

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 11, 2010

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Student Transportation Fees

ORIGINATOR: T. Parker, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE
STAFF: Lorne Parker, Chris Wright

RECOMMENDATION

That the following schedule of bus pass fees for the 2010-2011 school year be approved, to be effective August 2010.

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Student Transportation Services is funded from two sources; provincial transportation grants and student transportation fees. No increase in provincial funding will be received in 2010-2011.

In considering the proposed 2010 fee increase, the following should be noted:

- The last fee increase to be implemented was for the 2008-2009 school year. No increase was applied to the 2009-2010 school year.
- The 2010-2011 budgeted costs represent a 15.8 per cent increase in expenses in the 2 year period since the last fee increase.
- The proposed increase on the \$24 pass to \$27 represents an increase of 12.5 per cent.
- The proposed increase on the \$43 pass to \$48 represents an increase of 11.6 per cent.

At the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year, Student Transportation Services will have a current/carry-forward surplus of \$2,978,073. In order to minimize the increase to bus pass rates and offset the effects of service increases, \$2,000,000 of the current/carry-forward surplus will be applied to the 2010-2011 budget plan. The remaining carry-forward surplus of \$978,073 will be retained to assist with the anticipated transition in funding proposed by Alberta Education.

The differentiated pass price between Elementary students and Junior/Senior High is related to the cost of ETS passes. ETS passes increased 15.6 per cent for the 2009-2010 school year and will increase another 10 per cent for the 2010-2011 school year. With the vast majority of ETS riders in the District being junior and senior high students, the pass price for those grade levels is tied to the purchase price of ETS passes.

The extent to which student transportation fees increase or decrease annually is dependent on:

1. the level of provincial funding;
2. expenditures related to the District's cost of purchasing Edmonton Transit student bus passes from the city;
3. the number of students purchasing public transit passes;
4. the number of schools serviced;
5. the number of students and type of programs supported by yellow bus service;
6. the cost of school bus contracts;
7. the un-funded and non-statutory services offered by the District;
8. and the compliance to regulations and eligibility procedures.

Bus passes cover only a portion of the costs for busing. Relative to the current rates, a \$24 pass covers approximately 21 per cent of the daily cost to transport each individual student. The \$43 pass accounts for approximately 37 per cent of the daily cost to transport each student.

The modest increase to transportation fees being recommended (Appendices I and II) will balance the immediate allocation of surplus funds in order to offset costs against the effects of proposed funding revisions. Fees were not increased in 2009-2010, however, parents were informed that they should expect an increase in 2010-2011 (Attachment I).

TP:cw

APPENDIX I - Recommended Fee Increase

APPENDIX II - 2010-2011 Bus Pass Fees Schedule

ATTACHMENT I – 2009-2010 Student Transportation Fees Update for Parents

APPENDIX I

		Projected riders for 10-11	Edmonton Public 2010-2011 RECOMMENDED FEE INCREASE \$3 to elementary \$5 to JH/SH/ Choice \$25 to annuals \$2M surplus used	
Service	Grade		Cost of Pass	Revenue
Regular	K	400	No Charge	
	1 - 6	630	\$27.00	\$ 170,100.00
	7 - 12	225	\$48.00	\$ 108,000.00
Annual	7 - 12	130	\$405.00	\$ 52,650.00
Same EL as JH	7 - 9	50	\$27.00	\$ 13,500.00
Annual	1 - 6	1,100	\$215.00	\$ 236,500.00
Annual (EL same as JH)		70	\$215.00	\$ 15,050.00
Prog. Choice	K		No Charge	
	1 - 6	470	\$48.00	\$ 225,600.00
Annual		540	\$405.00	\$ 218,700.00
Lang.	K		No Charge	
	1 - 6	350	\$27.00	\$ 94,500.00
Annual		900	\$215.00	\$ 193,500.00
Awasis	K - 6	295	No Charge	
Curb Serv	K Noon	365	No Charge	
	Early Ed	485	No Charge	
	1 - 6	600	\$27.00	\$ 162,000.00
Annual	1 - 6	770	\$215.00	\$ 165,550.00
	7 - 12	400	\$48.00	\$ 192,000.00
Annual	7 - 12	260	\$405.00	\$ 105,300.00
Family Max	monthly	110	\$66.00	\$ 7,260.00
	Annual	30	\$	\$ 15,750.00
City Cent	K - 9	250	No Charge	
ETS	K	10	No Charge	
	Designated 1 - 6	70	\$27.00	\$ 18,900.00
	Choice 1 - 6	200	\$48.00	\$ 96,000.00
Annual	1 - 6	20	\$215.00	\$ 4,300.00
	7 - 12	12,750	\$48.00	\$ 6,120,000.00
Annual	7 - 12	4,200	\$405.00	\$ 1,701,000.00
Conditional	K	35	\$48.00	\$ 16,800.00
	1 - 12	200	\$48.00	\$ 96,000.00
		25,915		
Projected pass revenue				\$10,028,960.00
Projected Shortfall (pass revenue required)				\$(12,024,799.00)
Surplus Applied				\$ 2,000,000.00

