

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 22, 2007

TO: Board of Trustees  
FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools  
SUBJECT: Student Transportation Fees for 2007-2008  
ORIGINATOR: C. McCabe, Executive Director  
RESOURCE  
STAFF: Jenise Bidulock, Kelly Hehn, Dorothy Sombach

RECOMMENDATION

That the following schedule of bus pass fees for the 2007-2008 school year be approved, to be effective August 2007.

**A. Edmonton Transit Passes**

Fees:

	<b>Current 2006-07 Monthly</b>	<b>Proposed 2007-08 Monthly</b>	<b>Annual</b>
Elementary (To the designated school from neighbourhoods where schools have been closed or have not been built)	\$22	\$22	\$180
Elementary Special Needs	\$22	\$22	\$180
Elementary – Bilingual or Immersion	\$38	\$22	\$180
Elementary – Other Programs of Choice	\$38	\$38	\$340
Elementary (other than to designated school)	\$38	\$38	\$340
Junior High	\$38	\$38	\$340
Senior High	\$38	\$38	\$340
Replacement ETS Pass (any category)	\$42	\$42	N/A

**B. Charter Yellow Bus**

		<b>Current 2006-07 Monthly</b>	<b>Proposed 2007-08 Monthly</b>	<b>Annual</b>
i)	<b>Regular:</b>			
	Elementary (To the designated school from neighbourhoods where schools have been closed or have not been built)	\$22	\$22	\$180
	Elementary Special Needs	\$22	\$22	\$180
	Rural Elementary	\$22	\$22	\$180
	Family Maximum three or more elementary children (Kindergarten not included)	\$60	\$60	\$540
	Replacement Elementary Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
	Junior High (student attends same school as was attended in elementary)	\$22	\$22	\$180
	Junior High	\$38	\$38	\$340
	Senior High	\$38	\$38	\$340
	Replacement Jr. or Sr. High Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
ii)	<b>Alternative Programs:</b>			
	Elementary – Bilingual or Immersion	\$42	\$22	\$180
	• Family Maximum three or more elementary children (Kindergarten not included)	\$120	\$60	\$540
	Elementary – Other Programs of Choice	\$42	\$42	\$380
	• Family Maximum three or more elementary children (Kindergarten not included)	\$120	\$120	\$1140
	Replacement Elementary Alternative Program Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
iii)	<b>Special Needs Curb:</b>			
	Elementary	\$22	\$22	\$180
	Replacement Elementary Yellow Bus Pass	N/A	\$6	N/A
	Junior High	\$38	\$38	\$340
	Senior High	\$38	\$38	\$340
	Replacement Jr. or Sr. High Yellow Bus Pass	N/A	\$6	N/A

iv)	<b>Conditional Ridership</b>			
	Kindergarten to Grade 12	\$42	\$42	N/A
	Replacement Elementary Conditional Rider Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A
	Replacement Jr. or Sr. High Conditional Rider Yellow Bus Pass	\$6	\$6	N/A

**C. Kindergarten, Early Education, Awasis, City Centre**

No Charge    No Charge

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The most significant changes in the recommended fees are:

- no increase in the monthly bus pass fee,
- a reduction in the cost of a bus pass for students attending bilingual or immersion language programs, and
- an increased savings to families who purchase an annual pass rather than monthly.

The provincial grant rate increase of three per cent together with a projected increase in district enrolment will generate enough revenue to cover the increase in bus contracts and a reduction in the cost of a bus pass for students attending bilingual or immersion language programs.

The new funding framework for transportation for metro boards that will be introduced commencing with the 2008-2009 school year will require metro boards to report eligible students based on a distance factor of 2.4 km to designated school. Bilingual or immersion language programs will be included for transportation funding to the designated bilingual or immersion school site. This shift in funding eligibility takes into consideration that this group of students is eligible for a transportation grant. This recognition of funding is being passed on to the families with students enrolled in bilingual or immersion language programs.

An annual bus pass rate was introduced last year with a \$20 saving over purchasing the bus pass monthly. There were approximately 200 students that purchased the annual pass paying the full cost at the start of the school year. The proposal to increase the savings to \$40 per year may encourage more families to pay for the annual pass in advance which will result in a reduced workload for school staff. There is some fluctuation in the monthly bus pass sales during the spring; however, the budget is based on the average monthly sales.

The daily rate paid to parents for providing transportation for students in need of special education programs has not increased for over five years. The rising cost of fuel and maintenance of vehicles necessitates an increase in the payment to parents for providing this service. The new rate will be \$8 per day.

If this recommendation is approved, there will be no fee increase for the 2007-2008 school year. The recommended fee schedule for the 2007-2008 school year will generate \$7,833,220 in revenue. Additionally, provincial funding of \$20,529,723 will result in total

revenue to the district of \$28,362,943. Total revenue will result in a balanced budget with a projected expenditure of \$28,362,943.

