

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 13, 2004

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Response to Trustee Request for Information

ORIGINATOR: A. Habinski, Executive Director, School and District

RESOURCE  
STAFF: Dean Power

INFORMATION

**TRUSTEE REQUEST #393 DECEMBER 9, 2003, (TRUSTEE ODYSKI) PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE TO THE DISTRICT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FUNDING FRAMEWORK FOR SHARING WITH ASBA ZONE 23.** The current funding framework has been in place since 1995. The Minister of Learning believed it was appropriate to review the formula, given the changes that have occurred in the province.

The current funding framework has too many conditional grants such as technology integration, early literacy and teacher assistance. School jurisdictions have been requesting, for a number of years, that more funds be given to school jurisdictions on an unconditional basis.

The principles behind the funding framework are essential in order for school jurisdictions to provide funding to our schools. These principles are:

- Accountability
- Consistency
- Equity
- Flexibility
- Predictability/Stability
- Minimize Administration
- Transparency
- Maintain Provincial Goals

In addition, school jurisdictions are accountable for outcomes of their programs rather than the amounts of funds spent on the program. All the funds received from Alberta Learning, except for the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AIS), student health and SuperNet grants, may be used at the discretion of the boards. This allows school jurisdictions to fund the priorities established by the board.

The new formula for the distribution of the funds should benefit the district and other metro boards. Key components such as severe disabilities, English as a Second Language (ESL), aboriginal, socio-economic status and board size and complexity will increase district funding and assist in providing appropriate programming for our students. (D. Power, 429-8141)

BH:hc