

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

December 8, 2009

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: E. Schmidt, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Response to Board Request for Information

ORIGINATOR: D. R. Power, Assistant Superintendent-Treasurer

RESOURCE

STAFF: Gloria Chalmers, Jamie Pallett, Lorne Parker

INFORMATION

Please note that additional information has been added to this item on December 8. The additional information is highlighted in the table in this revised report.

BOARD REQUEST #255, NOVEMBER 24, 2009, PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE FOLLOWING: CURRENT LIST OF SCHOOLS OFFERING FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN; THE FACTORS INVOLVED WITH SCHOOLS GETTING FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN; LISTING OF SCHOOLS THAT WILL BE GETTING FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN SOON; THE NUMBER OF SCHOOLS OFFERING ONE OR TWO CLASSES OF FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN; AND WHAT IS THE COST OF OFFERING FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN. Full-day kindergarten programming began in 1998-1999 as an early intervention initiative to assist schools that had high populations of students residing in their attendance area that were identified as socially or economically disadvantaged. The initiative began at Norwood School and by 2005 had expanded to 18 schools with the assistance of Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AISI) funding. In 2007-2008, when AISI resources were no longer available, the Board of Trustees approved sustained funding for full-day kindergarten for the 18 formerly involved schools and for an additional 7 schools.

There are 25 schools providing full-day day kindergarten in 2009-2010. The following lists the schools, their full-day kindergarten enrolment and allocation, and the number of classes each school is offering.

| School | Enrolment | Allocation | No. of Classes |
|------------|-----------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Abbott | 27 | \$123,711 | 1 regular 1 Cree |
| Athlone | 40 | \$183,276 | 2 |
| Balwin | 26 | \$119,129 | 1 |
| Belmead | 49 | \$224,513 | 2 |
| Belvedere | 33 | \$151,203 | 2 |
| Brightview | 29 | \$132,875 | 1 regular 1 combined K/Grade 1 |
| Delton | 28 | \$128,293 | 2 |
| Eastwood | 18 | \$82,474 | 1 |
| Evansdale | 35 | \$160,366 | 3 |

| School | Enrolment | Allocation | No. of Classes |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Glendale | 17 | \$77,892 | 1 |
| Homesteader | 28 | \$128,293 | 2 |
| Horse Hill | 12 | \$54,983 | 1 |
| Inglewood | 24 | \$109,966 | 1 |
| John A. McDougall | 40 | \$183,276 | 2 |
| McCauley | 12 | \$54,983 | 1 |
| Montrose | 20 | \$91,638 | 1 |
| Norwood | 19 | \$87,056 | 1 |
| Parkdale | 15 | \$68,728 | 1 |
| Prince Charles | 52 | \$297,634 | 2 |
| R.J. Scott | 21 | \$96,220 | 1 |
| Rundle | 23 | \$105,384 | 1 |
| Sherwood | 15 | \$68,728 | 1 |
| Sifton | 40 | \$183,276 | 2 |
| Spruce Avenue | 23 | \$105,384 | 1 |
| Youngstown | 41 | \$187,858 | 1 regular 1 Logos |
| TOTAL | 687 | \$3,207,139 | 38 |

Fifty per cent (\$1.6 million) of the \$3.2 million is the regular kindergarten allocation and fifty per cent is the additional funding the District provides to support full-day kindergarten programming.

Since its inception, schools involved in this initiative were selected according to their ranking on the District's high needs list which was based on Statistics Canada data and district transiency rates. Historically school selections occurred during spring planning deliberations, however, in some instances schools were designated during summer recess.

Given that the District no longer generates a high needs list and instead utilizes a school based social vulnerability rating, a new criterion for selecting schools that will offer full-day kindergarten programming is being considered. The Planning department, in conjunction with Programs and principals will review a number of factors such as:

- Social vulnerability
- Diversity of student population, i.e., percentage of Aboriginal, English as a Second Language (ESL) and special needs students in the school
- Academic success, i.e., Highest Level of Achievement scores and Grade Level Achievement in Language Arts and Mathematics
- Student mobility: transfers in and out of the school over a two year period
- Sufficient number of attendance area students
- Facility condition
- Available student space (assessed in conjunction with the sector review process)
- Support of the principal, staff and parents

If it is determined that full-day kindergarten should be offered in a school, a recommendation and rationale will be forwarded to the Superintendent by the Planning department.

Expanding full-day kindergarten programming beyond 25 schools will be considered during the budget planning process in the spring of 2010. Trustees will be kept informed of the ongoing work in this area.

DRP:ja