

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

February 10, 2009

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee D. Fleming, Planning and Policy Committee  
Trustee G. Gibeault, Chair Planning and Policy Committee  
Trustee K. Shipka, Planning and Policy Committee

SUBJECT: Board Policy Review - GCA.BP Qualifications for Employment

ORIGINATOR: B. Tams, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE STAFF: David Fraser, Veda Lastiwka, Mark Liguori, Ellen Ogilvy

RECOMMENDATION

1. That revised Board Policy GCA.BP Qualifications for Teacher Continuing Contract (APPENDIX I) be introduced.
2. That revised Board Policy GCA.BP Qualifications for Teacher Continuing Contract be considered for the first time.
3. That revised Board Policy GCA.BP Qualifications for Teacher Continuing Contract be considered for the second time.

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Background

This policy was last reviewed in 2001. Staff in Personnel have reviewed the policy and are recommending that the title be changed to more accurately reflect the content of the policy. Recommended changes in wording are to provide clarification without changing intent.

Rationale

The content of this policy refers specifically to the requirement that teachers must hold an Alberta professional teaching certificate to be eligible for a continuing contract with the district, unless exceptional circumstances exist. The proposed title clarifies that the policy refers specifically to teachers and continuing contracts, rather than to qualifications that might be required for other positions in the district.

Forty-seven individuals provided feedback on the district web survey as follows: parents, 15%; community members, 4%; principals or decision unit administrators, 28%; and staff members, 53%. Questions related to clarification of the policy, including whether it applied to all teachers including trade instructors; whether others [parents, the ATA] should be

informed of the status of teachers exempted; and queries about timelines and exceptional circumstances. There were two suggestions that there should be reference to the Teaching Quality Standard. Ninety-eight percent of respondents felt that nothing should be deleted from the policy.

VL:bjs

APPENDIX I: Proposed Revised GCA.BP, Qualifications for Teacher Continuing Contract

# Edmonton Public Schools Board Policies and Regulations

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CODE: GCA.BP

TOPIC: Qualifications for

~~Employment~~ **Teacher Continuing  
Contract**

EFFECTIVE DATE: 08-05-2001

ISSUE DATE: 09-05-2001

REVIEW DATE: 05-2006

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## ~~TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS~~

A teacher must hold an Alberta professional teaching certificate to be eligible for a continuing contract.

Notwithstanding the above, and in exceptional circumstances, where a teacher holds **valid Alberta teaching authority** ~~Alberta teacher certification~~, but does not meet the requirements for **either an Interim Professional Certificate or a Permanent Professional Certificate**, a ~~professional certificate~~, the superintendent of schools may issue a continuing contract limited to a specific assignment.

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Reference(s):

[School Act](#) Section 92

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