



Board Highlights

Regular Meeting of the Board

November 24, 2008

For immediate distribution and publication

Auditor's Report for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Trustees approved the audited financial statement presented by auditors from King & Company Chartered Accountants. For the fiscal year 2008-2009, a surplus of \$257,659 was recorded on revenues of \$35,253,192 and expenses of \$34,995,533.

On August 31, 2009, the Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord had \$2,798,207 in accumulated operating surplus after transferring \$654,555 into a capital reserves account to complete renovations at Alexandre-Taché.

Internal study on enrolment decrease

To better understand the substantial decrease in enrolment, the Superintendent sent a questionnaire to personnel to solicit their feedback. Over 200 employees answered the five questions and offered suggestions on how to increase enrolment.

Class size

Every year, Alberta Education, under the Class size initiative program, requires school authorities to post number of students per teacher and class size averages and on their website.

With the exception of a slight variation in grades K to 3, the Conseil has the lowest ratio for elementary classes.

Centre-Nord has equalled or surpassed the recommended class size average in all four categories. Small classes outside Edmonton and a student decrease of 126 students and increase in teaching personnel result in a significant decrease in class size.

Three-year results and Alberta Commission on Learning Recommendations

	2007 2008	2008 2009	2009 2010	Recommended
K-3	19.2	17.9	17.6	17
4 - 6	19.9	18.6	17.9	23
7 - 9	20.0	17.8	17.0	25
10 - 12	17.2	19.3	16.3	27

Negotiations with La Cité

The Board mandated Administration to negotiate a lease with La Cité francophone before December 31, 2009, with an option to buy clause.

Once Phase II is complete, Administration has proposed to: a) move employees from Educational Services and Transportation/Operations to the 3rd floor with Central Office; b) move employees from the special projects to the 2nd floor; c) retrofit a workshop meeting room on the 2nd floor of Phase I; d) Four technicians remain at leased offices.

École À la Découverte

Trustees received a letter from staff at École À la Découverte expressing their concern regarding the possibility that the school could close. They made several points in favour of

small schools and the advantages of a small school for students.

Capital projects

Daycare at La Mission: The Board approved a request from CEPP to buy and install a fence adjacent to the daycare located at École La Mission (St. Albert).

École Alexandre-Taché (St. Albert): Final inspection of premises at Youville Centre will take place November 26. Students and parents have been informed that the move will take place during Christmas holidays.

Desrochers: New steps and a wooden footbridge have been built to join the two modular classrooms. Following the addition of the second modular classroom, the school no longer rents the church for music classes.

Père-Lacombe: A modular classroom at Maurice-Lavallée has been moved to Père-Lacombe.

Vacant sites belonging to EPSB

School authorities from Edmonton Public and Edmonton Catholic shared, for the first time, a list of 18 and 3 vacant sites, respectively. These sites, reserved for school construction, have been declared as surplus for their needs. Centre-Nord has 90 days to inform partners from *Joint Use Agreement* of its interest in these sites.

More specifically, the Conseil will inform partners from the *Edmonton Joint Use Agreement* that they are not interested in acquiring the Aldergrove site. The city of Edmonton wishes to use this site to build a lake to manage supplementary waters resulting from the sewer system.

EPSB and ECS also identified three schools presently not used by them for teaching purposes: St. Bernard (7211 – 96A Avenue), Queen Mary Park (10935 – 113 Street) and Ritchie (9735 – 75 Avenue).

H1N1 Flu

On October 29, following new guidelines from Alberta Health, the Superintendent sent an update to parents concerning the H1N1 pandemic.

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/files/ns-student-placement-recomendations.pdf>

HPV Vaccine

Parents were informed that Alberta Health is deferring until January school immunization programs for grades 5 and 9 (including HPV for girls) because of nursing and support staff redirected to the mass pandemic H1N1 immunization clinics.

Superintendent's Report

Congratulations to :

- Pierre Desrochers, former Chair of the Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord who received the Joseph Forget O.M.I. Award from the Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta (FCSFA).
- Fred Kreiner who completed a two-year mandate as Chair of the FCSFA.
- Trustee Denis Vincent who received the Honor Prize from Campus Saint-Jean.
- Trustee Martin Blanchet to whom the ACSTA awarded the *St. Thomas More Service Award* for his contribution to the Board of Directors.
- Superintendent Henri Lemire who received the award from the Commission nationale des parents francophone award in recognition of excellent contribution.
- To Nicole Létourneau, Julie Amyotte, Rita Hébert and 63 students from École Ste-Jeanne-d'Arc that performed at the ACSTA banquet.
- To the girls and boys soccer team that won gold at the city finals. Coaches are: Vienna Malko-Monterrosa, Karine Larochelle and Marie-Claude Tessier.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS - NOVEMBER 2009

This year, 337 students are non-citizens. There are 355 students in English second-language, 122 of these students not born in Canada. There are 450 students in *francisation*, 50 of them not born in Canada.

Next Board Meeting

Next ordinary meeting of the Board will be held at La Cité francophone on Tuesday, December 15 at 7pm.

The city of St. Albert will host the Olympic flame January 13. Activities for students will commence at 1 pm at the Lions' Park and at 3 pm at St. Albert Place. The flame is scheduled to arrive at 3:42 pm.

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