

DATE: September 25, 2018

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Update on Joint Transportation

ORIGINATOR: Dr. Lorne Parker, Assistant Superintendent

RESOURCE STAFF: Geoff Holmes, Chris Wright

REFERENCE: January 23, 2018 Board Report – [Motion re: Joint Transportation Plan Feasibility](#)
January 23, 2018 Board Report – [Third Party Panel Study of Operational Services of School Jurisdictions](#)
March 18, 2014 Board Report – [Edmonton Student Transportation Authority Feasibility Study](#)

ISSUE

At the January 23, 2018, Board meeting, Trustees approved a motion to outline their support for the benefits of an Edmonton Student Transportation Authority (ESTA) consortia framework. These benefits are outlined in the joint feasibility study completed in 2014 by Edmonton Catholic Schools (ECS) and Edmonton Public Schools (EPS).

BACKGROUND

One benefit of the proposed consortia model was a minimum route efficiency savings of \$2.5 million with no impact to student service or changes to school bell times. The study also outlined other benefits of a consortia model, including the identification of further financial savings resulting from operational economies of scale. Since the 2014 study, yellow bus ridership has increased at both jurisdictions, which would result in additional route savings under a consortia model.

On a broader scale, Edmonton Public Schools' administration are engaged in collaborative initiatives with other jurisdictions to maximize provincial education funding through the creation of shared efficiencies. This work is summarized in the January 23, 2018, Board report, *Third Party Panel Study of Operational Services of School Jurisdictions*. The joint initiative in student transportation with ECS demonstrates how shared busing can realize efficiencies in both service delivery and expenditures, ensuring financial resources provided for the education of students are maximized.

CURRENT SITUATION

As a result of the approved motion on January 23, 2018, and following discussions between EPS and ECS in spring 2018, the parties are setting ESTA aside and pursuing a more informal shared transportation arrangement to expand shared bus routes and find efficiencies. While students will ride separately, the buses operating these routes will be shared and the costs and efficiencies split between the parties. Effective September 4, 2018, Administration has implemented 25 bus routes using the shared transportation arrangement.

KEY POINTS

- Nine of the 25 shared routes were implemented in September 2017. These shared routes will be maintained for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Sixteen additional shared routes were implemented in September 2018.
- Sharing the cost of the 25 routes will result in savings of over \$600,000 for EPS.
- To achieve the efficiencies, four Edmonton Public schools were required to shift their start time by a maximum of 5 minutes, following engagement with stakeholders.
- Student Transportation staff will continue to identify additional efficiencies through shared service with Edmonton Catholic Schools for implementation in September 2019.

ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

None

GH:kk


EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 DETAILS OF SHARED TRANSPORTATION ROUTES
2017 - 2018 School Year

ECSD School	# of students	EPSB School	# of students	Total # of Bus Routes
Holy Family	40	Daly Grove	35	1
Holy Family	59	Bisset	53	1
Mary Hanley	97	Bisset	109	2
Mary Hanley	43	Daly Grove	37	1
Monsignor Fee Otterson	103	Roberta MacAdams	95	2
St. John XXIII	50	Constable Daniel Woodall	42	1
St. Nicholas	32	Ivor Dent	5	1
TOTALS	424		376	9

Combined Total # of Students 800

Combined Total # of Bus Routes 9

Combined Total # of Schools 10

2018 - 2019 School Year

ECSD School	# of students	EPSB School	# of students	Total # of Bus Routes
Father Michael Mireau	79	Satoo	96	2
Holy Family	36	Daly Grove	36	1
Holy Family	65	Bisset	55	1
Mary Hanley	93	Bisset	112	2
Mary Hanley	45	Daly Grove	38	1
Mary Hanley	99	Svend Hansen	150	3
Monsignor Fee Otterson	110	Roberta MacAdams	97	2
St. Angela	43	Hilwie Hamdon	41	1
St. Gerard	47	Delton	96	2
St. John Bosco	44	Dr. Donald Massey	41	1
St. John XXIII	81	Dr. Margaret-Ann Armour	72	2
St. John XXIII	56	Constable Daniel Woodall	46	1
St. Kateri	104	Velma E. Baker	159	3
St. Nicholas	30	Ivor Dent	7	1
St. Thomas Aquinas	91	Dr. Lila Fahlman	68	2
TOTALS	1023		1114	25

Combined Total # of Students 2137

Combined Total # of Bus Routes 25

Combined Total # of Schools 24