

**DATE:** June 6, 2023

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:** Locally Developed Courses

**ORIGINATOR:** Kathy Muhlethaler, Assistant Superintendent, Instructional and Strategic Division Supports

**RESOURCE STAFF:** Marnie Beaudoin, Tom Gillard, Laurie Houston, Bob Morter, Ann Parker

**REFERENCE** [Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12, 2022-2023](#)  
[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](#)

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## 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, 2022-2023* states that:

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

- accommodate student needs and interests
- encourage and support innovative learning and teaching practices
- address unique community priorities
- engage 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” (Alberta Education, 2022)

LDCs also support alternative programs in Edmonton Public Schools and the Division Strategic Plan, with a particular focus on Priority 1.

All LDCs developed by Edmonton Public Schools are written to ensure they meet student, school, community and program needs, as well as provincial and Division requirements. This includes ensuring that these courses contain a sequence introduction, a description of student needs that are addressed through the LDC and learning outcomes that are aligned with provincial requirements and standards.

Junior and senior high school LDCs must be approved by a Board motion prior to offering the locally developed courses in the Division. Senior high school LDCs must also be authorized by Alberta Education.

The maximum duration for Alberta Education authorization is currently four years. However, there may be circumstances that result in Alberta Education granting an authorization of one, two or three years.

Supplementary information related to all LDCs, such as assessment information, is available on the Division 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 LDCs authorized by Alberta Education are available for acquisition at no cost.
- Edmonton Public Schools acquires LDCs developed by other school authorities in the province.
- Other school authorities in Alberta acquire LDCs developed by Edmonton Public Schools.
- The Division-developed LDCs in this report were reviewed and revised collaboratively with Division teachers, school administrators and central staff.

## RECOMMENDATION

**That the following elementary, junior and senior high school locally developed courses be approved for use in Edmonton Public Schools:**

### Senior High School LDCs

Course Name	Course Codes	Version	Approval Period
Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 15 Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 25 Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 35	LDC1975 LDC2975 LDC3975	3 and 5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Applied Graphic Arts 15 Applied Graphic Arts 25 Applied Graphic Arts 35	LDC1857 LDC2857 LDC3857	3 and 5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Audio 15 Audio 25 Audio 35	LDC1471 LDC2471 LDC3471	3 and 5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Aviation - Flight 15 Aviation - Flight 25 Aviation - Flight 35	LDC1351 LDC2351 LDC3841	3 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Ballet 15 Ballet 25 Ballet 35	LDC1412 LDC2412 LDC3412	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Ballet (Six-Year) 15 Ballet (Six-Year) 25 Ballet (Six-Year) 35	LDC1028 LDC2028 LDC3028	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Contemporary Dance 25 Contemporary Dance 35	LDC2467 LDC3467	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Creative Writing and Publishing 15 Creative Writing and Publishing 25 Creative Writing and Publishing 35	LDC1269 LDC2269 LDC3269	3 and 5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027

### Senior High School LDCs (continued)

Course Name	Course Codes	Version	Approval Period
Dance (Six-Year) 15 Dance (Six-Year) 25 Dance (Six-Year) 35	LDC1029 LDC2029 LDC3029	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies 15 ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies 25	LDC1212 LDC2212	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
ESL Introduction to Science 15 ESL Introduction to Science 25	LDC1213 LDC2213	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Fire Rescue Services 15	LDC1004	3 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Jazz Dance 25 Jazz Dance 35	LDC2469 LDC3469	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Journalism 15 Journalism 25 Journalism 35	LDC1696 LDC2696 LDC3696	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Orientation and Mobility 15 Orientation and Mobility 25	LDC1013 LDC2013	3 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Painting 15 Painting 25 Painting 35	LDC1871 LDC2871 LDC3871	5 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027
Religious Studies - Christian Studies 15 Religious Studies - Christian Studies 25 Religious Studies - Christian Studies 35	LDC1775 LDC2775 LDC3775	3 Credits (2023–2027)	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2027

