

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 22, 2011

TO: Board of Trustees  
FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: Response to Trustee Request for Information  
ORIGINATOR: B. Smith, Executive Director  
RESOURCE  
STAFF: Noel Gareau, Cheryl Hagen

INFORMATION

**TRUSTEE REQUEST #63, JANUARY 25, 2011 (TRUSTEE MACKENZIE): PROVIDE INFORMATION EXPLAINING THE VARIOUS TYPES OF FEES CHARGED AT OUR SCHOOLS, THE REASONS FOR THE VARYING FEE STRUCTURES, HOW THESE FEES ARE SET, AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING THE FEE SCHEDULES. WHAT DOES AN AVERAGE STUDENT PAY PER YEAR AT EACH OF THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS AND HOW THAT COMPARES TO THE AVERAGE AMOUNT AT A COMMUNITY SCHOOL?**

The following types of fees may be charged to students and their parents:

- 1. instructional
- 2. non-instructional
- 3. lunch time supervision
- 4. student transportation fees

**Instructional Fees**

Instructional fees are governed by Administrative Regulation INB.AR – School Assessed Fees. Section 2 states:

*Schools shall not charge students or their parents for the use of instructional materials except:*

- (a) Senior high schools may charge a fee for textbook rental.*
- (b) Junior high schools may adopt a security deposit system for textbooks.*
- (c) Junior and senior high schools may charge a fee for music instrument rental.*

Maximum rental and security deposit fees are established each year by the Superintendent of Schools and are identified in the budget manual. For the 2010-2011 school year, the maximum rental and deposit fees are as follows:

<b>Senior High Textbook Rental Fee (Mandatory)</b> <i>(maximum)</i>	<b>Junior High Security Deposit Fee (Mandatory)</b> <i>(maximum)</i>	<b>Junior and Senior High Music Instrument Rental Fee (Optional) *</b> <i>(maximum)</i>
\$75	\$75	\$100

\* Students must either supply their own instrument or pay an instrument rental fee.

The same administrative regulation also states that schools are responsible for setting any additional fee schedules and may charge fees to cover the costs for optional supplementary materials that are expended or remain the property of the student. These fees cover the costs for field trips and various consumables, such as supplies for Career and Technology Studies (CTS) courses and curriculum workbooks. Fees vary between schools depending on programming and the supplementary materials determined by the teacher. Materials are sold to students on a cost recovery basis, and in many instances, students and their parents are given the option to purchase the necessary items independently.

The fees charged to cover the costs for these optional supplementary materials range as follows:

	<b>Type and Range of Fee/Course Activity</b>	
Elementary (sample of 42 schools)	Field Trips	\$0 - \$100 for the year
	Recorder	\$5 - \$8
Junior High (sample of 20 schools)	Workbooks (e.g. Math, German, French)	\$0 - \$25
	Complementary Course Materials (e.g. Art, Food Studies, Building & Construction, Woodworking)	\$0 - \$60
	Outdoor Education	\$30 - \$250
Senior High (sample of 10 schools)	Workbooks (e.g. Math, Biology, French, Physics)	\$0 - \$25
	Complementary Course Materials (e.g. Art, Food Studies, Building & Construction, Automotives)	\$10 - \$70
	Physical Education	\$80 - \$140

Note: The range of fees charged for Kindergarten (sample of 42 schools) is \$0 - \$150 and includes all activities for a school year (field trips, Kindercooking supplies, classroom consumables, such as glue, play-dough, pencils, and snacks) whereas the above represent fees charged for each course/activity.

