

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 12, 2002

TO: Board of Trustees  
FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: Trustee Initiatives  
ORIGINATOR: G. Reynolds, Department Head  
RESOURCE  
STAFF: Mary-Ellen Deising

INFORMATION

The following initiatives have been submitted for consideration in the development of central department three-year plans. The intended actions of the administration with regard to the initiatives will be reported to the Board together with the introduction of the 2002-2005 plans and the 2002-03 proposed budget on May 7, 2002.

<b>Initiative</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
1. That a fund, in the amount of \$150,000 be established to provide professional development opportunities (e.g., inservicing/upgrading) for Edmonton Public Schools' non-teaching staff members.	Bonko
2. To develop materials, resources and support that promotes and encourages proper and effective study habits for elementary and junior high school students.	Bonko
3. Safe school environments – special programs operating in the schools.	Dean
4. Adequate programs for students at junior and senior high school who may not be going to university but into the trades and services world.	Dean
5. To establish “Character Education” in some form from K to 12. How many schools are involved, and to what degree?	Dean
6. To have the “district” sponsor a major conference on “character education”.	Hansen
7. Provide research information on which is the most effective literacy program needed to meet the needs of students (1-3) coming to school from broad, experiential backgrounds.	Hansen
8. Review the benefits of homeroom groupings for core subject instruction (full or partial) for grade 7 students as a means of improving the transition from elementary to junior high.	Hansen

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9. Provide information to schools on effective programs to reduce the incidence of bullying which is reported to be on the increase at all levels.	Hansen
10. Feasibility of providing more resources to the local school in instances where parents refuse to access the services of district sites for some special needs programs.	Hansen
11. Review alternative solutions to providing effective programming for those special needs students whose parents decline the services of district sites.	Hansen
12. Administration to provide the necessary resources for continued coordination of the City Centre Education Project.	Martin
13. Provide historical plaques in Edmonton Public Schools so that students, parents and staff know the history behind the names of the schools.	Martin
14. Possible expansion of reading recovery programs in elementary school.	Martin
15. Conduct a review of the Registered Apprenticeship Program to determine the effectiveness of current practices.	Nicholson
16. Determine the feasibility of developing a “Glossary of Terms” for each subject discipline.	Nicholson
17. Conduct a review of the reading programs used in elementary schools to determine the most effective practices.	Nicholson
18. Examine the reasons for students not completing their respective courses of study and suggest strategies which can be implemented at the school level to correct.	Nicholson
19. Determine the feasibility of establishing a program(s) of study leading to “Certificates of Achievement” for graduates from Integrated Occupational Programs.	Nicholson
20. Conduct a review of the entrance requirements for admission into post-secondary institutions in Alberta.	Nicholson
21. Develop a plan for implementation of full day kindergarten programming for all high needs school.	Nicholson
22. Prepare a listing of projects in priority order for the expenditure of the capital reserve fund.	Nicholson
23. Ensure that the guidelines for the budget process provide for meaningful involvement of staff, parents, students and the community.	Nicholson
24. To develop and to implement a district-wide program designed to eliminate bullying in all district schools.	Nicholson

**Initiative****Trustee**

25. Develop guidelines for parents and members of the public for interpreting provincial achievement test results and: i) post these guidelines on the EPSB web site, which currently lists the provincial achievement test results by grade and school; ii) prepare a pamphlet for parents outlining these guidelines or distribute Alberta Learning pamphlet to parents; iii) communicate these guidelines to the public through the media. Odynski
26. Consult parents, school councils, parent teacher associations, charitable societies, and any other groups that do fundraising in support of EPSB schools or programs to assist in the development of guidelines for the appropriate use of funds generated through fundraising. Odynski
27. Expand the *Framework for the Involvement in Site-Based Decision Making* to include: i) developing a systematic and structured mechanism for school councils to provide individual and collective advice to the Board of Trustees on philosophy, policies, plans, programs and budgets; ii) guidelines for involving staff groups and school councils on the development of both school and district budgets. Odynski
28. Review and revise the policy development and review process so that: i) groups of individuals affected by a policy are provided the opportunity to participate in the development and review of Board Policies; ii) proposed new policies or policies that are up for review or revision be circulated to appropriate stakeholder groups (e.g., school councils, student councils, staff groups, etc.) to obtain input and feedback; iii) a minimum of two months be provided to obtain feedback and input (except in emergent circumstances) when a policy has been circulated for input and feedback. Odynski
29. Consider the feasibility of developing a comprehensive program of parental involvement that provides professional development for parents and teachers as well as the necessary resources, supports and materials so that parents and school councils can play an effective role in supporting and enhancing student learning. Odynski
30. For the district to institute “Teacher Appreciation Week” annually. Woodrow
31. For the district to seek to develop a weekly column in local newspapers that will engage readers’ interest, featuring good things happening, viewpoints, special events, questions and answers, etc. Woodrow
32. That information about literacy programs currently used in the district and supported by Consulting Services, such as Balanced Literacy and Literacy MAP (Meaningfully Applied Phonics) be made available to district teachers, and that support for implementation of these programs, and consequent measures of their effectiveness, be supported through the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI). That the possibility of piloting the Literacy MAP Reading program with Awasis Woodrow

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- students be explored.
33. To provide opportunities for exit interviews for district staff. Woodrow
34. To explore ways to extend the enhanced educational opportunities enjoyed by the schools in the City Centre Education Project to disadvantaged students in other district schools. Woodrow
35. To examine alternative means (other than “cost recovery”) to provide consultant support to teachers of special subjects, e.g., art, music, physical education, second languages. Woodrow

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