### Elementary and Junior High School LDCs

Course Name	Course Codes	Approval Period
Ballet (Six-Year) 7 Ballet (Six-Year) 8 Ballet (Six-Year) 9	JHS7031 JHS8031 JHS9031	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027
Creative Movement 1 Creative Movement 2 Creative Movement 3 Creative Movement 4 Creative Movement 5 Creative Movement 6	ELM1560 ELM2560 ELM3560 ELM4560 ELM5560 ELM6560	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2025
Dance (Six-Year) 7 Dance (Six-Year) 8 Dance (Six-Year) 9	JHS7032 JHS8032 JHS9032	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027

### Elementary and Junior High School LDCs (continued)

Course Name	Course Codes	Approval Period
ESL Accelerated English 7 ESL Accelerated English 8 ESL Accelerated English 9	JHS7033 JHS8033 JHS9033	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2024
Geometry 7 Geometry 8 Geometry 9	JHS7050 JHS8050 JHS9050	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027
World History 7 World History 8 World History 9	JHS7015 JHS8015 JHS9015	September 1, 2023–August 31, 2027

#### OPTIONS

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

1. Approve the LDCs as presented.
2. 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 alternative programming in Edmonton Public Schools.
- LDCs support the Division Strategic Plan, with a particular focus on Priority 1.

#### NEXT STEPS

Upon approval of this recommendation, the Administration will make these LDCs available for the 2023–2024 school year.

#### ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

- ATTACHMENT I      Summaries of Locally Developed Courses Submitted for Approval on June 6, 2023
- ATTACHMENT II     Enrolment Data for Locally Developed Courses Submitted for Approval on June 6, 2023

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**Summaries of Locally Developed Courses Submitted for Approval on June 6, 2023****Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 15-25-35**

Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 15-25-35 is a 3- and 5-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is currently being delivered at seven Division schools and had an enrolment of 236 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Advanced Acting/Touring for Theatre offers students the opportunity to study acting and theatre as a subject in its own right. This course will provide opportunities for students to expand upon their skills learned in Drama 10-20-30 as it explores performance as an important learning experience for theatre students. Students will develop an appreciation for the role and impact of theatre as a means of communicating with an audience.

**Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35**

Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35 is a 3- and 5-credit course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at four Division schools and had an enrolment of 291 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35 provides opportunities for students to develop artistic skills and communicate visually through the study of the elements and principles of design, image-making, typography, and contemporary and historical graphic design. This course sequence supports students in developing a problem-solving mindset and becoming informed creators of solutions to design problems. Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35 provides an opportunity for students to explore possible career interests and pathways that could capitalize on their knowledge, skills and abilities in artistic expression.

**Audio 15-25-35**

Audio 15-25-35 is a 3- and 5-credit course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at eight Division schools and had an enrolment of 350 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Audio 15-25-35 provides students with an opportunity to develop a theoretical and practical understanding of the fundamentals of sound engineering theory and its practice in the audio production industry. In Audio 15-25-35, students acquire audio recording techniques, post-production mixing skills and the ability to connect these techniques and skills to milestones in the history of popular music. This course sequence uniquely engages students interested in creative expression through audio production.

**Aviation - Flight 15-25-35**

Aviation - Flight 15-25-35 is a 3-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is currently being delivered at one Division school and had an enrolment of 36 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Aviation – Flight 15-25-35 provides students with opportunities to develop an understanding of the aviation field. This course sequence 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. The aim of Aviation - Flight 15-25-35 is to provide students with an exploratory option to prepare for the requirements of an aircraft operation career path.

**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 one Division school and had an enrolment of 2 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Ballet 15-25-35 is designed for beginning students who have had little or no experience with ballet upon entry into this course sequence. In Ballet 15-25-35, students have the opportunity to develop both their technical proficiency and their performance and communication skills through the exploration and application of ballet foundations, choreographic tools and the elements of composition. Ballet 15-25-35 contributes to preparing students for a range of careers in which they can draw upon the skills, knowledge and attitudes acquired through ballet.