### **Non-instructional Fees**

Section 4 of the same administrative regulation governs non-instructional fees and states:

*Schools may offer to sell goods and non-instructional services provided that:*

- (a) *All goods and services offered for sale may be purchased on an individual basis.*
- (b) *Fees are paid only by the student receiving direct benefits.*
- (c) *Charges do not exceed direct costs.*
- (d) *Fees for services provided over time (for example, student council membership) are assessed and refunded on a prorated basis.*

Non-instructional material fees cover the costs for items such as agenda books, combination locks, yearbooks, student union fees, fitness centre access, student photos, and Grade 12 commencement fees. These fees are optional and are left to the discretion of the student or their parents. The range collected for these purposes is as follows:

	<b>Description</b>	<b>Range</b>
Elementary (sample of 42 schools)	Agenda*, yearbook	\$0 - \$10
Junior High (sample of 20 schools)	Agenda*, combination lock, yearbook	\$5 - \$50
Senior High (sample of 10 schools)	Agenda*, combination lock, yearbook, fitness centre pass, student council/union	\$5 - \$50

\* Parents have the option to purchase an agenda on their own or through the school. In most instances, an agenda is supplied at no cost to the student; however, a fee has been established if a replacement agenda is required.

Administrative Regulation INB.AR also states that principals may waive any school assessed fee on an individual basis. In such cases, the school is responsible for covering any costs resulting from the waiver and must maintain a record of the amount and circumstance of the waiver. In some situations, waived fees are covered by the school or parent council.

### **Lunch Time Supervision Fees**

Administrative Regulation IH.AR – Supervision of Elementary and Junior High Students During Lunch, grants principals the authority to determine the fees charged for lunch time supervision provided that the amount paid by the user does not exceed their proportionate share of the cost of this service. The range per student for supervision during the lunch hour is as follows:

	<b>Range</b>
Elementary (sample of 42 schools)*	\$0 - \$240/year for 1 child **
Junior High (sample of 20 schools)***	\$0 - \$30/year for each child

\* 8 schools indicated they do not have a lunch time supervision fee or did not provide the information

\*\* 10 schools indicated they offer reduced lunch time supervision fees for families with two or more children

\*\*\* 13 schools indicated they do not have a lunch time supervision fee or did not provide the information

This regulation also states that students whose parents, in the opinion of the principal, are unable to pay all or part of the fee due to exceptional circumstances are eligible to receive lunch time supervision at no cost.

### **Student Transportation Fees**

The guidelines regulating the fees charged for student transportation are set out in Administrative Regulation EEA.AR – Transportation Services and are established each year by the Superintendent of Schools. For the 2010-2011 school year, the fees are as follows:

<b>Edmonton Transit (Annual Fee) *</b>		<b>Yellow School Bus (Annual Fee) *</b>	
Kindergarten	No Charge	Kindergarten	No Charge
Elementary	\$215	Elementary	\$215
Junior High	\$405	Junior High	\$405
Senior High	\$405	Senior High	\$405

\* Fee shown is for one student only. Other fees are charged for families, students attending an alternative program or school of choice, conditional riders, curbside service for students with special needs, and replacement costs for lost or stolen bus passes.

### Alternative Programs/Schools

Edmonton Public Schools offers many different alternative programs that respond to student interests and enhance achievement in the following areas:

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Aboriginal Education | Arts                |
| Athletic             | Faith-Based         |
| Language and Culture | Teaching Philosophy |
| Transition           | Outreach            |

The attached provides a detailed list of the alternative programs offered at various schools throughout the District.

As a result of the wide variety of alternative programs offered, the subsequent fees charged to students and their parents vary significantly depending upon the scope and type of program chosen. Below is a random sampling of the range of fees charged at various alternative schools/programs in the District:

Alternative Program/School	Range of Fees
Cogito (Teaching Philosophy)	\$70 (Kindergarten – Grade 6) \$40 (Junior High)
Logos (Faith-Based)	No tuition fees
Christian (Faith-Based)	\$550- \$570 (Kindergarten) \$1,410- \$1,490 (1 student) \$2,110- \$2,180 (2 students) \$2,490 - \$2,575 (3 or more students)
Sports Alternative (Athletics)	\$2,600 - \$3,440 (Lacrosse) \$1,600 - \$2,800 (Ringette)
Hockey Training (Athletics)	\$2,600 - \$3,440
Dance (Arts)	\$3,000
German Bilingual (Language & Culture)	\$0 - \$40
French Immersion (Language & Culture)	\$0 - \$30
Hebrew (Language & Culture)	\$4,400 (1 <sup>st</sup> child)/\$4,150 (other/additional children) – Grades 1 – 6 \$4,275 (1 <sup>st</sup> child)/\$4,025 (other/additional children) – Grades 7 – 9 \$2,700/child – Kindergarten

