

DATE: June 12, 2012
TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Edgar Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: 2012-2013 Non-Resident Fees
ORIGINATOR: Brian J. Smith, Executive Director, Finance & Infrastructure
RESOURCE
STAFF: Ann Calverley, Cheryl Hagen, Madonna Proulx
REFERENCE: N/A

ISSUE

Non-resident fees are set annually by the Board of Trustees for the purpose of recovering educational programming costs for students who are either not eligible to receive provincial funding or where another district has received the provincial funding allocation and is requesting EPSB to provide the educational program for their residing students.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the proposed 2012-2013 Non-Alberta Residents and Special Needs Non-Residents fees be approved (Attachment I).**
- 2. That the proposed 2012-2013 International Student Tuition fee of \$11,000 and the International Student Application fee of \$250 be approved (Attachment I).**

BACKGROUND**Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Non-Resident Fees**

The district charges a fee for students who are residents of Canada where the parent does not reside in Alberta. As per provincial funding guidelines, EPSB does not receive per student grants for those ineligible students. Therefore, a fee is required to cover the costs of educational programming.

The district also enters into education service agreements with other jurisdictions to provide instructional programming for special needs students in Levels 5 through 8. The fees are based on estimated program costs, which include approved 2012-2013 budget special needs per student base allocations, supplemental allocations, as well as an overhead component. The actual cost of the program for a student can vary due to the specific needs of each student. As such, additional costs may be added to final costs to cover additional EA time. In the current year, EPSB provides programming at four specific schools and serves 23 special needs sponsored students, 19 of these are students attending Alberta School for the Deaf.

International Student Program Fees

Through the International Student Program, the District has a 17 year history of offering full-time academic programming to international students from many different countries. This school year, 35 district schools served 305 students from 26 different countries. The program generated international student fees of approximately \$2.87 million, the bulk of which went directly to schools in support of education programs.

For the 2012-2013 school year, International Program administration is forecasting an increase in international student numbers based on the current trend of applications processed, which is up considerably from the 191 students budgeted for in 2012-2013.

International student fees are charged because the district cannot claim education grants for international students. Several factors are considered in determining the international student tuition fee, including the cost of a senior high program with English Language Learning (ELL) instruction and support services, district operational costs, including staff salaries and expenses associated with managing the program, and the current market conditions for similar programs of this nature in Alberta and across Canada.

RELATED FACTS

- The Alberta Education funding manual outlines the process for the funding of students with special needs who are directed by the resident school jurisdiction to another school jurisdiction.
- All related funding is provided by Alberta Education to the resident school jurisdiction and payment for the student's program is the responsibility of the resident school jurisdiction.
- International student fees continue to be allocated in a manner that maximizes revenues to schools but, at the same time, ensures sufficient financial resources to administer the program.

CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS

The Non-Alberta Resident fee has been simplified for the few students that enter our district. The proposed fee for non-ELL students includes the 2012-2013 provincial base funding grant rate plus an overhead rate. The ELL student fee is based on the non-ELL student rate plus the additional provincial grant allocation for ELL students.

The justification for the 2 per cent increase to the Special Needs Non-Resident fee is based on the 4 per cent increase to the per student allocations (Levels 5 to 8) and other allocation increases ranging from 1.5 per cent to 2 per cent.

International Student Program fees are revisited each year and brought forward for the consideration of the Board. In order to remain competitive with other school jurisdictions, administration is recommending that the current tuition fee of \$11,000 be maintained, as well as the current application fee of \$250.

NEXT STEPS

Once approved, the rates will be communicated to district staff through the *Need to Know News*.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I 2012-2013 Proposed Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Non-Resident Fees
2012-2013 Proposed International Student Tuition and Application Fees

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EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2012-2013 Proposed Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Non-Resident Fees
2012-2013 Proposed International Student Tuition and Application Fees

Description	2012-2013 Proposed Fees	2011-2012 Approved Fees	Variance \$	Variance %
NON-ALBERTA RESIDENT FEE				
Non-ELL Fee	\$7,112	\$7,479	(\$367)	(4.9%)
ELL Fee	\$8,290	\$8,229	\$61	0.74%
SPECIAL NEEDS NON-RESIDENT FEE				
Level 5 Communication, ELL Foreign Born Refugee, Gifted & Talented Extensions, Learning Disability, Literacy, Mild Cognitive Disability, Moderate Emotional/Behavioral, Hearing, Multiple, Visual Disability, Non-verbal Learning Disability, Strategies	\$13,017	\$12,762	\$255	2%
Level 6 Moderate Cognitive, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder	\$14,538	\$14,253	\$285	2%
Level 7 Blindness, Deafness, ECS Severe Special Needs (PUF), Severe Cognitive, Emotional/Behavioral, Multiple, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder	\$25,335	\$24,838	\$497	2%
Level 8 Blindness, Deafness, Severe Cognitive, Multiple, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder	\$35,505	\$34,809	\$696	2%
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM FEE	\$11,000	\$11,000	0	0
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION FEE	\$250	\$250	0	0