**Ballet (Six -Year)**

Ballet (Six-Year) is a course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools that includes 5-credit courses at the high school level. It is currently being delivered at one Division school and had an enrolment of 68 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Ballet (Six-Year) 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. In Ballet (Six-Year), students build their technical proficiency and develop their performance, expression and communication skills through the exploration and application of ballet foundations, choreographic tools and the elements of composition. Ballet (Six-Year) contributes to preparing students for a range of 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 three Division schools and had an enrolment of 35 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Contemporary Dance 25-35 is designed for students who have previously studied dance and are interested in specializing in contemporary dance. In this course sequence, students' dance literacy is developed through the exploration of contemporary dance techniques and choreography, self-reflection, analysis of the interplay between society and contemporary dance, and critique of the work of self and others. Throughout Contemporary Dance 25-35, students have opportunities to enhance both their technical proficiency and their artistry as dancers.

**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 currently being delivered at three Division schools and had an enrolment of 823 students, as of March 21, 2023.

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, this course sequence 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.

A two-year approval is being requested as the new provincial fine arts curriculum has not yet been released by Alberta Education.

**Creative Writing and Publishing 15-25-35**

Creative Writing and Publishing 15-25-35 is a 3- and 5-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is currently being delivered at seven Division schools and had an enrolment of 232 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Creative Writing and Publishing 15-25-35 provides students with the opportunity to explore interests, passions and career possibilities in writing and publishing. In this course sequence, students create original texts and follow editing, publishing and marketing processes using current approaches and technologies. Students explore a variety of avenues which may include researching authors/publication houses, connecting with guest authors, liaising with professional writing organizations, submitting work to established publications and/or creating their own publications.

**Dance (Six-year)**

Dance (Six-Year) is a course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools that includes 5-credit courses at the high school level. It is currently being delivered at seven Division schools and had an enrolment of 301 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Dance (Six-Year) is designed for students who are beginning their study of dance in Grade 7 and who may continue the study of dance through the six years of junior and senior high school. This course sequence is intended to provide learners with a broad range of artistic and aesthetic experiences in a variety of dance genres. Dance (Six-Year) contributes to preparing students for a range of exciting and rewarding careers in the arts, as well as careers in which they can draw upon the skills, knowledge and attitudes acquired through dance.

**ESL Accelerated English 7-8-9**

ESL Accelerated English 7-8-9 is a course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is currently being delivered at six Division schools and had an enrolment of 101 students, as of March 21, 2023.

ESL Accelerated English 7-8-9 provides opportunities for English language learners at the intermediate English language proficiency level to examine and practice using the academic language required for participation, progression and achievement in the study of English language arts. Students in this course sequence will strengthen their skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and representing.

A one-year approval is being requested because ownership of this course sequence, which was developed by the Calgary School Division, has only very recently been transferred to Edmonton Public Schools. Using established processes, Curriculum and Learning Supports will undertake a review of this course sequence during the upcoming school year.

**ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies 15-25**

ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies 15-25 is a 5-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is currently being delivered at nine Division schools and had an enrolment of 324 students, as of March 21, 2023.

ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies sequence provides English language learners with the opportunity to build communicative competence with the English language while examining the evolving nature of Canadian citizenship and identity. ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies 15-25 is intended to meet the needs of students who would benefit from explicit instruction, scaffolded learning opportunities and additional time to acquire English language competencies and social studies content and processes.

**ESL Introduction to Science 15-25**

ESL Introduction to Science 15-25 is a 5-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is currently being delivered at four Division schools and had an enrolment of 151 students, as of March 21, 2023.

ESL Introduction to Science 15-25 provides English language learners with the opportunity to build communicative competence with the English language while attaining the scientific awareness needed to function as effective members of society. ESL Introduction to Science 15-25 is intended to meet the needs of students who would benefit from explicit instruction, scaffolded learning opportunities and additional time to acquire English language competencies and science content and processes.

