

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

June 17, 2003

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Student Transportation Fees for 2003-2004
ORIGINATOR: A. Habinski, Executive Director, School and District Services
RESOURCE STAFF: Jenise Bidulock, Dorothy Sombach

RECOMMENDATION

That for the 2003-2004 school year the following schedule of monthly bus pass fees, effective August, 2003 be approved:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Fees. Section A: Edmonton Transit Passes. Section B: Charter Yellow Bus. Includes categories like Kindergarten & Elementary, Special Needs, Junior High, and Senior High with associated fees.

	Elementary	\$ 22.00
	Junior High (student attends same school as was attended in elementary)	\$6.00
	Junior High	\$ 22.00
	Senior High	\$ 22.00
ii)	<b>Alternative Programs:</b>	
	Kindergarten & Elementary	
	1st child	\$ 39.00
	2nd child	\$ 39.00
	Family Maximum:	\$ 98.00
iii)	<b>Special Needs Curb:</b>	
	Elementary	\$ 6.00
	Junior	\$ 22.00
	Senior High	\$ 22.00

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With this recommendation, student transportation fees will increase for the 2003-04 school year. The recommended fee schedule for the 2003-04 school year will generate \$5,011,000 and along with provincial funding of \$16,444,000 and \$730,000 from the 2002-03 projected carry forward surplus, total revenue will balance with the projected 2003-04 transportation expenditure of \$22,185,000 (Appendix V).

## Background

The extent to which student transportation fees increase or decrease annually is dependent on the level of provincial funding, and on expenditures related to the district's cost of purchasing Edmonton Transit student bus passes from the city, the number of students purchasing public transit passes, the number of students and type of programs supported by yellow bus service, and the cost of school bus contracts.

Appendix I shows the history of monthly student transportation fees from 1995-96 to the fees proposed for the 2003-04 school year. Transportation fees have remained stable since the 2000-01 school year even though the cost of school bus contracts (Appendix II) and Edmonton Transit passes have increased. Edmonton Transit monthly bus passes for students will increase on September 1, 2003 from \$39 to \$41. Provincial funding for transportation remains the same for 2003-2004 as for 2002-2003. The 2002-2003 grant contained a one time 3 per cent increase. This 3 per cent has since been included in the 2003-2004 per student grant. Appendix III shows a comparison of transportation fees for surrounding school jurisdictions.

Over the past three years, new buses have been added to alleviate over-crowded buses and to reduce ride times for routes that were excessively long.

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APPENDIX I - History of Monthly Student Transportation Fees  
APPENDIX II - History of Average Carrier Rates  
APPENDIX III - Comparison of Transportation Fees from Surrounding School Jurisdictions  
APPENDIX IV - Projected Revenue with Bus Pass Increase for 2003/2004 School Year  
APPENDIX V - Revenue and Expenditure Statement