

DATE: May 19, 2015

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Locally Developed Courses

ORIGINATOR: Mary Michailides, Assistant Superintendent, Support for Schools

RESOURCE STAFF: Janice Aubry, Diane Brunton, Melody Kostiuk

REFERENCE: [Alberta Education - Guide to Education](#)
[GA.BP - Student Programs of Study](#)
[GAA.BP - Delivery of Student Programs](#)
[GK.BP - Student Assessment, Achievement and Growth](#)
[GKB.AR - Standards for Evaluation](#)

ISSUE

Alberta Education requires that all locally developed courses (LDCs) be approved by the Board of Trustees prior to submission to Alberta Education and implementation in schools.

RECOMMENDATION

That the following LDCs be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools (EPSB) until August 2019:

- **Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35**
- **Audio 15-25-35**
- **Ballet 15-25-35**
- **Ballet Six-year (6Y) (previously Ballet 7-8-9)**
- **Ceramics (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35**
- **Christian Studies 15-25-35 (previously Religious Studies 15-25-35)**
- **Contemporary Dance 25-35**
- **Dance 15-25-35**
- **Dance Six-year (6Y) (previously Dance 7-8-9)**
- **Dance Twelve-year (12Y) (previously Elementary Dance 1-6)**
- **Geometry 7-8-9**
- **Jazz Dance 25-35**
- **Study Skills And Learning Strategies 7-8-9**

BACKGROUND

LDCs are courses that are developed or acquired and authorized by school authorities to provide students with learning opportunities that complement provincial programs of study. LDCs provide unique opportunities for students to explore a range of interests in subject areas or extend the learning outcomes in provincial programs. These courses accommodate special interests and abilities of students, support District alternative programs, and address local, community or parental interests. LDCs support the District Strategic Plan, with a particular focus on Priorities 1 and 2.

Alberta Education supports the local development and authorization of junior high school and senior high school complementary courses which do not duplicate provincially authorized courses. These courses serve to:

- further develop and cultivate the unique interests and abilities of students;
- foster educational improvement and excellence through innovation at the local level; and
- meet the unique needs of a local community.

LDCs are approved and/or renewed on a four-year cycle by the developing school authority. In the case of high school courses, the courses must also be approved and/or renewed by Alberta Education. This process is governed by the Board of Trustees and Alberta Education policies.

The LDCs recommended for approval have been revised to ensure they meet current student, school, community and program needs, as well as provincial and District requirements. This includes ensuring that these courses:

- are aligned with the elements of *Inspiring Education* and the *Ministerial Order on Student Learning* (#001/2013);
- contain a rationale, philosophy, and general and specific learning outcomes aligned with the provincial requirements and standards; and
- contain updated, current content.

Supplementary information for teachers, such as assessment information and possible resources, will be made available to teachers on an internal website. Student progress for all LDCs is to be assessed in accordance with GK.BP Student Assessment, Achievement and Growth and GKB.AR Standards for Evaluation.

Descriptions of each course, including current enrolments, are provided in Attachment I.

RELATED FACTS

- All LDCs in this report were reviewed and revised collaboratively with District teachers, school administrators and central staff.
- Other school districts in Alberta request to acquire many LDCs from Edmonton Public Schools each year.

OPTIONS

The following options are selected for consideration as they are deemed the most admissible:

1. Approve the LDCs as presented, for submission to Alberta Education.
2. Approve the LDCs with amendments, for submission to Alberta Education.
3. Do not approve the LDCs.

CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS

- LDCs support the District Strategic Plan, with a particular focus on Priorities 1 and 2.
- All of the LDCs recommended for approval in this report have District student enrolments for 2014-2015.
- LDCs provide unique opportunities for students to explore a range of interests in subject areas, extend the learning outcomes in provincial programs, and/or accommodate special interests and abilities of students. Many LDCs support District alternative programming.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval of this recommendation, the Administration will submit these LDCs to Alberta Education for approval. If approved, the Administration will make these LDCs available for September 2015.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Summaries of LDCs Submitted For Approval on May 19, 2015

APPENDIX I 2014-2015 Enrolments for Expiring Locally Developed Courses

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Summaries of LDCs Submitted for Approval on May 19, 2015

APPLIED GRAPHIC ARTS 15-25-35

Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35 is a 15 credit course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It is designed for students who are beginning their study of Applied Graphic Arts in high school. This LDC expires in August 2015. It is currently being delivered in five District high schools and has a total enrolment of 589 students in 2014-2015.

