



Board Highlights

Organizational Board Meeting

March 8, 2011

For immediate distribution and publication

Budget 2011-2012

The Board will communicate its displeasure and disagreement with the budget cuts imposed by the Government of Alberta, cuts that may have adverse effects on student programs and services.

	2010-2011	2011-2012	Variance
Cut 100%			
Class size Initiative (Gr. 4-6)	\$178,065	0	(\$178,065)
Intra-jurisdiction Distance	\$133,751	0	(\$133,751)
Enhanced ESL/Francisation	\$63,226	0	(\$63,226)
Enrolment Growth/Decline	\$43,159	0	(\$43,159)
Cut 50%			
AISI	\$324,523	162,262 \$	(\$162,261)
Relative Cost of Purchasing	\$314,790	157,395 \$	(\$157,395)
Stabilization Funding	\$347,578	173,789 \$	(\$173,789)
TOTAL cuts			(\$911,646)

The Government announced a funding increase of 4.4% but it will be used strictly to cover the salary increase of 4.4% for teachers in September 2011. The province froze all other funding sources, including the grid placement increase for teachers, custodial and support staff salary increases, administration, operation and maintenance, transportation, special needs, etc. The total shortfall in these areas is about \$900,000, thus creating an initial budget deficit of \$1.8 to 2 million.

2011-2012 School calendar

The Board has tentatively approved the 2011-2012 school calendar.

- Thursday, August 25 – First day for teachers
- Friday, August 26 – Staff opening day held at École Gabrielle-Roy
- Monday, August 29 - PD day

- Tuesday, August 30 – First day for students
- Wednesday 9 to Friday, November 11 – Fall break
- December 23 (Friday) to January 9 (Monday) - Christmas break
- February 9-10 - ATA Teachers' Convention
- Monday 26 to Friday, March 30 - Spring Break
- April 6 - Good Friday
- April 9 - Easter Monday
- Friday, April 27 and Monday, April 30 - GREF (national conference in Edmonton)
- Wednesday, June 27 - Last day for students
- Thursday, June 28 and Friday, June 29 - Last day for teachers

Dates for Professional Development activities vary from one school to another, and will be announced in April.

Follow-up study on pre-school programming

The Board received a report on the progressive implementation of a model for the management and programming of pre-schools (*prématernelle*) in Centre-Nord schools, and mandated administration to begin negotiations with the Fédération des parents francophones de l'Alberta (FPFA) to establish an implementation agreement.

Negotiations for acquiring Ritchie School from Edmonton Public Schools

According to the Joint Use Agreement (JUA) between the City of Edmonton and three school boards, an authority that officially closes a school must inform the others that might be interested in its acquisition. The Board mandated administration to convene a meeting with officials from Alberta Education, Alberta Infrastructure and Edmonton Public Schools to discuss the feasibility of acquiring Ritchie School as permanent site for École Joseph-Moreau.

École Alexandre-Taché (Saint-Albert) and Joseph-Moreau (Edmonton)

The Board is still awaiting a response from the Minister of Education for the reimbursement of work done in order to open the two schools last year.

Recently, a new Parent subcommittee was formed to study the acquisition of a school equivalent to that of the majority for École Alexandre-Taché. Their goal is "... to identify and plan strategies and approaches that must be undertaken to identify the needs of our school and our children with the Ministry of Education."

The renovations for a new science laboratory, large classroom and breakout room have begun.

Principal appointment for École Boréal

The Board ratified the appointment of Nicole Arsenault as interim principal of École Boréal (Fort McMurray) from June 2011 to January 2012.

2011 Excellence in Teaching Award

Congratulations to Mireille Prévost, principal at École À la Découverte, who was nominated for the 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award.

Approval of locally developed courses

The Board approved locally developed courses for the period extending from September 2011 to June 2014:

- 1) Fitness 15-25-35, 3-credit courses adapted from Edmonton Public Schools
- 2) Leadership AAA 15-25-35, 5-credit courses developed by Conseil scolaire du Nord-Ouest
- 3) Religious Studies 15-25-35, 3-credit courses from Ontario

Information Sheet for Parents: Public School or Catholic?

A new information brochure for parents on their choice of Public and Catholic schools was received as information.

Policy F-6091 Disposal of Property

The Board adopted the second reading of Policy F-6091 Disposition of Property.

Next meeting and events

The next regular board meeting of the *Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord* will be held on Tuesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. at La Cité francophone. Exceptionally, the April meeting will be held on Monday, April 12.

