

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 22, 2007

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Responses to Trustee Requests for Information

ORIGINATOR: R. MacNeil, Executive Director

RESOURCE

STAFF: Carolyn Baker, Mike Falk

INFORMATION

TRUSTEE REQUESTS 285 AND 286 REFER TO THE FOLLOWING TABLE TAKEN FROM THE 2006-07 SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT.

	2005-2006		2006-2007	
	Sept. 30	Feb. 28	Sept. 30	Feb. 28
Pre-Kindergarten	628	653	606	638
Kindergarten	3,735	3,795	4,455	4,046
Elementary	27,771	27,652	27,386	26,950
Junior High	15,476	15,383	15,108	14,982
High School	18,029	17,517	18,407	17,955
Special Needs	9,025	9,006	8,563	9,161
E.S.L.	4,154	4,243	5,412	5,776
Institutions	<u>309</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>334</u>
District total	<u>79,127</u>	<u>78,577</u>	<u>80,263</u>	<u>79,842</u>
CHANGE		-550 (-0.7%)		-421 (-0.5%)

TRUSTEE REQUEST #285 (TRUSTEE FLEMING) PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE FLUCTUATIONS IN KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT BOTH IN SEPTEMBER AND FEBRUARY (PAGE 2 OF THE QUARTERLY REPORT).

There was no loss in kindergarten numbers between September 30, 2006 and February 28, 2007. Between these dates approximately 400 of the original 4,455 kindergarten students were coded as special needs and they are included in the total beside the Special Needs title.

This trend was not observed in the 2005-2006 school year because on September 30, 2005 a “best-guess” special needs coding was applied to Kindergarten students before special needs assessments were completed. This practice was discontinued in the 2006-2007 school year as it is easier to add a correct special needs coding than to change from one special needs coding to another.

TRUSTEE REQUEST #286 (TRUSTEE ESSLINGER) PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING WHETHER THE INCREASE IN ESL NUMBERS ON PAGE 2 OF THE QUARTERLY REPORT WAS DUE TO NEW STUDENTS OR NEWLY CODED STUDENTS.

An analysis of the 5,412 students whose first eligibility coding was ESL on September 30, 2006 shows that there were 642 students who were enrolled in the district last June but only became ESL-coded this year. In comparison, there were almost twice as many students (1,278) coded as ESL who were new to the district as of September 30, 2006. Therefore it appears that the much of the growth in ESL numbers arises from students new to the district.

RMcN:ljb