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 students and type of programs supported by yellow bus service, and
5. the cost of school bus contracts.

The current \$452,238 deficit in Student Transportation is forecast to be reduced by a projected surplus of \$200,000 in revenue for the current school year. It is not expected there will be a surplus with the recommended fees for 2007-2008.

The final projected surplus figure may be adjusted up or down depending on the final revenue and expenditures for the 2006-2007 school year.

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- APPENDIX I Revenue and Expenditure Statement
- APPENDIX II History of Monthly Student Transportation Fees
- APPENDIX III History of Average Carrier Rates
- APPENDIX IV Comparison of Transportation Fees from Surrounding School Jurisdictions

## REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

	2006-2007 Actual Revenue	2007-2008 Projected Revenue	Explanation of Increased Revenue/Expenditure
Bus Pass Revenue	\$8,220,000	\$7,833,220	No increase in bus pass fee
Alberta Education Transportation Funding	\$18,894,000	\$19,724,216	3% Increase in Provincial Funding Enrolment increase of 337 students
Fuel Funding	\$780,000	\$803,813	Additional grant for fuel funding
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$27,894,000	\$28,361,249	
	2006-2007 Projected Expenditures	2007-2008 Budget	
Salaries & Benefits	\$730,000	\$815,000	Increase due to negotiated contract & annual increments
Supplies, Equipment, Services			
Fixed Routes	\$7,687,300	\$8,003,549	2.9 % increase in daily rate
ETS Passes	\$7,200,000	\$7,200,000	No increase in transit fee
Curb Service	\$10,459,000	\$10,700,000	3% increase in daily rate
Parent Provided	\$1,200,000	\$1,225,000	\$1 per day increase to parents
Reimbursement to Schools			
for Administering Bus Passes	\$135,000	\$135,000	No change
Other S.E.S.	\$77,000	\$77,000	No change
Internal Services	\$205,700	\$205,700	No change
	\$27,694,000	\$28,361,249	
Surplus	\$200,000	\$0	
Carry Forward Surplus (Deficit)	(\$452,238)	(\$252,238)	
Accumulated Deficit	(\$252,238)	(\$252,238)	

## SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

	2007- 2008 Total Revenue	2007- 2008 Total Expenditure
	\$28,361,249	\$28,361,249
Surplus (Deficit)		\$0
Carry Forward Deficit		(\$252,238)
Accumulated Debt		(\$252,238)

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APPENDIX II

**HISTORY OF MONTHLY STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEES**

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-2007	Proposed 2007-2008
<b>Edmonton Transit Passes</b>										
Kindergarten	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Elementary (in neighbourhoods where schools have not been built)	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$14	\$22	\$22
Elementary (in neighbourhoods where school have been closed)	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$14	\$22	\$22
Elementary Special Needs	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$14	\$22	\$22
Elementary	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$24	\$30	\$38	\$38
Junior High	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$24	\$30	\$38	\$38
Senior High	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$24	\$30	\$38	\$38
<b>Charter Yellow Bus</b>										
<b>Regular Programs</b>										
Kindergarten	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Elementary (in neighbourhoods where schools have not been built)	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$14	\$22	\$22
Elementary (in neighbourhoods where schools have been closed)	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$14	\$22	\$22
Elementary Special Needs	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$14	\$22	\$22
Junior High	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$24	\$30	\$38	\$38
Senior High	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$24	\$30	\$38	\$38
<b>Alternative Programs</b>										
Kindergarten	\$32	\$40	\$36	\$36	\$36	\$39	\$42	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Elementary	\$32	\$40	\$36	\$36	\$36	\$39	\$42	\$42	\$42	\$42
Family Maximum – 3 or more children	\$80	\$100	\$90	\$90	\$90	\$93	\$100	\$120	\$120	\$120
Bilingual or Immersion Language Programs										\$22
<b>Special Needs Curb</b>										
Kindergarten or Early Education	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Elementary	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$7	\$14	\$22	\$22
Junior High	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$24	\$30	\$38	\$38
Senior High	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$24	\$30	\$38	\$38
<b>Conditional Ridership</b>	\$32	\$40	\$36	\$36	\$36	\$39	\$42	\$42	\$42	\$42

