

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

September 14, 2004

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Provincial Survey Results

ORIGINATORS: A. Habinski, Executive Assistant, School and District Services

INFORMATION

During the spring of 2004, Alberta Learning administered surveys to grade 4, 7 and 10 students as well as their parents and teachers. The questionnaires were designed to provide perceptions from different stakeholders regarding issues identified as goals and outcomes in Alberta Learning's Business Plan. The questions included multiple choice responses and did not provide for an option of an "open ended" response. In addition to these "paper and pencil" surveys, Alberta Learning administered a telephone survey to school board members and superintendents across the province.

The surveys are part of the provincial accountability pillar that include a component called "Jurisdiction Survey". Each school district receives the results for the jurisdiction and each school. All results for groups with 6 or less respondents are not available at the detailed results level.

The summary of the findings provide the jurisdiction's results and a comparison to the median for all jurisdictions (i.e. half of the jurisdictions are higher and half are lower than this figure). In addition, information is shared about the highest and lowest level of satisfaction among jurisdictions to each of the questions. Attachment I provides a summary of the responses. The detailed responses for students, teachers, parents and trustees were placed in the trustee reading room and the per school results will be made available to principals. Schools would be able to compare their district's findings with the survey results.

The summary of findings for the district point to an overall response which is just above the jurisdictions' median. The use of the line "overall" which reflects an average of the preceding averages for parent, student, teacher and board is not statistically appropriate. It assumes a similar weight for each of the groups notwithstanding the major variations in the number of responses from each.

It is interesting to note that teachers have expressed a higher level of satisfaction than students and their parents with regard to opportunities to access programs, the quality of education, student safety and support for students at risk. The questionnaires are attached as Attachment II

Attachment I: Overall Summary Report – Accountability Pillar Jurisdiction Survey

Attachment II Questionnaires – Accountability Pillar Jurisdiction Survey

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