

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

September 24, 2002

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: International Baccalaureate Examination Results: May 2002

ORIGINATOR: Bob Holt, Executive Director

RESOURCE

STAFF: Anne Mulgrew, Lorie Welk

INFORMATION

In May 2002, 563 students from seven district high schools (Harry Ainlay, Jasper Place, M. E. LaZerte, McNally, Old Scona, Ross Sheppard, and Victoria) wrote a total of 1703 I.B. examinations. This represents an increase of 87 students and 287 examinations compared to the previous year.

Table 1 provides a comparison of district results to world results from the May 2002 test administration. Information on the total number of students in the world writing each examination is not available.

**TABLE 1  
COMPARISON OF DISTRICT IB RESULTS TO WORLD RESULTS: 2001**

SUBJECT	Average Score (out of 7)		Number of District Students Writing
	E.P.S.	World	
English (HL)	5.02	4.81	245
History (HL)	5.34	5.09	258
Biology (HL)	4.91	4.38	255
Mathematics (SL)	5.20	4.88	302
Chemistry (SL)	5.22	4.36	200
Physics (SL)	5.36	4.72	118
French B (SL)	5.27	4.91	137
German AB (SL)	5.25	5.34	16
Mandarin B (SL)	6.06	5.87	54
Mandarin AB (SL)	5.09	4.95	11
Japanese AB (SL)	5.23	5.11	35
Spanish AB (SL)	4.58	5.07	12
Visual Arts (SL)	3.71	4.95	17
Visual Arts (HL)	4.17	4.55	12

HL - Higher Level

SL - Standard Level

Table 1 provides information on all courses offered in the district that had an enrolment of at least ten students. The 2002 district averages are higher than world averages for all of these courses except for German AB (SL), Spanish AB (SL), and both the higher level and standard level Visual Arts.

District students also wrote examinations in the following courses: Japanese B (SL), Biology (SL), French AB (SL), Music Composition (SL), Music Solo Performance (SL), Music Group Performance (SL), Theatre Arts (HL) and Music (HL). However, since the number of students participating in any of these examinations was three or less, results are not included in this report.

In 2002, 108 out of 114 (94.7%) district I.B. diploma candidates were successful in obtaining their diploma. This represents a substantial increase in the number of diploma candidates relative to 2001 when there were only 72 diploma candidates.

Appendix I provides longitudinal data from 1998-2002 of district averages relative to world averages on I.B. examinations. This data is calculated for each examination by taking the difference between the district average and the world average and plotting it to determine if there are any trends over the five-year time period. Only I.B. examinations with a substantial number of students (greater than 50) are included in this representation. As the graph illustrates, district averages have been higher than world averages over this time frame for all courses which have a substantial enrolment. For some courses, however, there does appear to be a tendency for the district average to be getting closer to the world average. This is especially apparent for History (HL) and Math Methods (SL). This tendency may be due to the increased number of district students from a wider variety of schools challenging IB examinations.

It is not legitimate to compare district averages from this year to district averages from previous years, since the difficulty levels of the examinations fluctuate from year to year.

Appendix II provides school-by-school results for May 2002.

AM:fm

APPENDIX I - Comparison of District and World Averages on I. B. Examinations: 1998-2002

APPENDIX II - I.B. Examination Averages for District Schools: May 2002





**INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE EXAMINATION AVERAGES FOR DISTRICT SCHOOLS: May 2002**

Subject	Harry Ainlay		Jasper Place		M. E. LaZerte		McNally		Old Scona		Ross Sheppard		Victoria	
	N	Ave.	N	Ave.	N	Ave.	N	Ave.	N	Ave.	N	Ave.	N	Ave.
English (HL)	106	4.61	10	5.30	13	5.00	35	5.14	39	5.46	28	5.50	14	5.43
History (HL)	110	5.36	10	5.40	12	4.33	56	5.38	30	5.63	23	5.52	17	5.06
Biology (HL)	94	4.67	9	5.78	14	3.36	33	4.70	67	5.27	27	5.85	11	4.45
Math Methods (SL)	108	5.04	15	5.20	18	4.11	54	5.76	70	5.46	29	4.86	8	4.88
Chemistry (SL)	65	5.52	9	5.33	11	3.91	28	4.54	62	5.53	18	5.22	7	4.14
Physics (SL)	35	5.46	3	NR	13	4.46	15	4.73	46	5.70	6	5.33		
Physics (HL)			4	NR										
French B (SL)	59	5.47	8	4.75	9	4.00	16	5.13	35	5.31	4	NR	6	5.67
German AB (SL)	12	5.25	1	NR			3	NR						
Mandarin B (SL)					5	NR	47	6.06			2	NR		
Mandarin AB (SL)							1	NR			10	5.10		
Japanese AB (SL)	35	5.23												
Spanish AB (SL)							7	5.00					5	NR
Computing Sc (SL)							8	4.13						
Visual Arts A (SL)	7	4.86					10	2.90						
Visual Arts (HL)	4	NR											8	4.38

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