



Board Highlights

Regular Meeting of the Board

April 14, 2009

For immediate distribution and publication

Capital Projects

The Board is waiting for a reply from Alberta Education regarding its request for capital funding required to complete projects before the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year, namely for leasing and upgrading Ritchie School and the Youville Centre as well as seven other projects.

Junior High School in South-East Edmonton (Ritchie School)

Superintendent Henri Lemire informed trustees that he is undertaking the second phase of talks with officials at Edmonton Public School Board to conclude negotiations for the lease of Ritchie School. This confirms the transfer of grades 7-9 students from École Maurice-Lavallée to Ritchie School in August 2009.

The Board approved expenditures of \$400,000 from its Capital Reserve Fund to retrofit Ritchie School before the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

Secondary Catholic Jr/Sr High School (St. Albert)

On March 25, approximately 120 students and parents visited St. Albert High School and the original Youville Centre, where the District is planning to open a temporary junior/senior high school in 2009-2010.

District administration commenced talks with Covenant Health authorities in view of signing a three-year lease agreement.

District administration has retained the services of architect Jim Der for the renovation of approximately 13,000 square feet before the start of the upcoming school year.

The Board approved an amount of \$800,000 from its Capital Reserve Fund to retrofit premises at the Youville Centre.

Closing of *Campus de la Cité*

The Board has confirmed its intention to close *Campus de la Cité*, its Outreach High School, and to open a distributed learning centre at École Maurice-Lavallée where support will be offered to students enrolled in alternative and distance learning courses.

Appointment of School Principals

The Board ratified the superintendent's recommendation to appoint Marc Potvin as principal for a one-year probationary period at the new catholic junior high school in south-east Edmonton (Ritchie School, 9750 – 74 Avenue).

The superintendent informed trustees that the principal positions for École Maurice-Lavallée and the secondary high school in St. Albert will be re-advertised.

St. Albert Daycare Facility

The Board received \$100,000 from Alberta Children and Youth Services to install a pre-assembled modular unit in the school yard as a future daycare facility. The daycare will accommodate 17 preschool aged children as of fall 2009. The money will fund the relocation and installation of the modular unit,

utility services (water, sewer and electricity), construction of a sidewalk, etc. The superintendent informed the Department that this amount could be insufficient if a second parking lot is needed at the school.

Superintendent's Report

Henri Lemire is pleased to announce that Natalie Boutin has been hired as the new behaviour consultant for the district. She will assume her duties beginning on April 20.

Alberta Federation of Francophone School Boards (*Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta - FCSFA*)

The board of directors of the FCSFA met with Minister Hancock on April 6.

The FCSFA and the Francophone Parents' Federation (*Fédération des parents francophones de l'Alberta*) signed a two-year collaborative agreement to support the management of preschool services.

The trustees received a press release informing them that the two Francophone

School Authorities in southern Alberta are exploring a possible merger and formation of a blended Public / Catholic school Authority.

Council for Catholic Faith Education (*Conseil de l'éducation de la foi catholique chez les francophones de l'Alberta - CÉFFA*)

On March 23, Archbishops Pettipas and Smith met CÉFFA administrators to identify innovative ways to further the professional development of catholic school principals. An ad hoc committee consisting of the four superintendents responsible for catholic francophone education was formed.

One of the CÉFFA's main projects is the organization of a francophone catholic congress in Calgary on November 5 (evening), 6 and 7 (noon).

Next Board Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on May 12, at 7 p.m. at La Cité francophone.



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