**Fire Rescue Services 15**

Fire Rescue Services 15 is a 3-credit course developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at one Division school and had an enrolment of 19 students, as of March 21, 2023.

In Fire Rescue Services 15, students investigate the equipment, practices and specialized skills used in fire rescue services. Throughout this course, students explore the dynamics of teamwork and collaboration. Students in Fire Rescue Services 15 are encouraged to take risks in exploring how to learn through experience, communicate effectively and collaborate with others to achieve success. Fire Rescue Services 15 is intended to enhance students' skill sets and support their long-term goals and career aspirations.

**Geometry 7-8-9**

Geometry 7-8-9 is a course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at three Division schools and had an enrolment of 655 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Geometry 7-8-9 provides students with opportunities to develop logical arguments to support, refute or prove mathematical ideas. In this course sequence, students will analyze mathematical patterns and relationships, use spatial reasoning to measure, and analyze and represent quantities, shapes and objects. Geometry 7-8-9 is designed for those students who would like to deepen their numeracy skills and explore this ancient area of mathematics and its applications in today's world.

**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 one Division school and had an enrolment of 27 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Jazz Dance 25-35 is designed for students who have previously studied dance and are interested in specializing in jazz dance. In this course sequence, students' dance literacy is developed through the exploration of jazz dance techniques and choreography, self-reflection, analysis of influences on jazz dance, and critique of the work of self and others. Throughout Jazz Dance 25-35, students have opportunities to enhance both their technical proficiency and their artistry as dancers.

**Journalism 15-25-35**

Journalism 15-25-35 is a 5-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is currently being delivered at one Division school and had an enrolment of 17 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Journalism 15-25-35 provides students with opportunities to explore, create and reflect through journalistic media. In this course sequence, students evaluate the impact, responsibility and ethics of



media in society and develop skills in creating texts for diverse audiences. In Journalism 15-25-35, students have opportunities to interact with individuals and organizations within the field of journalism to increase their knowledge, experience, and networking opportunities within the profession.

### **Orientation and Mobility 15-25**

Orientation and Mobility 15-25 is a 3-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It is not currently being delivered in Division schools, as of March 21, 2023.

Orientation and Mobility 15-25 provides an opportunity for students who are blind or visually impaired to access intensive training in the area of Orientation and Mobility of the Expanded Core Curriculum. The Expanded Core Curriculum is comprised of the disability-specific skills that individuals who are blind or visually impaired will need to acquire in order to participate fully in the educational environment and in the world beyond high school. Instruction in orientation and mobility skills is personalized to the student's level of functional vision and abilities.

### **Painting 15-25-35**

Painting 15-25-35 is a 5-credit course sequence developed by the Calgary School Division. It has been renamed from Painting (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35, which is currently being delivered at one Division school and had an enrolment of 57 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Painting 15-25-35 offers students the opportunity to investigate and develop their personal practice of artistic expression through focused development of painting techniques. This sequence offers an extension of Art 10-20-30 with a specific focus on painting methods and materials. Through rigorous intellectual, technical and artistic engagement, students will acquire valuable artistic knowledge and an appreciation of the artistic process in the broad field of painting.

### **Religious Studies: Christian Studies 15-25-35**

Religious Studies: Christian Studies 15-25-35 is a 3-credit course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at one Division school and had an enrolment of 234 students, as of March 21, 2023.

Religious Studies: Christian Studies 15-25-35 is designed for both Christian and non-Christian students. The premise of this course sequence is that personal faith impacts every aspect of life. In this course sequence, students examine key themes and teachings of Christianity and various other world religions, and consider how these impact decision-making for people of those faiths. Throughout Religious Studies: Christian Studies 15-25-35, students consider various viewpoints on social issues and faith-based value systems, and by doing so, develop their own worldview and gain a better understanding of what it means to live in a pluralistic, multi-faith society.