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**HISTORY OF AVERAGE CARRIER RATES**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>AM/PM rate per route per day</b>	<b>Difference previous year</b>	<b>Noon Kindergarten rate per route per day</b>	<b>Difference previous year</b>	<b>Special rate per student per day</b>	<b>Difference previous year</b>	<b>Wheelchair</b>
1994-1995	\$111				\$10		
1995-1996	\$107	-3.90%	\$38		\$9	-7.20%	
1996-1997	\$109	1.90%	\$39	2.60%	\$9	2.30%	
1997-1998	\$132	21.80%	\$40	2.40%	\$11	17.60%	
1998-1999	\$136	2.70%	\$39	-1.70%	\$11	1.60%	
1999-2000	\$136	0%	\$42	8.17%	\$11	1.90%	
2000-2001	\$147	7.90%	\$42	-0.03%	\$13	18.80%	
2001-2002	\$145	-0.95%	\$43	1.43%	\$14	7%	
2002-2003	\$152	4.48%	\$48	12.01%	\$16	12.90%	
2003-2004	\$149	-1.65%	\$49	1.29%	\$16	2.41%	
2004-2005	\$151	1%	\$49	1%	\$16	1%	\$23
2005-2006	\$158	5%	\$52	5%	*\$17	2%	\$23
2006-2007	\$192	21.37%	\$66	28%	\$18	9.7%	\$24
2007-2008	\$198	3.1%	\$68	2.3%	\$19	4%	\$28

\* Early Education rates excluded

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**Comparison of Transportation Fee Structures  
from Surrounding School Jurisdictions  
FEES - YELLOW BUS**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Junior High</b>	<b>Senior High</b>	<b>Choice</b>	<b>Special Needs</b>
<b>Edmonton Public Proposed Monthly 2007-2008</b>	K Free Grade 1-6 \$22 Annual Pass \$180 Family max \$180	Grade 7-9 \$38 Annual Pass \$340	Grade 10-12 \$38 Annual Pass \$340	K Free Language \$22 Family max \$180 Other Programs \$42 Family max \$380	K/PUF Free Grade 1-6 \$22 Annual Pass \$180 Jr/Sr High \$38 Annual Pass \$340
<b>Edmonton Catholic Monthly 2007-2008</b>	K Free Grade 1-6 \$27 Family max (purchase 3 mo) \$23	Grade 7-12 \$31 Family max (purchase 3 mo) \$27		Grade 1-6 \$27 Family max (purchase 3 mo) \$23	Grade 1-6 \$27 Family max (purchase 3 mo) \$23 Jr/Sr High \$31 Family max (purchase 3 mo) \$27
<b>Calgary Public Yearly 2007-2008</b>	K-6 \$165 Family max \$330	\$165 Family max \$330	\$165 Family max \$330	\$165	\$165
<b>Calgary Catholic Yearly 2007-2008</b>	K-6 \$175 Family max \$350	N/A	N/A	\$175 Family max \$350	-
<b>St. Albert Protestant Yearly 2007-2008</b>	K Free More than 2.4 km \$135 Family max \$405 1.6 km to 2.39 km \$200 Family max \$600 Less than 1.6 km \$210 Family max \$630	More than 2.4 km \$135 Family max \$405 1.6 km to 2.39 km \$200 Family max \$600 Less than 1.6 km \$210 Family max \$630	More than 2.4 km \$135 Family max \$405 1.6 km to 2.39 km \$200 Family max \$600 Less than 1.6 km \$210 Family max \$630	\$210 Family max \$630	Severe or more than 2.4 km \$200
<b>St. Albert Catholic Yearly 2007-2008</b>		K - Free Grade 1-12 \$165 Family max \$575		\$180	\$165 Family max \$575
<b>Elk Island Public Yearly 2007-2008</b>		Free if greater than 2.4 km K Eligible noon \$150 K Ineligible noon \$250 AM or PM only \$100 Noon service & AM/PM \$350 Ineligible \$200 Family max \$700		\$200	Free
<b>Elk Island Catholic Yearly 2007-2008</b>		Free if greater than 2.4 km Less than 2.4 km Grade K-6 \$200 Family max \$600		No Programs	Free



**Comparison of Transportation Fee Structures  
from Surrounding School Jurisdictions  
FEES - TRANSIT**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>Junior High</b>	<b>Senior High</b>
<b>Edmonton Public Proposed Monthly 2007-2008</b>	K Free \$22	\$38	\$38
<b>Edmonton Catholic Monthly 2007-2008</b>	\$27	\$31	\$31
<b>Calgary Public Monthly 2007-2008</b>	No Transit	No Transit	Eligible \$32 Ineligible \$50.50
<b>Calgary Catholic Monthly 2007-2008</b>		Eligible \$32 Ineligible \$50.50	Eligible \$32 Ineligible \$50.50
<b>St. Albert Protestant Yearly 2007-2008</b>	No Transit	No Transit	No Transit
<b>St. Albert Catholic Yearly 2007-2008</b>	No Transit	No Transit	No Transit
<b>Elk Island Public Yearly 2007-2008</b>	Eligible Free Ineligible \$43	Eligible Free Ineligible \$43	Eligible Free Ineligible \$43
<b>Elk Island Catholic Yearly 2007-2008</b>	Eligible Free Ineligible \$43	Eligible Free Ineligible \$43	Eligible Free Ineligible \$43

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