

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 12, 2002

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Angus McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Curriculum Addition - Islamic Studies 7-8-9

ORIGINATOR: Bob Holt, Executive Director

RESOURCE  
STAFF William Gowan, Issam Saleh, Stuart Wachowicz, Stephen Wright

RECOMMENDATION

That Islamic Studies 7-8-9 be approved as locally developed course for use in Edmonton Public Schools.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Background:**

The course, Islamic Studies 7, was approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools in May of 2001. The extension into grades 8 and 9 required the rewriting of the grade 7 course to create a meaningful sequence of study. These courses will allow the student to effectively study Islamic history and the cultural development of Islamic society. The courses are needed to complement the Arabic bilingual language program, helping students to achieve more effectively the curricular cultural outcomes. The course will also provide an opportunity to extend instruction in the Arabic language in the bilingual program. This will give students more opportunities to experience authentic application of the language.

The expansion of Islamic Studies within the Arabic bilingual program is also designed to meet the needs of students who may otherwise chose to leave the district to access private Islamic education.

The course will be open to all students coming from an Islamic background, and with informed permission of parent(s) or guardian(s), the course may be accessed by non-Islamic students in English.

A copy of the locally developed course is available in the Trustees' Reading Room.

SW:dh