In many instances, and in conjunction with agreements with the District, a significant portion of the fees noted above are paid directly to an appropriate society or professional program (i.e. dance schools or sports academies).

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APPENDIX I Alternative Programs 2010-2011

# Alternative Programs

2010-2011

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## Aboriginal Education

**Amiskwaciy Academy** is committed to academic excellence and incorporates Aboriginal culture into both the learning and school environments for junior and senior high students.

- Amiskwaciy Academy Junior/Senior High School (7-12)

**Rites of Passage** will be at Amiskwaciy Academy for the 2010 - 2011 school year. For further information, please contact Fred Hines at 780-424-1270.

**Awasis** provides programming that enables students to increase their knowledge and appreciation of Native cultures and traditions; Cree language instruction is also provided.

- Prince Charles Elementary School (K-6)

**Cree Extended** emphasizes Cree values across all aspects of the curriculum through nature-based programming and community involvement, and teaches children to respect and celebrate their diversity. The program focuses on Cree language instruction and involving community members.

- Abbott/R.J. Scott - (Abbott Campus K-2)

## Arts

**Arts Core** provides arts-orientated programming that emphasizes the visual and performing arts of music, art, drama and dance.

- Afton Elementary School (K-6)
- Mount Royal/Virginia Park Elementary Schools (K-6)

**Dance Program** (in affiliation with Edmonton School of Ballet Society) provides students with an opportunity to manage their regular education program while participating in a professional dance program.

- Vimy Ridge Academy (7-12)

**Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts** provides arts-orientated programming that emphasizes the performing and visual arts.

- Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts (K-12)

## Athletics

**Hockey Training Program** provides students with flexible programming and timetabling to facilitate their participation in hockey programs. As a co-ventured program, the district provides the education, and the hockey part is operated by The Academic and Athletic Development Society at a cost to parents.

- Donnan Elementary School (4-6)
- Vimy Ridge Academy (7-12)

**Sports Alternative** enables students to participate in sports training (e.g. soccer, lacrosse) and competitions as part of their education program.

- Donnan Elementary School (4-6)
- Vimy Ridge Academy (7-12)
- Ross Sheppard High School (10-12)
- W.P. Wagner High School (10-12)

## Faith Based

**Edmonton Christian Program** is based on thematic, faith-directed learning which integrates Biblical principles into all areas of study.

- Edmonton Christian Northeast (K-9)
- Edmonton Christian West (K-9)
- Edmonton Christian High School (10-12)

**Logos Christian** provides programming within a non-denominational Christian environment grounded in Christian principles. Teacher-directed instruction, whole-group mastery and a knowledge-based curriculum are emphasized.

- Belmont Elementary School (K-6)
- Hardisty Elementary/Junior High School (K-9)
- Kensington Elementary School (K-6)
- Killarney Junior High School (7-9)
- Queen Alexandra Elementary School (K-6)
- Winterburn Elementary/Junior High School (K-9)
- Youngstown Elementary School (K-6)

**Meadowlark Christian School** provides programming founded on the Christian world view and teaches students how to live their Christian faith in the context of their local and broader communities.

- Meadowlark Christian Elementary/Junior High School (K-9)

**Millwoods Christian School** offers families an opportunity to apply evangelical Christian philosophy to the entire learning experience.

- Millwoods Christian Elementary/Junior/Senior High School (K-12)

## Language and Culture

**Arabic Bilingual** provides students with opportunities to acquire or maintain proficiency in both Arabic and English, and to obtain knowledge of related cultures.