2009 - 2010 BUS PASS FEES SCHEDULE

	Current 2009-10 Monthly	Proposed 2010-11	
		Monthly	Annual
Kindergarten, Early Education, Awasis, City Centre	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Edmonton Transit Passes			
Elementary (To the designated school from neighbourhoods where schools have been closed or have not been built)	\$24	\$27	\$215
Elementary - Special Needs	\$24	\$27	\$215
Elementary – Bilingual or Immersion	\$24	\$27	\$215
Elementary – other Programs of Choice	\$43	\$48	\$405
Elementary (other than to designated school)	\$43	\$48	\$405
Junior High	\$43	\$48	\$405
Senior High	\$43	\$48	\$405
Replacement ETS Pass (any category)	\$57.50	\$63.25	N/A
Yellow Bus			
Regular:			
Elementary (To the designated school from neighbourhoods where schools have been closed or have not been built)	\$24	\$27	\$215
Elementary Special Needs	\$24	\$27	\$215
Rural Elementary	\$24	\$27	\$215
Family maximum of three or more elementary children (kindergarten not included)	\$63	\$66	\$525
Replacement of Elementary Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Junior High (student attends same school as was attended in elementary)	\$24	\$27	\$215
Junior High	\$43	\$48	\$405
Senior High	\$43	\$48	\$405
Replacement of Jr. or Sr. High Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Alternative Programs:			
Elementary – Bilingual or Immersion	\$24	\$27	\$215
Family maximum of three or more elementary children (kindergarten not included)	\$63	\$66	\$525
Elementary – other Programs of Choice	\$43	\$48	\$405
Family maximum of three or more elementary children (kindergarten not included)	\$120	\$120	\$1,010
Replacement Elementary Alternative Program Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Special Needs Curb Service:			
Elementary	\$24	\$27	\$215
Replacement of Elementary Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Junior High	\$43	\$48	\$405
Senior High	\$43	\$48	\$405
Replacement of Jr. or Sr. High Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Conditional Ridership:			
Kindergarten to Grade 12	\$43	\$48	N/A
Replacement of Elementary Conditional Rider Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Replacement of Jr. or Sr. Conditional Rider Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A



2009/2010 Student Transportation Fees Update for Parents

studentTRANSPORTATION



Getting your child to school safe and ready to learn is very important to Edmonton Public Schools. Below is information on our services for the upcoming school year.

Bus fees for 2009-2010

On May 12, the Board of Trustees approved the 2009-2010 bus pass fees. There will be no increase to families for bus passes for the 2009-2010 year, despite the fact that the cost of an ETS bus pass is increasing by 12% and a yellow bus pass by 4%. Annual and family passes will be slightly lower than the 2008-2009 costs. The District is able to maintain current fees through the use of a surplus in the Transportation department being used to cover the cost increase.

Transportation fees are attached.

The City of Edmonton has determined that for 2010-2011, ETS passes will increase by an additional 10%. An increase in the cost of yellow bus services is also expected. Although the District will continue to carefully manage its resources, parents should expect an increase in bus passes for the 2010-2011 school year. However, in response to those increases and to make transportation services more effective and cost efficient for students, the transportation department is undertaking a review of the services provided as they compare to the provincial requirements and funding. The purpose of this review is to minimize ride times for students and to try to minimize bus pass increases.

Looking ahead

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

<http://transportation.epsb.net>