Applied Graphic Arts provides students with opportunities to communicate visually through the study of the elements and principles of design, image-making, typography, history of graphic design, conceptual problem solving, and critical thinking. The emphasis of Applied Graphic Arts is on the student becoming an informed creator of solutions to visual problems.

AUDIO 15-25-35

Audio 15-25-35 is a 15 credit course that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It is designed for students who are beginning their study of Audio in high school. Audio 15 and 25 expire in August 2015; Audio 35 expires in August 2016. This course series is currently being delivered in two District high schools and has an enrolment of 38 students in 2014-2015.

Audio 15-25-35 provides students with opportunities to create and collaborate in the expression of ideas, thoughts and feelings through audio production and to develop a repertoire of skills that they can apply into real life situations. Students use various technologies and develop understandings of the audio production industry. Students in this LDC series develop audio recording techniques, post-production mixing skills and the ability to connect these techniques and skills to the benchmarks that exist in the history of popular music. Audio 15-25-35 provides opportunities for students to explore possible career interests and pathways that could capitalize on their knowledge, skills and abilities in artistic expression.

BALLET 15-25-35

Ballet 15-25-35 is a 15 credit course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It is designed for students who are beginning their study of Ballet in high school. This LDC expires August 2015. It is currently being delivered at Vimy Ridge Academy and has an enrolment of 36 students in 2014-2015.

Ballet 15-25-35 provides opportunities for students to pursue dance beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. It also offers students the opportunity to study dance as an integral part of fine arts and performing arts programs. Ballet 15-25-35 provides students with knowledge about ballet and opportunity to develop:

- physical, social and emotional skills;
- technical proficiency;
- contemporary and historical appreciation; and
- positive self-concepts.

BALLET SIX-YEAR (6Y)

Ballet Six-year (6Y) is a course series in which the first three levels (7-8-9) have been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. These three levels expire August 2015, and are currently being delivered at Vimy Ridge Academy. The program has been further developed into the high school levels to ensure students have opportunities for course stream completion and recognition. This LDC is designed for students who are beginning their study of Ballet in junior high school. The 2014-2015 junior high enrolment is 40 students. The three high school levels (15-6Y, 25-6Y and 35-6Y) are newly developed, comprise of 15 credits in total, and extend the learnings and experiences of the junior high courses. Ballet Six-year (6Y) is intended for students who are beginning their study of ballet and have had little or no experience with ballet upon entry into the Grade 7 level.

Ballet Six-year (6Y) provides students with opportunities to pursue dance beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. It also offers students the opportunity to study dance as an integral part of fine arts and performing arts programs. This course series is intended to provide students with knowledge about ballet and the opportunity to develop:

- physical, social and emotional skills;
- technical proficiency;
- contemporary and historical appreciation; and
- positive self-concepts.

CERAMICS (ADVANCED TECHNIQUES) 15-25-35

Ceramics (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35 is a 15 credit course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It is designed for students who are beginning their study of Ceramics (Advanced Techniques) in high school. This LDC expires August 2015. It is currently being delivered in four District high schools and has a total enrolment of 200 students in 2014-2015.

Ceramics (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35 provides students with opportunities to develop their knowledge, skill and ability in the expression of ideas, thoughts and feelings through ceramics. Students develop an awareness of and appreciation for the art of ceramics and the historical record of civilization ceramics represents. It also provides students with opportunities to use a variety of techniques to resolve design challenges in two dimensional and three dimensional works, and to understand the operational maintenance of a ceramics studio.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES 15-25-35

Christian Studies 15-25-35 is a 15 credit course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It expires in August 2015. It is currently being delivered at two District schools and has a 2014-2015 enrollment of 147 students.

Christian Studies 15-25-35 is designed for both Christian and non-Christian students. It provides students with opportunities to explore various aspects of Christianity in a way that encourages them to be critical thinkers about religion and the development of their own personal faith. This course series also provides students with opportunities to study Christianity and other religious perspectives including theology, ethics and lifestyle.

