

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 28, 2003

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

ORIGINATORS: A. Habinski, Executive Director, School and District Services
B. Holt, Executive Director, Instructional and Curricular Support

RESOURCE

STAFF: Faye Parker, Dean Power

INFORMATION

TRUSTEE REQUEST #196, NOVEMBER 12, 2002, (TRUSTEE GIBEAULT) (FURTHER TO TT #169) PROVIDE AN INFORMATION REPORT REGARDING HOW MANY SCHOOLS HAVE EXCLUSIVE SUPPLY AGREEMENTS AND HOW MUCH MONEY THEY RECEIVE FROM THOSE AGREEMENTS. One hundred and forty of our schools presently have exclusive contracts with Coca Cola, Pepsi or Heritage Enterprises. These three vendors provide pop, juices, powerade drinks, water and snacks such as chips, peanuts, power bars, chocolate bars, cookies, coffee and hot chocolate. From January 2002 to December 2002, our schools received \$900,000 from these vendors in the form of scholarships, score clocks, product donations, free passes and commissions. (D. Power, 429-8141)

TRUSTEE REQUEST #219, DECEMBER 10, 2002, (TRUSTEE WOODROW) PROVIDE A REPORT REGARDING SCHOOLS' PLANNING INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR OUR DISTRICT'S INSURANCE. At the present time schools have made Leadership Services aware of twenty-one international fieldtrips, eleven of them planned for destinations in the United States (Appendix I). All field trips must be planned in accordance with Administrative Regulation HICA.AR – Field Trips. The regulation includes the requirement that the superintendent of schools be informed and provided with all of the information provided to parents for all overnight field trips prior to the final commitment to parents and students to undertake the trip. As well, there is an expectation that principals will seek advice and assistance from areas with expertise in Central Services such as Leadership Services, Financial Services for Insurance issues and General Counsel.

The district's general liability insurance extends to all school activities whether they occur on or off campus. The policy would respond in any instance of loss in which the district is found to have been liable. However, as of July 1, 2002, a Terrorism Exclusion was attached to our general liability policy (Appendix II). Consequently in the event of loss or damage that arises out of a terrorist act, the Insurer would not defend, or make any payment on behalf of the district or any other entity or individual covered by the policy. This exclusion has been added to the Insurance Guidelines on the district infozone.

Schools, in planning their field trips are expected to complete the necessary research to assess the risks associated with the location and activities involved. (D. Power, 429-8141)

TRUSTEE REQUEST #228, JANUARY 14, 2003 (TRUSTEE WOODROW): PROVIDE LONGITUDINAL DATA COVERING THE LAST FIVE YEARS WITH RESPECT TO THE NUMBER OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHER DAYS USED FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. The following table provides information regarding substitute teachers utilized to replace teachers attending professional development activities from 1998-99 to January 15, 2003. It indicates the total number of requests received (“jobs”) and, of that total, how many were full-day placements and how many were half-day placements. It can be seen that there was an increase of 4579 jobs or 78.6% from 1999-2000 to 2000-2001, and that this level of use was maintained in 2001-2002. Although the computer system does not provide the nature of the activity, it is believed that the increase is primarily due to the district’s “Focus on Supporting Teaching and Learning” initiative.

If the level of use from August to January 15 of the current school year is maintained for the balance of the year, the total number of jobs will reach approximately 10,500.

**Substitute Teacher Days Used
For Professional Development**

Date	Jobs		
		Full Day	Half Day
1998/1999	5802	3512	2290
1999/2000	5828	3665	2163
2000/2001	10407	5380	5027
2001/2002	10897	5192	5705
Aug. 29/02 - Jan. 15/03	4653	2149	2504
TOTALS	37587	19898	17689

(F. Parker, 249-8429)

- Appendix I - List of Out-of-Province Field Trips
- Appendix II - Wording of the Terrorism Exclusion Clause

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