

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 15, 2008

TO: Board of Trustees  
FROM: Trustee S. Huff  
SUBJECT: Motion re Ad Hoc Committee to Review School Closure Process

RECOMMENDATION

That an ad hoc committee of the board be established to review the school closure process and impose a one-year moratorium on the closure of any district school until this review is complete and recommendations stemming from the review have been duly considered by the board.

The scope of the committee's review shall include, but not be limited to:

- broad consultations with the public to determine their support for school closures
- evaluating the full impact of school closures on community
- evaluating EPSB policies to ensure equity in the promotion of all district schools
- evaluating EPSB policies regarding capping school sizes to facilitate a more even distribution of students
- transparently identifying the actual savings of closing a school
- assessing current research on the value of a small school versus a big school education
- reconsidering the timelines in the current sustainability review process to allow schools sufficient time to implement ideas before initiating the school closure process
- exploring expanded interagency and intergovernmental partnerships to support schools with declining enrolment

and most importantly:

- fully explore options other than school closure to respond to declining enrolment

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Notice of the above motion was served at the November 27, 2007 board meeting.

SH:mmf