Christian Studies 15-25-35 meets the required 20 per cent course content addressing a comparative study of other major religions. Its aim is to develop respect for and promote understanding of individual and minority group differences, and develop an understanding and appreciation of the beliefs, customs, practices, literature and traditions of other major religions.

CONTEMPORARY DANCE 25-35

Contemporary Dance 25-35 is a 10 credit course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. Contemporary Dance 25-35 is intended for students who have had experience with dance and who studied dance as part of their junior high or high school program. It is designed for delivery in high school. This LDC expires August 2015. It is currently being delivered in three District high schools and has a total enrolment of 116 students in 2014-2015.

Contemporary Dance 25-35 provides students with opportunities to pursue dance beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. This course series also offers students the opportunity to study contemporary dance as an integral part of fine and performing arts programs. This course series is intended to provide students with knowledge about contemporary dance, and the opportunity to develop:

- physical, social and emotional skills;
- technical proficiency;
- contemporary and historical appreciation; and
- positive self-concepts.

DANCE 15-25-35

Dance 15-25-35 is a 15 credit course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It is designed for students who are beginning their study of Dance in high school. This LDC expires August 2015. It is currently being delivered in nine District high schools and has a total enrolment of 778 students in 2014-2015. Dance 15-25-35 is intended for students beginning their study of dance and who have had little or no experience with dance upon entry into the course series. In response to a request from Alberta Education, EPSB staff worked with staff from the Calgary Board of Education and Edmonton Catholic Schools to collaboratively revise this course series.

Dance 15-25-35 provides opportunities for students who would like to pursue dance beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. It also offers students the opportunity to study dance as an integral part of fine and performing arts programs. This course series is intended to provide students with the foundations of dance. It is designed to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about, and a lifelong interest in dance. It is also designed to expose learners to a broad range of artistic and aesthetic experiences from a variety of dance genres and traditions. In Dance 15-25-35, students will have the opportunity to develop:

- physical, social and emotional skills;
- technical proficiency;
- contemporary and historical appreciation; and
- positive self-concepts.

DANCE SIX-YEAR (6Y)

Dance Six-year (6Y) is a course series in which the first three levels (7-8-9) have been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. These three levels expire in August 2015 and are currently being delivered in seven District junior high schools with a total enrolment of 363 students 2014-2015. The three high school levels (15-6Y, 25-6Y and 35-6Y) are newly developed, comprise of 15 credits in total and extend the learnings and experiences of the junior high courses. Dance Six-year (6Y) is intended for students who are beginning their study of dance and have had little or no experience with dance upon entry into the Grade 7 level.

Dance Six-year (6Y) provides students with opportunities to pursue dance beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. It also offers students the opportunity to study dance as an integral part of fine and performing arts programs. This course series is intended to provide students the foundations of dance. It is designed to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about, and a lifelong interest in dance. It is also designed to expose learners to a broad range of artistic and aesthetic experiences from a variety of dance genres and traditions. In Dance Six-year (6Y), students will have the opportunity to develop:

- physical, social and emotional skills;
- technical proficiency;
- contemporary and historical appreciation; and
- positive self-concepts.

DANCE TWELVE YEAR (12Y)

Dance Twelve-Year (12Y) is a course series in which the first six levels (Grades 1-6) have been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. These six levels expire in August 2015 and are currently being delivered in five District elementary schools with a total enrolment of 927 students in 2014-2015. The three junior high levels (7-8-9) and high school levels (15-12Y, 25-12Y and 35-12Y) are newly developed and extend the learnings and experiences of the elementary courses. The high school levels (15-12Y, 25-12Y and 35-12Y) comprise 15 credits in total. Dance Twelve-year (12Y) is intended for students who are beginning their study of dance and have had little or no experience with dance upon entry into the Grade 1 level.

Dance Twelve-year (12Y) is a course series intended to provide opportunities for students who would like to pursue dance beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. This course series also offers students the opportunity to study dance as an integral part of fine and performing arts programs. This course series is intended to provide students the foundations of dance. It is designed to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about, and a lifelong interest in dance. It is also designed to expose learners to a broad range of artistic and aesthetic experiences from a variety of dance genres and traditions. In Dance Twelve-year (12Y), students will have the opportunity to develop:

- physical, social and emotional skills;
- technical proficiency;
- contemporary and historical appreciation; and
- positive self-concepts.

