

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 25, 2004

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Curriculum Additions and Deletions – Locally Developed Courses

ORIGINATOR: B. Holt, Executive Director, Instructional and Curricular Support Services

RESOURCE

STAFF: Georg Arndt, Jim Ashton, Judy Craig, Karen Douziech, Jane Dyke, Miriam Greet, Bill Howe, Kevin Huculak, Glenn Iriyie, Geoff Jackson, Karen Jacobsen, Frances Kroeker, Carolyn Lewis, June Mielnichuk, Doug Monsma, Gerry Nickel, Mary Rudyk-Papadogonas, Marie Pawluk, Judy-Lynn Pearce, Mary-Anne Ranierie, Nurit Reshef, Deb Stirrett, Cathy Tuba, Victoria School Staff, Stuart Wachowicz, Stephen Wright

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the following locally developed courses, currently in use in the district, be renewed for a **three** year term:
 - AP Calculus 35 (BC)
 - Biology, Chemistry, Physics 15-25-35 (IB)
 - Chinese (Mandarin) Language Art (Bilingual) 7-9
 - Chinese (Mandarin) Language Art (Bilingual) 15-25-35
 - Chinese (Mandarin) Language and Culture 7-9
 - Directing 25-35
 - Economics of a Foreign Nation 9
 - Extended Essay 25 (IB)
 - Learning Strategies 15-25-35
 - Performing Arts 15-25-35
 - Philosophy 35
 - Writing for Stage and Screen 15-25-35
2. a) That the following locally developed courses, currently in use in the district and **revised** during the 2003-2004 school year, be renewed for a **three** year term:
 - Audio 15-25-35 (previously Radio Broadcasting)
 - Bible Studies 1-6
 - Bible Studies 7-9
 - Drill and Parade 7-9, 15-25-35
 - Judaic Studies K-9
 - Jewish History and Israel Studies 1-9
 - Shooting the Screenplay 15-25-35
 - Tanach Studies K-6
 - Technical Theatre 25-35 (previously Stage Management)
 - Video 15, 25ab, 35 (previously Television Arts)

2. b) That the following locally developed religious studies courses, currently in use in the district and **revised** during the 2003-2004 school year, be renewed for a **three** year term:
Religious Studies 15-25-35
3. That the following **new** locally developed course, developed during the 2003-2004 school year, be approved for a **three** year term:
Algebra 35
Career Development 25 – 35 Appendix A, C
History of Cinema 35
Reading 15
World Literature 35
4. That the following locally developed courses, be **deleted**:
Coaching 15
Computer Science 25-35 (acquired from Calgary Board of Education)
Horsemanship 7-9
Networking Technologies 25-35
Performing Arts 25bc, 35bc
Spanish Language and Culture 15-25-35
Voice for the Stage and Screen 15-25-35

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Background: Locally developed courses must be approved and renewed every three years by the developing board. In the case of high school courses, Alberta Learning also renews courses on a three-year cycle.

Locally developed courses are permitted and governed by Alberta Learning policies. All courses developed align to these policies including such guidelines as the following:

- courses are completed within the year they are started
- a certificated teacher is required for instruction
- unique hours of instruction are required for each course
- waiver provision does not apply to locally developed courses

Chinese (Mandarin) Language Arts and Language and Culture courses are being renewed for a three-year term, but will likely be phased out sooner due to the coming provincial implementation of new courses already purchased from the district. When the provincially approved courses are available, these locally developed courses will immediately be withdrawn.

Locally developed courses that were revised this year also had changes in the title of the course to more accurately reflect the content of the course. For example, Television Arts has become Video and Bible Studies at Talmud Torah has become Tanach Studies.

With the inclusion of Millwoods Christian School and Edmonton Christian Schools, Edmonton Public also acquired the locally developed courses that were in use at these schools prior to becoming part of the district. Revisions to Bible Studies and Religious Studies were to align

these courses to the Edmonton Public School and Alberta Learning requirements and formats. These specific courses are intended only for use in Millwoods and Edmonton Christian Schools.

New locally developed courses, Reading 15 and World Literature 35 were created to fill the void created by Alberta Learning's withdrawal of Reading 10 and Literature 21 (a and b). These new courses provide programming for students needing assistance in reading, Reading 15 or for students challenge the AP and IB programs in literature, World Literature 35.

Algebra 35 was created to provide a four course sequence to enable students in Applied Math to develop the pre-requisite skills to enter post-secondary programs. It is intended to enable students to attain the skills necessary to match those provided by Math Transitions 101, currently not funded by basic education.

Career Development 25-35 is a framework with courses developed for career transitions as part of separate appendices. In the future, requests from schools for career related courses can be included in additional appendices and, after approved by Trustees, can provide transitional programming while supporting students in the achievement of a high school diploma. Appendix A is for Firefighter Career Area, Appendix B is for Police and Security Career Areas, and Appendix C is for Forensic Sciences Career Area. The structure ensures students will still have ample time to take a full and balanced range of courses, while exploring a career area of interest.

Copies of the courses are available for viewing in the Trustees' Reading Room.

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