

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

June 13, 2006

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee B. Esslinger, Planning and Policy Committee
Trustee D. Fleming, Planning and Policy Committee
Trustee K. Gibson, Planning and Policy Committee

SUBJECT Curriculum Policy Revisions

ORIGINATOR: D. Barrett, Executive Director

RESOURCE
STAFF Stuart Wachowicz

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Policies HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program (Appendix I), HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources (Appendix II), HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials (Appendix III), HKB.BP Homework (Appendix IV) be introduced.
2. That Policies HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program (Appendix I), HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources (Appendix II), HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials (Appendix III), HKB.BP Homework (Appendix IV) be read for the first time.
3. That Policies HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program (Appendix I), HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources (Appendix II), HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials (Appendix III), HKB.BP Homework (Appendix IV) be read for the second time.
4. That, in accordance with the authority of Section 69 of the *School Act*, Policies HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program (Appendix I), HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources (Appendix II), HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials (Appendix III), HKB.BP Homework (Appendix IV) be read for the third time.
5. That Policies HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program (Appendix I), HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources (Appendix II), HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials (Appendix III), HKB.BP Homework (Appendix IV) having received third reading be given final approval.

6. That Board Regulation HKB.BR Homework (Appendix V) be rescinded.

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This report was deferred from the May 23, 2006, board meeting and has been brought forward for first, second, third reading and final approval.

Background: The appended policies have been reviewed by focus groups of principals, central services staff and have been subject to the district via Web Survey. All groups and stakeholders have indicated approval of the changes being recommended. The results of the district Web Survey for proposed amendments to each policy are as follows:

HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program	100% approval (8 respondents)
HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources	100% approval (7 respondents)
HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials	100% approval (7 respondents)
HKB.BR Homework	90% approval (10 respondents)

HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program

The policy represents a long standing belief of the board, that proficiency in English language literacy is the essential foundation of success in all subject areas, as well as being vital to the ability to have a successful career. This belief is embedded in district philosophy and practice as evident from instructional focus work and many initiatives to further enhance literacy development in students. The amendments are intended to provide greater clarity, better conveying the intent of the policy.

HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources

The intent of the policy to ensure that schools are free to employ a wide range of learning resources to assist them in better serving the diverse needs of their student population. The amendments suggested are designed to update the wording to reflect currently used terminology in the area of learning resources.

HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials

The intention of the policy is to ensure the appropriateness of materials in the instruction of health education. There was concern that the policy was not concise, and needed some improved wording, removing redundancy.

HKB.BP Homework

The policy has the intent of supporting the value of homework as a learning strategy. The amendment changes the statement to a policy position. The regulatory portion of the original statement is currently reflected in HKB.BR Homework, which subsequent to approval of the amended policy may be, with the subsequent approval of the board, changed to an administrative regulation.

It has been practice over the past several years to place statements regulating administrative and instructional practice under Administrative Regulation. HKB.BR Homework will be recommended for rescission on June 13th. If rescission is approved, a recommendation will be provided to the acting superintendent for approval of a corresponding administrative regulation.

SW:dh

APPENDIX I:	HGA.BP Basic Instructional Program
APPENDIX II:	HI.BP Instructional and Learning Resources
APPENDIX III:	HIAA.BP Health Instruction Materials
APPENDIX IV:	HKB.BP Homework
APPENDIX V	HKR.BR Homework

**Edmonton Public Schools
Board Policies and Regulations**

CODE: HGA.BP
TOPIC: Basic Instructional Program

EFFECTIVE DATE: 26-05-1998
ISSUE DATE: ~~27-05-1998~~
REVIEW DATE: 05-2003 **2008**

Language Arts

Proficiency in language arts *will be made is the a first charge duty upon in* the education of students within the school system.

Reference(s): District Priorities

**Edmonton Public Schools
Board Policies and Regulations**

CODE: HLBP

TOPIC: *Instructional Teaching* and
Learning Resources

EFFECTIVE DATE: 26-05-1998

ISSUE DATE: ~~27-05-1998~~ _____

REVIEW DATE: ~~05-2003~~ **2008**

The board supports the use of a wide range of *instructional teaching* and learning resources *at varying levels of difficulty, with diversity of appeal and the presentation of different presenting various* points of view to meet the *programming and* curricular needs of students.

Reference(s):

HLAR - Instructional and Learning Resources

**Edmonton Public Schools
Board Policies and Regulations**

CODE: HIAA.BP
TOPIC: Health Instruction Materials

EFFECTIVE DATE: 26-05-1998
ISSUE DATE: ~~27-05-1998~~ _____
REVIEW DATE: 05-2003-2008

HEALTH INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Instructional Teaching and Learning resources for health, where applicable, shall:

- promote respect for one's physical, mental, spiritual, *social* and emotional well-being and that of others;
- recognize the role of the family regarding the health and welfare of society;
- ~~promote~~ *strive to ensure* parent and community satisfaction with health programs;
- promote healthy attitudes towards human sexuality, *and the view that abstinence from sexual relationships is the most effective method of preventing sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies*
- promote a balanced view of the issues, *and refrain from one-sided or biased views*;
- view health issues sensitively, avoiding unduly violent or frightening depictions of the issues; ~~reduce likelihood of substance abuse; and~~
- promote healthy decision making that will reduce the likelihood of substance abuse, *and*
- ~~promote the view that abstinence from sexual relationships is the most effective method of preventing sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies.~~

Reference(s):

HI.BP - Instructional and Learning Resources

**Edmonton Public Schools
Board Policies and Regulations**

CODE: HKB.BP
TOPIC: Homework

EFFECTIVE DATE: 26-05-1998
ISSUE DATE: ~~27-05-1998~~ _____
REVIEW DATE: 05-~~2003~~-2008

The board recognizes the value of homework that furthers students' learning in relation to the curriculum. ~~and principals in consultation with students, parents and teachers, shall develop and communicate expectations regarding homework to the school community.~~

Reference(s):
HKB.~~BR~~ AR- Homework

**Edmonton Public Schools
Board Policies and Regulations**

CODE: HKB.BR
TOPIC: Homework

EFFECTIVE DATE: 20-06-1994
ISSUE DATE: 13-09-1994
REVIEW DATE: 06-1999

Principals, in consultation with students, parents and teachers, shall develop and communicate expectations regarding homework to the school community.

Reference(s):
HKB.BP - Homework

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RESERVED