GEOMETRY 7- 8-9

Geometry 7-8-9 is a course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It is designed for students to extend their learning of Geometry in junior high school. It expires August 2015. It is currently being delivered in two District junior high schools and has a total enrolment of 264 students in 2014-2015.

Geometry 7-8-9 provides students with opportunities to develop logical arguments to support, refute, or prove mathematical ideas; analyze mathematical patterns and relationships; use spatial reasoning to measure, and to analyze and represent quantities, shapes and objects. The emphasis of this course series is on the development of basic logic, analysis and spatial understanding. It is designed for those students who would like to develop strong numeracy skills and explore this ancient area of mathematics and its applications to modern life.

JAZZ DANCE 25-35

Jazz Dance 25-35 is a 10 credit course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. Jazz 25-35 is intended for students who have had experience with dance and who have studied dance as part of their junior high or high school program. It is designed for delivery in high school. It expires August 2015. It is currently being delivered in two District high schools and has a total enrolment of 80 students in 2014-2015.

Jazz Dance 25-35 provides students with opportunities to pursue dance beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. This course series offers student the opportunity to study jazz dance as an integral part of fine and performing arts programs. This LDC series is intended to provide students with knowledge about jazz dance, and the opportunity to develop:

- physical, social and emotional skills;
- technical proficiency;
- contemporary and historical appreciation; and
- positive self-concepts.

STUDY SKILLS AND LEARNING STRATEGIES 7-8-9

Study Skills and Learning Strategies 7-8-9 is a course series that has been previously developed, authorized and delivered by EPSB. It is designed to provide extension opportunities for junior high students to focus on their individual study skills and learning strategies. It expires August 2015. It is currently delivered in 21 District junior high schools and has a total enrolment of 1,496 students in 2014-2015.

Study Skills and Learning Strategies 7-8-9 provides students with the opportunity to develop specific skills and strategies to become more successful learners. Through explicit instruction, guided practice, on-going feedback and self-reflection, students in this course series develop and apply a range of strategies to maximize achievement in all subject areas.

Students in this course series have the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes to meet the academic demands of junior high school and to be able to make a successful transition to senior high. Study Skills and Learning Strategies 7-8-9 actively involves students in their learning and encourages them to take greater responsibility to plan, monitor and self-assess for their own progress.

2014 -2015 Enrolments for Expiring Locally Developed Courses

Locally Developed Course Name/series	Schools	Total Student Enrollment 2014-2015
Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35	J. Percy Page	589
	Lillian Osborne	
	Ross Sheppard	
	Strathcona	
	Victoria School of the Arts	
Audio 15-25-35	Ross Sheppard	38
	Victoria School of the Arts	
Ballet 15-25-35	Vimy Ridge Academy	36
Ballet Six-Year (6Y)	Vimy Ridge Academy	40
Ceramics (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35	McNally	200
	Ross Sheppard	
	W. P. Wagner	
	Victoria School of the Arts	
Christian Studies 15-25-35	Edmonton Christian	147
	Millwoods Christian	
Contemporary Dance 25-35	Eastglen	116
	Victoria	
	Vimy Ridge Academy	
Dance 15-25-35	Eastglen	778
	Jasper Place	
	Lillian Osborne	
	M.E. LaZerte	
	McNally	
	Queen Elizabeth	
	Strathcona	
	Victoria School of the Arts	
	Vimy Ridge Academy	
Dance Six-Year (6Y)	Academy at King Edward	363
	Balwin	
	Highlands	
	Spruce Avenue	
	Victoria School of the Arts	
	Vernon Barford	
	Vimy Ridge Academy	
Dance Twelve Year (12Y)	Afton	927
	Balwin	
	Mount Royal	
	Victoria School of the Arts	
	Virginia Park	
Geometry 7-8-9	Edith Rogers	264

	Stratford	
Locally Developed Course Name/series	Schools	Student Enrollment 2014-2015
Jazz Dance 25-35	Victoria School of the Arts Vimy Ridge Academy	80
Study Skills and Learning Strategies 7-8-9	Alberta School for the Deaf Avalon Britannia Dan Knott Edith Rogers Hillcrest John D. Bracco Kate Chegwin Killarney Lawton Major General Griesbach Mary Butterworth Ottewell Parkview S. Bruce Smith Spruce Avenue Steele Heights T. D. Baker Westlawn Winterburn	1,496