

## STUDENT AWARDS

## **Background**

The Division believes in schools acknowledging outstanding student achievement and personal accomplishments as a public demonstration of their commitment to excellence. The Division encourages principals to use a comprehensive system of awards, prizes, and opportunities for public recognition to further demonstrate their commitment.

## **Procedures**

- 1. Outstanding achievement by students will be recognized and appropriately honored within each school and all students will be informed of the achievement awards for which they are eligible.
  - 1.1 Information about school awards will be communicated by the principals at the beginning of each term to students, parents, and the community.
- 2. Principals will develop procedures governing student awards and scholarships.
  - 2.1 School-developed procedures will ensure that outstanding student performance is appropriately recognized within each school.
  - 2.2 The school student awards procedures will specify the purpose and structure, qualification criteria, selection process, presentation procedures, funding arrangements, and criterion for review for all schools and private awards.
  - 2.3 The Division is considered an agent of the Government of Alberta for purposes of the Alberta Human Rights Act and therefore school staff will not discriminate when selecting winners of awards.
- 3. Principals will ensure recognition on an ongoing basis, of outstanding student performance in areas such as academic achievement, athletic achievement, fine arts achievement, citizenship, community service, or exemplary behaviour.
  - 3.1 Principals will recommend individuals or groups to be recognized at the Division level.
    - 3.1.1 Appropriate recognition of individuals or groups may occur through Board meetings, special events, and trustee attendance at school functions, staff bulletins, or community media.
    - 3.1.2 This public recognition is to occur throughout the year.
  - 3.2 Students receiving recognition at the municipal, provincial, national or international level for outstanding performance will be appropriately acknowledged by the school and the Division.
- 4. The Division and principals will cooperate with private donors who wish to reward outstanding student performance through the provision of awards.

- 4.1 Awards offered by private donors will be consistent with the school's student awards procedures.
  - 4.1.1 The awards may consist of cash, trophies, plaques, certificates, or other forms of recognition.
  - 4.1.2 The awards will be considered and defined in terms of:
    - 4.1.2.1 Purpose and structure;
    - 4.1.2.2 Qualification criteria;
    - 4.1.2.3 Selection process;
    - 4.1.2.4 Presentation procedures;
    - 4.1.2.5 Funding arrangements; and
    - 4.1.2.6 Criteria for review.
- 4.2 All applications to establish an award by a private donor will be submitted to the Office of the Superintendent, identifying the school where the award is to be made.
- 4.3 The Secretary-Treasurer will ensure that the award is administered in accordance with the terms and conditions as established.
- 4.4 The office of the Superintendent will ensure that private donors are acknowledged on a regular basis for their contribution towards the recognition of outstanding student achievement.

Reference: Section 31,33,52,53,197,222 Education Act

Human Rights Act

Approved: November 2005

Amended: March 21, 2018; July 1, 2018; May 22, 2020