- Glengarry Elementary School (K-6)
- Killarney Junior High School (7-9)
- Malmo Elementary School (K-6)
- Queen Elizabeth (10-12)

\*not offered in the 2010/11 school year

**Chinese (Mandarin) Bilingual** provides students with opportunities to acquire or maintain proficiency in both Mandarin and English.

- Caernarvon Elementary School (K-6)
- Dovercourt Elementary School (K-6)
- Kildare Elementary School (K-6)
- Londonderry Junior High School (7-9)
- McNally High School (10-12)
- Meadowlark Elementary School (K-6)
- M.E. LaZerte High School (10-12)
- Meyonohk Elementary School (K-6)
- Ottewell Junior High School (7-9)
- Parkview Junior High School (7-9)
- Ross Sheppard High School (10-12)
- Rosslyn Junior High School (7-9)

**French Immersion** students are initially taught in French 100 per cent of the time. Learning in French gradually decreases as they progress through the grades. Students have the opportunity to achieve international language certification and recognition upon graduation.

\*Indicates Late French Immersion starting at the Grade 7 level.

- Avalon/Lendrum - Avalon Campus (7-9)
- Brander Gardens Elementary School (K-5)
- Delwood Elementary School (K-6)
- Dickinsfield Junior High School (9)\*
- Dunluce Elementary School (K-5)
- Greenfield Elementary School (K-6)
- Greenview Elementary School (K-6)
- Harry Ainlay High school (10-12)
- Holyrood Elementary School (K-6)
- J.A. Fife Elementary School (K-5)
- Kenilworth Junior High School (8-9)\*
- Laurier Heights Elementary/Junior High School (K-9)\*
- McKernan Elementary/Junior High School (K-9)\*
- Richard Secord Elementary School (K-6)
- Rio Terrace Elementary School (K-6)
- Ross Sheppard High School (10-12)

**German Bilingual** provides opportunities to acquire or maintain proficiency in both German and English. The German Language Proficiency Diploma is certified by the Federal Government of Germany in Grades 10 and 12 at no cost to students.

- Allendale Junior High School (7-9)
- Forest Heights Elementary School (K-6)
- Rideau Park Elementary School (K-6)
- Rio Terrace Elementary School (K-6)
- Strathcona High School (10-12)

**Hebrew Bilingual** provides opportunities to acquire or maintain proficiency in both Hebrew and English.

- Talmud Torah Elementary/Junior High School (K-9)

**International Spanish Academy** provides students with instruction in both Spanish and English, allowing students to become fluent in both languages and to obtain certification from both Alberta Education and the Government of Spain.

- Mill Creek Elementary School (K-6)
- Sweet Grass Elementary School (K-2)
- McKernan Junior High School (7-9)

**Sakinah Circle** provides programming within the context of a holistic Islamic worldview.

- Grace Martin Elementary School (K-4)

**Ukrainian International Bilingual** provides an opportunity to acquire or maintain proficiency in both Ukrainian and English.

- Balwin Junior High School (7-9)
- Delwood Elementary School (K-6)
- Holyrood Elementary School (K-6)
- M.E. LaZerte Senior High School (10-12)

## Teaching Philosophy

**Academic Alternative** provides programming for motivated students who have achieved above average performance.

- Crestwood Junior High School (7-9)
- Grandview Heights Junior High School (7-9)
- Old Scona Academic High School (10-12)

**Advanced Placement** enables students to write challenging internationally recognized examinations in order to receive advanced standing at North American universities.

- Eastglen High School (10-12)
- Jasper Place High School (10-12)
- Millwoods Christian School (10-12)
- Queen Elizabeth High School (10-12)
- Strathcona High School (10-12)
- W.P. Wagner High School (10-12)

**Caraway** provides mixed-age programming that emphasizes parental involvement and a creative learning process.

- Argyll Centre (K-6)

**Child Study Centre** is based on the project approach that encourages young children to explore their environment and express themselves through an in-depth study of a particular topic. Offered in partnership with the University of Alberta.

