



*Greater St. Albert
Catholic Schools*

Board Meeting Summary

December 17, 2012

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The latest regular meeting of the Board was held in St. Albert on Monday, December 17, 2012 at the District Office.

GOOD NEWS

Awards & Recognition

- Trustees hosted a successful breakfast in early December to invite interested community members wishing to participate on the Foundation Board. While there are some individuals who will be applying to sit on the Foundation we continue to encourage those interested to contact the district as soon as possible.

Throughout the months of November and December GSACRD schools spent many hours to help others in a variety of ways. The following is a few of the many examples in the district:

- 8,000 St. Albert students joined together on November 14th to support Habitat Humanity's local build. All of the GSACRD schools in St. Albert participated by wearing their P.J.'s and raising funds to support Habitat's 200th build.
- Students at **École Notre Dame Elementary** worked on keeping others warm for the winter by gathering a collection of "Coats for Kids." They filled a large pumpkin box full of coats, ski pants, mitts and toques. Meanwhile, other students supported the town's "Stuff a Bus" campaign. They collected enough food items to fill a large part of the bus. Thank you to the parent community for their support with these and other projects ongoing at the school.
- Art students at **École Secondaire Sainte Marguerite d'Youville** created messages on recycled bags that will be donated at Christmas to youth in the inner city. Pam Wilman, art teacher mentored ESSMY students in creating messages using text and images with acrylic paint to convey what they would like to say to youth battling hardships. She contacted iHuman and donated thirty bags for youth taking part in their programs to paint. iHuman is a non-profit, charitable organization working with youth struggling with homelessness, mental illness and addictions in downtown Edmonton.
- At **Vital Grandin** students continue to do "Small Things with Great Love" by collecting jars of coins to contribute to Development and Peace and are hoping to collect enough jars to create our own coin-jar Christmas tree.
- The "We Care Team" at **V.J. Maloney** after returning from the We Day event in Calgary got right to work, collecting food for the hungry in their Scare Away Hunger Campaign. They worked with students in religion classes to build bracelets and necklaces for sale during parent/teacher interviews which are available over the next couple of weeks. The money raised from this will be used to support some local firefighters who are involved in helping developing countries with the purchase and distribution of used firefighting equipment.

- Students at **Albert Lacombe** collected pennies to provide clean water for others around the world. Students discovered that \$25 in pennies will provide a lifetime of clean water for a person in Africa. They are also discovering that many families have a penny jar sitting around their homes and most people are glad to donate them to CREATE CHANGE

ACTION ITEMS

The Board of Trustees approved the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending August 31, 2012 which resulted in a \$154,628 surplus. In addition, the 2012 – 2015 Three-Year Education Plan was approved by the board for submission to Alberta Education and both documents can be found on the district website under publications.

A draft of the 2013-2014 School Year Calendar was approved and the final version is expected to be available to the public in the new year.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The Board received information back from administration on the opportunities for a Botanical Garden Academy within the district. Curricular and programming fit options are being explored.

An update on the joint use agreements in the district was discussed and it was noted that current agreements expire at the end of 2013. A draft of a new agreement is currently in circulation.

UPCOMING INITIATIVES FOR THE BOARD

Trustees will be looking to advance the work of the Foundation through board member recruitment and selection. Upcoming highlights on the Board Agenda for the meetings in the first quarter include Ward structure review, School enrolment projections & School fee approvals.

**The next Regular Meeting of the
Board of Trustees is scheduled for
Monday, January 14, 2013
7:00 p.m. at District Office (Note: new start time)**