### **World History 7-8-9**

World History 7-8-9 is a course sequence developed by Edmonton Public Schools. It is currently being delivered at six Division schools and had an enrolment of 866 students, as of March 21, 2023.

World History 7-8-9 provides students with opportunities to study world history from prehistoric times to the 20th century. Throughout this course sequence, students investigate the development, contributions and interactions of world civilizations. Students in this course sequence will also examine the origins of modern cultural, political and ethnic diversity. World History 7-8-9 is intended to provide additional opportunities for students to more deeply study history and develop historical thinking skills.

## Enrolment Data for Locally Developed Courses Submitted for Approval on June 6, 2023

Locally Developed Course/ Course Sequence Name	Enrolments 2019–2023 as of March 21, 2023				Schools offering in 2022–2023 as of March 21, 2023
	19–20	20–21	21–22	22–23	
Advanced Acting/Touring Theatre 15-25-35	300	229	252	236	Eastglen Jasper Place Lillian Osborne McNally Ross Sheppard Victoria W. P. Wagner
Applied Graphic Arts 15-25-35	469	315	246	291	J. Percy Page Queen Elizabeth Ross Sheppard Victoria
Audio 15-25-35	147	149	235	350	Centre High Jasper Place Lillian Osborne M. E. LaZerte Metro Continuing Education Ross Sheppard Victoria W. P. Wagner
Aviation - Flight 15-25-35	0	0	0	36	J. Percy Page
Ballet 15-25-35	51	6	13	2	Argyll Centre
Ballet (Six-Year)	71	62	51	68	Vimy Ridge Academy
Contemporary Dance 25-35	60	41	37	35	Jasper Place Victoria Vimy Ridge Academy
Creative Movement (Grade 1 to Grade 6)	1,032	782	616	823	Highlands Victoria Virginia Park
Creative Writing and Publishing 15-25-35	155	28	185	232	amiskwaciy Academy J. Percy Page Jasper Place Lillian Osborne McNally

Locally Developed Course/ Course Sequence Name	Enrolments 2019–2023 as of March 21, 2023				Schools offering in 2022–2023 as of March 21, 2023
	19–20	20–21	21–22	22–23	
Creative Writing and Publishing 15-25-35 (continued)	155	28	185	232	Ross Sheppard Victoria
Dance (Six-Year)	470	150	404	301	Dr. Lila Fahlman Michael Strembitsky Strathcona Thelma Chalifoux Victoria Vimy Ridge Academy Westmount
ESL Accelerated English 7-8-9	67	79	72	101	Alex Janvier Balwin Hillcrest Rosslyn Victoria Westlawn
ESL Introduction to Canadian Studies 15-25	365	230	236	324	Centre High Dr. Anne Anderson Eastglen Harry Ainlay J. Percy Page M. E. Lazerte Queen Elizabeth Ross Sheppard Victoria
ESL Introduction to Science 15-25	189	117	127	151	Eastglen Harry Ainlay M. E. LaZerte Queen Elizabeth
Fire Rescue Services 15	18	39	28	19	Centre High
Geometry 7-8-9	664	326	603	655	Allendale Edith Rogers Stratford
Jazz Dance 25-35	22	24	15	27	Vimy Ridge Academy
Journalism 15-25-35	12	19	19	17	Ross Sheppard

Locally Developed Course/ Course Sequence Name	Enrolments 2019–2023 as of March 21, 2023				Schools offering in 2022–2023 as of March 21, 2023
	19–20	20–21	21–22	22–23	
Orientation and Mobility 15	N/A	N/A	0	0	None
Painting (Advanced Techniques) 15-25-35  (renamed Painting 15-25-35)	27	3	32	57	Victoria
Religious Studies - Christian Studies 15-25-35	236	233	229	234	Millwoods Christian
World History 7-8-9	682	643	934	866	Allendale Edith Rogers Londonderry Michael Phair Riverbend Stratford