

DATE: May 14, 2019

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Locally Developed Courses

ORIGINATOR: Ron MacNeil, Assistant Superintendent, Mike Suderman, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE STAFF: Janice Aubry, Laurie Houston, Bob Morter

REFERENCE: [Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12, 2018-2019](#)
[Ministerial Order on Student Learning \(#001/2013\)](#)
[GA.BP - Student Programs of Study](#)
[GAA.BP - Delivery of Student Programs of Study](#)
[GK.BP - Student Assessment, Achievement and Growth](#)
[GKB.AR - Standards for Evaluation](#)

ISSUE

Alberta Education requires that school authorities approve locally developed courses (LDCs) by a motion of the Board of Trustees prior to implementation in schools.

BACKGROUND

The *Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12, 2018-2019* (pg.67) states that:

“School authorities have the flexibility to develop or acquire locally developed courses (LDCs) to address particular student and/or community needs. These learning opportunities complement, extend and/or expand upon provincial programs of study. LDCs may be used to:

- accommodate student needs and interests
- encourage and support innovative learning and teaching practices
- address unique community priorities
- encourage students who may be at risk of leaving school early
- promote successful transitions to further education by exposing students to advanced subject matter and learning environments”

LDCs also support District alternative programs and the District Strategic Plan, with a particular focus on Priorities 1 and 2.

Junior and senior high school LDCs are usually approved on a four-year cycle by the developing school authority. Senior high school LDCs must also be authorized by Alberta Education. The maximum duration for Alberta Education authorization is currently four years. This approval and/or authorization process is governed by provincial and District policies.

All LDCs developed by Edmonton Public Schools have been written to ensure that they meet 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 the *Ministerial Order on Student Learning (#001/2013)*
- contain a sequence introduction (formerly philosophy), a statement outlining what student needs are addressed (formerly rationale) and specific learning outcomes aligned with provincial requirements and standards
- contain updated, current content

Supplementary information related to all LDCs, such as assessment information, is available on the District intranet. 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.

RELATED FACTS

- All District-developed LDCs in this report were reviewed and revised collaboratively with District teachers, school administrators and central staff.
- Other school authorities in Alberta request to acquire LDCs from Edmonton Public Schools each year.
- Edmonton Public Schools acquires a number of LDCs from other school authorities in the province.
- School authorities may not amend or adapt the content in LDCs acquired from other school authorities without prior written consent.

RECOMMENDATION

That the following LDCs be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools until August 2023:

- **Aviation – Flight 15-25-35 (3)**
- **Ballet 15-25-35 (5)**
- **Ballet Six-year (6Y)**
- **Contemporary Dance 25-35 (5)**
- **Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6)**
- **Dance 15-25-35 (3 and 5)**
- **Dance Six-year (6Y)**
- **Jazz Dance 25-35 (5)**

OPTIONS

Based on the information provided in this report, the following options are considered most appropriate:

1. Approve the LDCs as presented.
2. Approve the LDCs with amendments to those developed by the District.
3. Do not approve the LDCs.

CONSIDERATIONS and ANALYSIS

- LDCs provide unique opportunities to accommodate student needs and interests, encourage innovation in learning and teaching practices, address community priorities, engage students who are at risk of leaving school early and/or promote successful transitions to further education.
- Many LDCs support District alternative programming.
- LDCs support the District Strategic Plan, with a particular focus on Priorities 1 and 2.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval of this recommendation, the Administration will make these LDCs available for the 2019-2020 school year.

ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Summaries of Locally Developed Courses Submitted for Approval on May 14, 2019

ATTACHMENT II Enrolment Data for Locally Developed Courses Expiring in 2019

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Summaries of Locally Developed Courses Submitted for Approval on May 14, 2019

Aviation – Flight 15-25-35

Aviation – Flight 15-25-35 is a 3 credit course sequence developed by Calgary Board of Education. It is replacing Aviation 35, which is currently being delivered at one District school and had an enrolment of five students as of January 24, 2019.

Aviation – Flight 15-25-35 provides students with opportunities to develop an understanding of the aviation field. Students in this course sequence will study the theoretical background of aircraft operations and Transport Canada standards in order to prepare themselves for a potential career in the aircraft operations sector. Aviation – Flight 15-25-35 contains a practical element where students will explore aircraft operation in a simulated environment, such as a flight simulator or a computer outfitted with flight peripherals.

Ballet 15-25-35

Ballet 15-25-35 is a 5 credit course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at two District schools and had an enrolment of 44 students as of January 24, 2019.

