

DATE: May 22, 2018

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: 2018-2019 Non-Resident Fees and 2019-2020 International Student Program Fees

ORIGINATOR: Todd Burnstad, Chief Financial Officer

RESOURCE STAFF: Krista Brandon, Ann Calverley, Jennifer Price, Madonna Proulx

REFERENCE: N/A

ISSUE

Non-Resident fees are set annually by the Board of Trustees for the purpose of recovering educational programming costs for non-resident students as defined under Section 30(1) (a) of the *School Act*. Non-resident students are either not eligible to receive provincial funding or another district has received the provincial funding allocation and is requesting Edmonton Public Schools to provide the educational programming for their resident students.

International student fees are charged because the District cannot claim education grants for international students.

BACKGROUND

Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Non-Resident Fees

The District charges a fee for students who are residents of Canada where the parent does not reside in Alberta. As per the Alberta Education funding manual, Edmonton Public Schools does not receive per student grants for those ineligible students. Therefore, a fee is required to cover the costs of educational programming. For the 2017-2018 school year, there are five Non-Alberta resident students registered with Edmonton Public Schools.

The District also enters into education service agreements (sponsorships) with other jurisdictions to provide instructional programming for special needs students in Levels 5 through 8. The actual cost of the program for a student can vary due to the specific needs of each student. As such, additional costs may be added to cover costs such as additional educational assistant time and transportation costs. In the current year, Edmonton Public Schools provides programming for 22 directed special needs students; 16 of these students are attending the Alberta School for the Deaf.

International Student Program Fees

Through the International Student Program, the District has a 23-year history of offering full-time, academic programming to international students from a variety of countries. This school year, 55 District schools served 590 international students from 39 countries. The program generated revenues of approximately \$6 million, 67 per cent of which went directly to schools in support of teacher retention, education programs, and a range of learning resources. The remaining 33 per cent was retained centrally to support program costs with the remaining funds included in the general District budget.

Several factors are considered in determining the international student tuition fee including; the cost of a senior high program with English Language Learning (ELL) instruction and support services; District operational costs including staff salaries and expenses associated with operating and managing the program and the current market conditions for programs of a similar nature in Alberta and across Canada.

An increase in the international student tuition fee effective for 2019-2020 is being recommended to ensure the District is consistent and competitive with 2019-2020 fees charged by other large Metro school boards including the Calgary Board of Education. Further, as we migrate to both online application and renewal platforms for international students, a fee increase will cover potential associated bank charges.

RELATED FACTS

- The Alberta Education funding manual outlines the process for the funding of students with special needs who are directed by the resident school jurisdictions to another school jurisdiction.
- All related funding for special needs students is provided by Alberta Education to the resident school jurisdiction and payment for the student's program is the responsibility of the resident school jurisdiction.
- The last increase proposed for International Student Fees was May 2016 for the 2017-2018 school year.
- International student fees continue to be allocated in a manner that maximizes revenues to schools but at the same time ensures sufficient financial resources to administer the program.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the proposed 2018-2019 Non-Alberta Residents and Special Needs Non-Residents fees be approved (Attachment I).**
- 2. That the proposed 2019-2020 International Student Tuition fee of \$12,500 and an International Student Application fee of \$250 be approved (Attachment I).**

CONSIDERATIONS and ANALYSIS

Non-resident fees and special needs fees are reviewed annually, based on the costs of programming and in context with changes in provincial grant rates.

Non-Alberta Resident fees are based on the base instructional funding plus an overhead charge. As there has been no change in provincial base instruction funding for 2018-2019, it is proposed that the Non-Alberta Resident fees remain unchanged.

Special Needs Non-Resident fees are proposed to remain unchanged at the 2017-2018 rates, which is consistent with no change in the 2018-2019 provincial base grant rates. School resource allocations such as student allocation rates and support staff unit costs are also unchanged for 2018-2019.

International student tuition and application fees are revisited each year and brought forward for the consideration of the Board of Trustees. Administration is recommending that the current international student fee of \$12,000 be increased to \$12,500 effective for the 2019-2020 school year, and that the current international student application fee of \$250 be maintained.

NEXT STEPS

Once approved, the rates will be communicated to District staff through *District News* and International Student materials will be updated.

ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I 2018-2019 Proposed Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Non-Resident Fees
 2019-2020 Proposed International Student Tuition and Application Fees

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ATTACHMENT I

EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2018-2019 Proposed Non-Alberta Resident and Special Needs Non-Resident Fees
2019-2020 Proposed International Student Tuition and Application Fees

<i>Description</i>	<i>2018-2019 Proposed Fees</i>	<i>2017-2018 Approved Fees</i>	<i>Variance \$</i>	<i>Variance %</i>
NON-ALBERTA RESIDENT FEE				
<i>Non-ELL Fee</i>	\$7,230	\$7,230	\$0	0%
<i>ELL Fee</i>	\$8,408	\$8,408	\$0	0%
SPECIAL NEEDS NON-RESIDENT FEE				
Level 5 <i>Communication, ELL Foreign Born Refugee, Gifted & Talented Extensions, Learning Disability, Literacy, Mild Cognitive Disability, Moderate Emotional/Behavioral, Hearing, Multiple, Visual Disability, Non-verbal Learning Disability, Strategies</i>	\$13,395	\$13,395	\$0	0%
Level 6 <i>Moderate Cognitive, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder</i>	\$14,947	\$14,947	\$0	0%
Level 7 <i>Blindness, Deafness, Severe Cognitive, Emotional/Behavioral, Multiple, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder</i>	\$25,960	\$25,960	\$0	0%
Level 8 <i>Blindness, Deafness, Severe Cognitive, Multiple, Physical or Medical Disability, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder</i>	\$36,333	\$36,333	\$0	0%
	2019-2020 Proposed Fees	2018-2019 Approved Fees		
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM FEE	\$12,500	\$12,000	\$500	4%
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION FEE	\$250	\$250	\$0	0%