

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

February 27, 2001

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: E. Dossall, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Military Work Experience
ORIGINATOR: A. McBeath, Department Head

RESOURCE

STAFF: Wilma Bayko, Victor Cerhit, Bill Derechey, Donna Ferguson, Yvonne Law, Gerry Mowatt, Jan Nichols, Dyanne Siderson, Teena Thomas, Stuart Wachowicz

RECOMMENDATION

That Military Work Experience 15/25/35 be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools.

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Background: In 1993 the Canadian Military, through the auspices of 41 Brigade (Reserve), received approval from Alberta Learning to make available a program called Military Work Experience to students, 16 years of age or older and who have completed grade 10. Districts may use Military Work experience only after a motion of the Board of Trustees to approve the program is passed.

The program is designed to provide students with an opportunity to become familiar with the armed forces and to expose them to a potential career choice. Additionally students have the chance to learn one or more of the trades utilized by the forces.

All students receive a thorough orientation and work under close supervision, with safety as a high priority. Learner outcomes are detailed in the various course training plans, and assessments are based upon these outcomes. While all liability and supervision is assumed by the Canadian Forces, school work experience coordinators are encouraged to view the training. Regular communication is kept between forces training staff and the school.

While the program will benefit many students in the district, a number of whom are already serving in the reserves, it will be of particular value in assisting L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy. Seven high schools other than L'Académie Vimy Ridge Academy have indicated interest.

Benefits to students:

- provides a unique, high quality and structured trade training opportunity
- creates awareness of potential career opportunities
- potential for national and overseas travel and summer placement
- stresses the development of citizenship, leadership and team skills

- students are paid between \$63.34 to \$89.42 per day during training
- eligibility for scholarships of half of post-secondary tuition up to \$2,000 per year
- first aid training
- improved levels of physical fitness
- harassment and racism prevention training
- basic military training
- trade training

Information packages on the Military Work Experience program are available in the Trustees' Reading Room.

SW:dh