Ballet 15-25-35 is designed for beginning students who have had little or no experience with ballet upon entry into this course sequence. Ballet 15-25-35 provides students with opportunities to study ballet and to appreciate ballet as an art form. Ballet 15-25-35 also contributes to preparing students for a range of careers in the arts, as well as careers in which they can draw upon the skills, knowledge and attitudes acquired through ballet.

Ballet Six-year (6Y)

Ballet Six-year (6Y) is a course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at one District school and had an enrolment of 74 students as of January 24, 2019.

Ballet Six-year (6Y) is designed for students who are beginning their study of ballet in Grade 7 and who may continue the study of ballet through the six years of junior and senior high school. The goal of Ballet Six-year (6Y) is to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about, and a lifelong interest in ballet. This course sequence also contributes to preparing students for a range of careers in the arts, as well as careers in which they can draw upon the skills, knowledge and attitudes acquired through ballet.

Contemporary Dance 25-35

Contemporary Dance 25-35 is a 5 credit course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at four District schools and had an enrolment of 84 students as of January 24, 2019.

Contemporary Dance 25-35 is designed for students who have previously studied dance. The goal of this course sequence is to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about and a lifelong interest in contemporary dance. Students in Contemporary Dance 25-35 will explore the various dance foundations, techniques, structures and compositional elements within choreography to enhance their understanding of contemporary dance.

Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6)

Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6) is a course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is replacing the first six grades of the Dance Twelve-year (12Y) LDC, which is currently being delivered at five District Schools and had an enrolment of 1,266 students as of January 24, 2019.

Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6) provides opportunities for students who would like to pursue creative movement beyond the Alberta Physical Education Program of Studies. While movement skills are taught in various ways through physical education, Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6) provides opportunities for students in elementary school to explore body awareness through creative movement and dance. The goal of this course sequence is to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of creative expression through movement.

Dance 15-25-35 (3 and 5 credit)

Dance 15-25-35 is a 3 and 5 credit course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at 10 District schools and had an enrolment of 761 students as of January 24, 2019.

Dance 15-25-35 is designed for students beginning their study of dance and who have had little or no experience with dance upon entry into this course sequence. The goal of this course sequence is to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about, and a lifelong interest in dance. It is designed to expose learners to a broad range of artistic and aesthetic experiences from a variety of disciplines.

Dance Six-year (6Y)

Dance Six-year (6Y) is a course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at eight District schools and had an enrolment of 602 students as of January 24, 2019.

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. The goal of this course sequence is to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about, and a lifelong interest in dance. It is designed to expose learners to a broad range of artistic and aesthetic experiences from a variety of disciplines.

Jazz Dance 25-35

Jazz Dance 25-35 is a 5 credit course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at two District schools and had an enrolment of 46 students as of January 24, 2019.

Jazz Dance 25-35 is designed for students who have previously studied dance. The goal of this course sequence is to foster in students an understanding and appreciation of, curiosity about and a lifelong interest in jazz dance. Jazz Dance 25-35 provides opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of jazz dance foundations, composition and the use of artistic elements in jazz dance.

Enrolment Data for Locally Developed Courses Expiring in 2019

Locally Developed Course Name/Sequence	Enrolments 2014-2019 as of January 24, 2019					Schools offering in 2018-19
	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	
Aviation 35 (3)	N/A	N/A	N/A	14	5	J. Percy Page
Ballet 15-25-35 (5)	36	36	34	45	44	Victoria Vimy Ridge Academy
Ballet Six-year (6Y)	40	48	47	50	74	Vimy Ridge Academy
Contemporary Dance 25-35 (5)	112	67	90	91	84	Eastglen Queen Elizabeth Victoria Vimy Ridge Academy
Dance 15-25-35 (3 and 5)	758	767	912	866	761	Eastglen Jasper Place Lillian Osborne M.E. LaZerte McNally Queen Elizabeth Ross Sheppard Strathcona Victoria Vimy Ridge Academy
Dance Twelve-year (12Y) *being replaced by Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6) beginning in September 2019	782	1,026	1,029	1,032	1,266	Afton Mount Royal Victoria Virginia Park Westglen
Dance Six-year (6Y)	361	406	484	401	602	Edith Rogers Highlands Londonderry Spruce Avenue Vernon Barford Victoria Vimy Ridge Academy Westmount
Jazz Dance 25-35 (5)	74	62	73	47	46	Victoria Vimy Ridge Academy