

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 12, 2009

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Student Transportation Fees for 2009-2010
ORIGINATOR: T. Parker, Assistant Superintendent
RESOURCE
STAFF: Kelly Hehn, Lorne Parker

RECOMMENDATION

That the following schedule of bus pass fees for the 2009-2010 school year be approved, to be effective August 2009.

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Student Transportation is funded from two sources; provincial transportation grants and student transportation fees. The province has announced a three per cent increase to the 2009-2010 Transportation Grant.

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; and
8. the compliance to regulations and eligibility procedures.

It is expected that the District will experience significant increases to the cost of transportation services in the 2009-2010 school year. This projection is based mainly on three factors:

1. Edmonton Transit Services planned increases of 16%;
2. negotiated Contractor rate increases of 4%;
3. expanded services based on new program sites, pilot projects, ridership and city growth.

Student Transportation has a current/carry-forward surplus of \$2,081,270. In order to maintain current bus pass rates and offset the effects of carrier service increases, \$1,555,777 of the current/carry-forward surplus will be applied to the 2009-2010 budget plan. The remaining carry-forward surplus will allow for addressing emergent issues arising from the Service Review recommendations, specifically as they relate to Special Needs transportation. Any remaining dollars will allow for continued mitigation of bus passes in 2010-2011 school year.

The highlights of the proposed fee schedule include no increase on monthly bus passes and a reduction in price for the annual passes and family passes (Appendix I). The prudent approach applied to managing both surpluses and deficits over a multi-year budget cycle has provided the District an opportunity to absorb all of the cost increases for the next school year.

A camera ready information sheet for newsletters will be provided to schools outlining the Fee Schedule for 2009-2010.

KH: em

APPENDIX I – 2009 - 2010 Bus Pass Fees Schedule

2009 - 2010 BUS PASS FEES SCHEDULE

	Current 2008-09	Proposed 2009-10	
	Monthly	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	\$24	\$190
Elementary Special Needs	\$24	\$24	\$190
Elementary – Bilingual or Immersion	\$24	\$24	\$190
Elementary – other Programs of Choice	\$43	\$43	\$380
Elementary (other than to designated school)	\$43	\$43	\$380
Junior High	\$43	\$43	\$380
Senior High	\$43	\$43	\$380
Replacement ETS Pass (any category)	\$49.75	\$57.50	N/A
Charter Yellow Bus			
Regular:			
Elementary (To the designated school from neighbourhoods where schools have been closed or have not been built)	\$24	\$24	\$190
Elementary Special Needs	\$24	\$24	\$190
Rural Elementary	\$24	\$24	\$190
Family maximum of three or more elementary children (kindergarten not included)	\$65	\$63	\$520
Replacement of Elementary Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Junior High (student attends same school as was attended in elementary)	\$24	\$24	\$190
Junior High	\$43	\$43	\$380
Senior High	\$43	\$43	\$380
Replacement of Jr. or Sr. High Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Alternative Programs:			
Elementary – Bilingual or Immersion	\$24	\$24	\$190
Family maximum of three or more elementary children (kindergarten not included)	\$65	\$63	\$520
Elementary – other Programs of Choice	\$43	\$43	\$380
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	\$24	\$190
Replacement of Elementary Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Junior High	\$43	\$43	\$380
Senior High	\$43	\$43	\$380
Replacement of Jr. or Sr. High Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
Conditional Ridership:			
Kindergarten to Grade 12	\$43	\$43	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