



# Board Highlights

## Regular Meeting of the Board

April 12, 2010

For immediate distribution and publication

### 2010-2011 Budget

Supé Henri Lemire presented four possible scenarios for the 2010-2011 budget. These scenarios resulted from the trustees request to examine various budget options ranging from a \$2.4 million dollar deficit to a balanced budget, the optimal situation lying somewhere in between. A preliminary budget will be presented to trustees at the May 17 meeting.

### 2010-2011 School calendar

In light of upcoming budget cuts, the Board approved a new version of the 2010-2011 school calendar. Last month, trustees had requested a new school calendar that would generate cost-savings by replacing "short Thursdays" by professional development days once a month in the seven Edmonton schools. This measure is expected to save an estimated \$160,000 in transportation and support staff costs.

Therefore, next year in Edmonton, Thursdays will end at the same time as other weekdays (approximately 3:30 p.m. The following days will be reserved for teacher professional development: September 17, October 1 and 29, November 22, December 3, January 28, March 4 and 25, April 21 and May 20.

Calendar highlights for Edmonton in 2010-2011 are:

- ◆ August 26 – First day for teachers
- ◆ August 31 – First day for students
- ◆ November – 10-11-12 – Fall break
- ◆ December 23 to January 4 – Winter break
- ◆ February 10-11 – ATA Teachers' Convention
- ◆ March 28 to April 1 – Spring Break
- ◆ April 22 – Good Friday
- ◆ April 25 – Easter Monday
- ◆ June 28 – Last day for students
- ◆ June 29 – Last day for teachers

The Edmonton School calendar 2010-2011 is available at [www.centrenord.ab.ca](http://www.centrenord.ab.ca)

For the past eight years, our schools in St. Albert and Legal adopted a calendar similar to neighbouring school authorities resulting in eight or nine Fridays per year reserved for meetings and professional development. In our schools outside Edmonton, "short Thursdays" have never existed.

### École A la Découverte

Negotiations are concluded for the lease of St. Patrick School (Edmonton Catholic Schools) for the present and next school year.

### École Alexandre-Taché (St. Albert) and Joseph-Moreau (Edmonton)

The Board has requested a reimbursement from Alberta Education for start-up costs of École Alexandre-Taché (St. Albert) and Joseph-Moreau (Edmonton). The total sum for Joseph-Moreau is \$504,854 and \$1,106,794 for Alexandre-Taché, \$400,000 more than budgeted.

### École Boréal (Fort McMurray)

Following recommendations from architect Dave McGregor and structural engineer Emily Wang, Board administration met with provincial government officials requesting \$900,000 for important maintenance work at École Boréal. A response is expected in the next few weeks.

### École Desrochers

Superintendent Henri Lemire, associate superintendent Nicole Bugeaud and the principal of École Desrochers, Marie-Claude Faucher, recently met with their counterparts from Grande Yellowhead Regional Division. The main goal was to explore possibilities of exchanges, sharing and collaboration with the French Immersion program at Jasper Jr/Sr High School.

**Conseil de l'éducation de la foi catholique chez les francophones de l'Alberta (CÉFFA)**

Since April 6, the Board's religious education consultant, Suzanne Foisy-Moquin, has assumed new responsibilities. She succeeds the CÉFFA coordinator, Jeannine De Moissac, who has headed the CÉFFA for the past three years and who is now retired. Mrs. Foisy-Moquin will work 0.40 for the CÉFFA and 0.40 for Centre-Nord.

Suzanne Foisy-Moquin will serve all francophone catholic schools and francophone parishes in Alberta in her new role. She has served as president of the CÉFFA since May 2003.

**Superintendent's report**

**Les Panthères are heading to Atlanta:** The nine students in the robotics team from École Joseph-Moreau left April 12 for Atlanta (Georgia) where they will represent Alberta at the First Lego League International Competition. Recently, Minister of Education Dave Hancock personally congratulated the students and their teachers and mentors: Annie Dansereau, Michel Gariépy and Marc Potvin.

**Excellence in Teaching Awards:** Congratulations to Stéphanie Bourgeault-Dallaire, kindergarten teacher at École Gabrielle-Roy, who was nominated for this distinction.

**WorldSkills :** Alberta Education has granted residual equipment to Alberta high schools from the WorldSkills Competition held in Calgary in August 2009. The value of material and equipment received by Centre-Nord for Fashion and Design classes is estimated at \$61,274. They have been placed at École Gabrielle-Roy and École Maurice-Lavallée.

**Session I for catholic school principals :** The first two-day session in catholic leadership «Walk with Me» will be held May 7 and 8 under the able leadership of Father Luc Tardif, rector of Université Saint-Paul (Ottawa).

**Next meeting and events**

Exceptionally, the next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, May 17 at 7 p.m. at La Cité francophone.

Official opening of École Alexandre-Taché on April 21 at 7 p.m.

Official opening of École Joseph-Moreau on April 27 at 7 p.m..

