

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

October 11, 2005

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: A. McBeath, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Response to Information Requested at the September 27, 2005 Board Meeting

ORIGINATOR: C. McCabe, Executive Director

RESOURCE
STAFF: Jenise Bidulock, Randy Billey, Kerry-Ann Kope, Dorothy Sombach

INFORMATION

At the September 27, 2005 public board meeting, the Board of Trustees voted to defer the recommendation regarding the response to the delegation requesting that lunch and transportation fees be waived for junior high students attending Kenilworth School that formerly attended Strathearn School. The recommendation was deferred in order for the administration to provide information on three different scenarios as requested by the delegation in respect to: the costs of providing lunch fees and transportation fees at no cost to parents for the students in question, and; historical information with respect to what was done when other junior high schools were closed.

Background Information About Strathearn Elementary Students

When four district schools were closed in May and June, 2005, the Board of Trustees voted to approve lunch fees and transportation fees at no cost to parents for elementary students formerly attending Strathearn School, residing in the Strathearn neighbourhood, and currently attending Holyrood School or Rutherford School. As a result of this decision the district is providing Holyrood School and Rutherford School an allocation equivalent to \$51 per student per school year to provide support for associated costs in providing lunchroom supervision. The district is also covering the additional transportation costs for these students in the amount of \$140 per student per year.

Junior High Student Scenarios

Based on the request made by the delegation, three scenarios are presented below. The lunchroom and transportation fees used in the scenarios are based on what currently exist (2005-2006). The scenarios do not take into account increases in costs that may occur over the next ten years.

Scenario #1

If Edmonton Public Schools were to provide lunch fees and transportation fees at no cost to parents for junior high students currently registered at Kenilworth School, who were registered at Strathearn School at the time of closure and reside in the Strathearn neighbourhood, the financial implications are as follows:

| School Year | Number of Students Impacted | Lunch Fees Expenditure to the District (@\$51 per student annually) | Transportation Cost Expenditure to the District (@\$300 per student annually) | Total Expenditure to the District |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2005-2006 | 24 | \$1,224 | \$ 7,200 | \$ 8,424 |
| 2006-2007 | 12 | \$ 612 | \$ 3,600 | \$ 4,212 |
| 2007-2008 | 3 | \$ 153 | \$ 900 | \$ 1,053 |
| TOTAL | 24 | \$1,989 | \$11,700 | \$13,689 |

Scenario #2

If Edmonton Public Schools were to provide lunch fees and transportation fees at no cost to parents for those students that were registered at Strathearn School at the time of closure on June 28, 2005, reside in the Strathearn neighbourhood and who are currently registered at Kenilworth School, or in the future would register at Kenilworth School including students in Kindergarten through grade 6 at Holyrood School and Rutherford School, the financial implications would be as follows:

| School Years | Number of Students Impacted | Lunch Fees Expenditure to the District (@\$51 per student annually for 3 years) | Transportation Cost Expenditure to the District (@\$300 per student annually for 3 years) | Total Expenditure to the District |
|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2005-2008 | 24 | \$1,989 | \$11,700 | \$13,689 |
| 2006-2016 | 62 | \$9,486 | \$55,800 | \$65,286 |
| TOTAL | 86 | \$11,475 | \$67,500 | \$78,975 |

Scenario #3

In addition to providing lunch fees and transportation fees at no cost to parents for students that were registered at Strathearn School at the time of closure on June 28, 2005, reside in the Strathearn neighbourhood and who are currently registered at Kenilworth School, or in the future will register at Kenilworth School, Edmonton Public Schools would also provide these services at no cost to parents for any pre-school siblings of currently registered students. Additional funds would be required to provide these same provisions and would be determined as these students register with Edmonton Public Schools.

Historical Information

The only data available on junior high school closures is Horse Hill junior high program which was closed in 2003. Students from Horse Hill School junior high program were designated to John D. Bracco School. In this case John D. Bracco School received and continues to receive an allocation of \$51 per student per year to support costs associated with providing lunch supervision. These students were already being transported to Horse Hill School and the transportation services were continued to John D. Bracco School at no direct cost to parents.

RB:KK:pn