPS	Alberta	Canada	World
Biology	67	218	974	121,446
Calculus AB	84	240	2495	185,992
Calculus BC	14	45	289	54,415
Chemistry	63	187	1161	78,453
Computer Science A	6	11	216	13,924
Computer Science AB	2	7	72	5,097
English Lang & Composition	90	129	1046	230,709
English Lit & Composition	95	380	2430	260,958
European History	114	187	690	85,427
French Language	26	142	998	20,239
French Literature	1	7	32	1,835
German Language	17	17	80	4,621
Physics B	53	147	686	46,971
Studio Art: Drawing	10	28	174	12,274
Studio Art: 2-D Design	8	19	122	10,111
World History	1	17	75	64,207

With the exception of a few examinations, Edmonton Public students account for well under half of the students writing from across the province.

Table 2 provides district, Alberta, Canada and world averages for the thirteen Advanced Placement courses in which at least six district students participated. For most courses offered in the district, caution should be used in making any comparisons because of the small number of students participating.

TABLE 2
AVERAGE SCORE (OUT OF 5) ON
ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS: MAY 2005

Subject	EPS	Alberta	Canada	World
Biology	3.90	4.05	3.75	3.02
Calculus AB	3.54	3.75	3.61	2.94
Calculus BC	4.86	4.11	3.85	3.73
Chemistry	2.56	3.16	3.29	2.80
Computer Science A	3.67	3.55	2.98	2.81
English Lang & Composition	3.14	3.27	3.20	2.78
English Lit & Composition	3.35	3.27	3.12	2.90
European History	3.01	3.14	3.02	2.97
French Language	3.19	3.33	3.78	2.87
German Language	4.18	4.18	4.24	3.24
Physics B	3.42	3.63	3.76	2.81
Studio Art: Drawing	2.80	3.21	3.48	3.02
Studio Art: 2-D Design	3.25	2.89	3.39	2.97

District averages were higher than Alberta averages for four of the thirteen courses and lower than Alberta averages for eight of the thirteen courses. The district average for German Language was equal to the Alberta average. The district average for German was identical to the Alberta average as Edmonton Public Schools was the only Alberta jurisdiction that had students participating in this examination. District averages were higher than Canadian averages for four of the thirteen courses, and lower than the Canadian average for the nine remaining courses. District averages were higher than world averages for all courses except Chemistry and Studio Art: Drawing.

Appendix I provides a longitudinal graphic representation of district averages on Advanced Placement examinations for courses that have consistently had registrations of twenty-five students or more. The district averages for 2005 were higher than the averages for 2004 for English Literature and Composition and for Physics B but lower than the previous year for the other courses graphically displayed.

Appendix II provides Advanced Placement examination results for individual district schools.

AM:fm

APPENDIX I - District Advanced Placement Examination Mark Averages: 2000-2005

APPENDIX II - Advanced Placement Examination Results for District Schools: May 2005

APPENDIX II

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATION AVERAGES
FOR DISTRICT SCHOOLS: MAY 2005**

Subject	Eastglen		J. Percy Page		Jasper Place		Strathcona	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Biology					38	3.63	29	4.24
Calculus AB	4	NR	10	3.20	21	3.29	49	3.84
Calculus BC					14	4.86		
Chemistry	3	NR			33	1.85	27	3.33
Computer Science A					6	3.67		
Computer Science AB					2	NR		
English Lang & Composition							90	3.14
English Lit & Composition	11	2.91	10	2.50	24	3.42	50	3.58
European History	4	NR			15	3.13	95	2.97
French Language							26	3.19
French Literature							1	NR
German Language							17	4.18
Physics B					23	3.43	30	3.40
Studio Art: Drawing					2	NR	8	2.63
Studio Art: 2-D Design					4	NR	4	NR
World History			1	NR				

NR – Averages for courses with enrolments of fewer than 6 students are not reported.