- Garneau Elementary School (K-6)

## **Teaching Philosophy (cont'd)**

**Cogito** is an academic program based on whole-group, teacher-directed instruction in a structured setting. It provides a knowledge-based, enriched curriculum, with an emphasis on phonics, spelling, grammar and computational and problem-solving skills. Daily homework is integral to the program.

- Allendale Junior High School (7-9)
- Britannia Junior High School (9)
- Edith Rogers (7)
- Meyokumin Elementary School (K-6)
- Mount Pleasant Elementary School (K-6)
- Northmount (K-1)
- Pollard Meadows Elementary School (K-5)
- Richard Secord Elementary School (K-6)
- Stratford Elementary/Junior High School (K-9)

### **International Baccalaureate Primary Years**

provides programming designed for Kindergarten to Grade 6 that emphasizes the development of the whole person, as well as the interrelatedness of knowledge and global awareness.

- Coronation Elementary School (K-6)
- Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts (K-6)

### **International Baccalaureate Middle Years**

provides programming designed for Grades 6 to 9 that emphasizes the development of the whole person, as well as the interrelatedness of knowledge and global awareness.

- Glenora Elementary School (6)
- Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts (7-9)
- Westglen Elementary School (6)
- Westminster Junior High School (7-9)

**International Baccalaureate Diploma** provides programming designed for students who intend to continue their studies at university.

- Harry Ainlay High School (10-12)
- J. Percy Page High School (10-12)
- Jasper Place High School (10-12)
- Lillian Osborne High School (10-11)
- M.E. LaZerte High School (10-12)
- McNally High School (10-12)
- Old Scona Academic High School (10-12)
- Ross Sheppard High School (10-12)
- Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts (10-12)

**LearnNet** enables students to connect to their courses, teacher/facilitators, other students and various learning resources through internet-based technologies. Christian programming is available through LearnNet.

- Argyll Centre (4-12)

**Nellie McClung** provides junior high programming for girls while emphasizing leadership, initiative, self-reliance and independence, as well as the chance to study in a single-gender educational setting.

- Avonmore Junior High School (7-9)
- Bannerman Junior High School (7-9)
- Oliver Junior High School (7-9)

**Pre-advanced Placement** provides a coordinated, rich and rigorous curriculum, helping students to develop analytical thinking and writing skills.

- Dan Knott Junior High School (7-9)
- Highlands Junior High School (7-9)
- John D. Bracco Junior High School (7-9)
- Kate Chegwin Junior High School (7-9)
- Londonderry Junior High School (7-9)
- Mary Butterworth Junior High School (7-9)
- Parkview Junior High School (7-9)
- Rosslyn Junior High School (7-9)
- S. Bruce Smith Junior High School (7-9)

**Science Alternative** provides an engaging program for students who are intensely curious, ask a lot of questions and are fascinated by the natural and technological world. Curriculum is enriched through in-depth investigation and learning of key scientific ideas, as well as focusing on how language is used in science.

- Elmwood Elementary School (K-6)

**Traditional** programming focuses on traditional values and goals of education and citizenship, direct instruction of basic skills, and continuity of instruction and resources across the grade levels. The goals of the program are high academic success and standards of conducts

- James Gibbons/Stratford School (K-6)  
(James Gibbons Campus)

**Vimy Ridge Academy** provides an academic focus on Canadian studies with programming provided for students interested in outdoor pursuits cadets, sports, dance or music.

- Vimy Ridge Academy (7-12)

**Waldorf** programming matches subject matter to the appropriate developmental stages of a child. It is based on the understanding that the key to developing critical thinking is an active and creative imagination. The development of the child's imagination, inspiration, and intuition are enhanced by integrating music, singing, painting, drawing, modeling, movement and handwork into the daily curriculum.

- Avonmore Elementary School (K-3)

