



**Greater St. Albert
Catholic Schools**

Board Meeting Summary

November 24, 2014

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The last regular meeting of the Board was held at the District Office, on Monday, November 24, 2014.

GOOD NEWS

150th Celebration Plan News

- Albert Lacombe hosted a 50th Anniversary Birthday Party on Friday, November 21st in the evening at the school. Former students and staff attended to commemorate this milestone in the community.
- The District video has been launched in conjunction with Catholic Education Sunday celebrations. A copy of the video is available at the schools to share at upcoming assemblies. Thank you to all of the participants in the video and to Allan Au from Edmonton Catholic for his time and expertise as videographer.
- Gala tickets officially went on sale Tuesday, November 25th and we are encouraging interested individuals and organizations to reserve their tables early!

School News

- **Diana Groten**, a grade four teacher at Vital Grandin, was recognized as Teacher of the Month for the month of October, by the Rotary Club. Congratulations Ms. Groten!
- Our **Legal Titans 4H Club** will be receiving a \$2,500 grant from the Monsanto Fund to support our work in the community.
- **ESSMY** students, along with teachers Rock Thibodeau and Kristine Sharpe, visited Ottawa. They were fortunate enough to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa, and one of our students, **Laura Welling**, was among those who laid a wreath at the Cenotaph. Father Mike led us in prayer as we prayed for safe travelling for the group. It has been tradition at ESSMY, for the past seven years, that Father Mike attends, blesses any school groups travelling and each person is presented with a blessed cross that they wear during the trip.
- Both **MCHS** Senior Volleyball Teams have qualified for Provincials on November 19-22. The Boys are in Fort McMurray and the Girls are in Cochrane. This is exciting for our players, coaches and the school.
- **MCHS** staff are preparing for their **PACK** (Personal Achievement and Continuing Knowledge) Days in November and December. These days are part of the High School Re-Design Project to address flex and personalized learning, providing students with remedial, emergent and divergent learning that meets individual needs. The school is pleased to have the community respond to this project by offering their expertise in delivering sessions. Some of the opportunities coming forward include sessions to learn about American Sign Language, and career sessions with the Edmonton City Police and TSN to name a few.
- The District held a Post-Secondary information evening for grade nine families. The event had over 95 participants and this is the third year the session has been run by the District Principal, Lydia Yeomans.

ACTION ITEMS

- The Board approved the 2013-2014 audited financial statements for release, which reflected strong support for instructional needs while maintaining a reasonable unrestricted reserve.
- The Fall Budget update was reviewed and reflects the September 30th enrolment data. The total operating budget for the District is \$69.2 million and projects a \$241,000 operating deficit, covered by the unrestricted reserve.

Both documents are available on our [website](#).

- The Board approved the 2013/14 Annual Education Results Report and the 2014-2017 Three-Year Education Plan which summarizes the goals, outcomes and strategies for the future.

SUPERINTENDENTS UPDATE

- Assistant Superintendent, Sean McGuinness provided an update on the Field Trip Activity in the District.
- The Jurisdiction Class Size Report was reviewed and reflects class size numbers consistent with the previous year.
- Assistant Superintendent, David Quick provided an update on Educational/Inter-agency Partnerships highlighting the new partnership with Norquest College to deliver a first year post-secondary English course that will be dual credit. This course will be offered at Morinville Community High School.

UPCOMING INITIATIVES FOR THE BOARD

- Trustees continue their participation in the School Results Reviews that are taking place this month and next.
- Community Conversation date for the fall is scheduled for December 3, 2014 at St. Albert Catholic High School. Everyone is invited to attend.
- Trustees encourage our school communities to participate in an online forum (Thoughtstream) that will be set up in December to gather some additional feedback on our high school programming. This is building on the work that was done with the community back in the spring.
- Trustees will continue their work on the 150th anniversary celebration plans.

**The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for
Monday, December 15, 2014
7:30 p.m. at District Office
6 St. Vital Avenue, St. Albert, AB**

PUBLIC WELCOME