

DATE: January 28, 2020

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Michelle Draper

SUBJECT: Motion re: Choice in Education Survey

REFERENCE: [Trustees' Handbook – Section 5.2.2 – Notices of Motion](#)

ISSUE

Notice of motion was served at the January 14, 2019, Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

Edmonton Public Schools has been successful in providing choice to parents in Edmonton for more than 40 years through our alternative programs. With Edmonton Public Schools being the fastest-growing Division in Alberta, we continue to strive to provide the choices parents' desire for their children within the public education system.

The Government of Alberta conducted a Choice in Education survey. Information from the survey would complement the data our Division has been collecting as part of our alternative program review and help us better understand underserved needs and partnership opportunities.

RELATED FACTS

As a proponent of both choice within the current public education system and continuous improvement, Edmonton Public Schools values input and feedback of our programs and what areas we can improve upon.

The Minister of Education requested input into a Choice in Education which survey closed on December 6, 2019. The Alberta Education website status shows the survey is currently under review (<https://www.alberta.ca/choice-in-education-engagement.aspx>). As of yet, there has been no commitment from the province to publicly release the findings from the survey. Sharing the disaggregated data would recognize the time people took to complete survey and the value of the information. In addition, it would allow school divisions to use the data to inform their own planning needs and increase transparency in the data collection process.

The proposed Choice in Education Act is anticipated to be introduced in spring 2020.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Trustees of Edmonton Public Schools request the disaggregated results from the Choice in Education survey, rather than a summary compiled by the Ministry, and it be shared with all school boards.

OPTIONS

1. Approve the recommendation.
2. Provide feedback and request changes to the recommendation for approval.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval of the recommendation, a letter will be sent from the Board Chair to the Minister of Education requesting that the disaggregated results from the Choice in Education survey be shared with all school boards in Alberta.

MD:sj