

New school in Jasper

The Board mandated administration to develop jointly with Grande Yellowhead Regional Division guidelines for shared use of the new school to be built in Jasper. From these principles, collaborative agreements will be developed including an agreement for the operational management of the building as well as an agreement on school programs and extracurricular activities.

Alberta Infrastructure invited Superintendent Henri Lemire and École Desrochers student Ashley Hayes to be part of a Selection Committee to choose a Bridging Consultant for the project.

New school in Red Deer

Representatives of the Board and Alberta Education (AE) discussed possible sites for the building of a new school for École La Prairie. The present school site is considered too small to accommodate a K-12 school of 250 students. The Anders school site is the most central, accessible from 32nd Street, largest and nearest the Colicutt Centre.

The Board will make a formal request to the City of Red Deer to designate the Anders East site as the location for the new school to be completed in June 2014. It is expected that the assessments, consultation and final approval by City Council will take approximately four months.

Administration will obtain legal advice on the disposition and possible demolition of the current school.

2011-2012 Budget

In early July, the province announced funding to reintroduce the "Fuel Price Contingency Program" as of September 2011. This program is payable to school boards to secure additional funding when the price of fuel exceeds \$0.60/litre. The grant is based on an average of \$1.10/litre. The value of this funding is estimated at \$18 million for 2011-2012.

AE has approved 47 projects under the initiative

Action on Inclusion (formerly 'Setting the Direction'). Although the Board applied in the 'Change Agent' category, only 12 school jurisdictions were so approved. Therefore, Centre-Nord will receive \$41,564 in the category 'Capacity Builder'.

Accountability Pillar Results

Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar results allow school authorities to measure their success and assess their progress towards achieving their learning goals using a broad spectrum of measures.

Trustees received the Accountability Pillar Results. Alberta Education annually reports jurisdiction results in two major categories: 1. Qualitative results based on grades 4, 7 and 10 student and parent surveys, and all teachers; 2. Quantitative results based on achievement tests, diploma exams, drop-out rates, etc.

Overall, Centre-Nord results for 2010-2011 are:

<i>Category</i>	<i>Achievement</i>	<i>Improvement</i>	<i>Overall</i>
<i>Quality of education</i>	<i>High</i>		<i>Good</i>
<i>Citizenship</i>	<i>Very High</i>	<i>Improved Significantly</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
<i>Safe and caring schools</i>	<i>Very High</i>	<i>Improved</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
<i>Parental involvement</i>	<i>High</i>		<i>Good</i>
<i>Transition rates (6 years)</i>	<i>Very High</i>	<i>Improved Significantly</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
<i>Drop Out rate</i>	<i>Very High</i>	<i>Improved Significantly</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
<i>Work Preparation</i>	<i>High</i>		<i>Good</i>

Agreement between the Conseil des écoles fransaskoises (CEF) and the Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord (CSCN)

In June 2010, the Board agreed to explore the feasibility of signing a cooperation agreement with Saskatchewan's francophone school authority which opened a preschool to grade 5 francophone program in 2010-2011. Two students residing on the Alberta side of the city have enrolled thus the Board will apply for Alberta Education's Basic Instruction Grant and others. Those funds would then be transferred to the Saskatchewan school authority, a procedure consistent with the Lloydminster Charter in place by the two provinces since the 30's.

Negotiations for the acquisition of Ritchie School

In March, the Board mandated administration to explore the feasibility of purchasing Ritchie School as a permanent site for École Joseph Moreau. In July, EPSB informed CSCN of their interest to sell one of the two Ritchie Schools. The south section (3.13 acres) and the present school are valued between \$3,380,000 and \$3,830,000. The north section (3.44 acres) and the old Ritchie School (1913) are valued between \$5,600,000 and \$5,732,000.

New location for École À la Découverte

Work on the leased space at Kensington School for École À la Découverte is nearing completion. This includes the painting four classrooms, administration and staff lounge, repairing restrooms, and retrofitting a small staff lounge. Due to insufficient funds, the Board postponed the installation of windows in two classrooms.

Repairs at École Boréal

Initial work to solidify an outer wall is essentially complete. However, the problem of water accumulating around the foundation must be resolved before the fall. The Board made a request for additional funds to insulate the foundation and install underground drainage around the school.

School leases

The Board has signed an annual lease of \$84,707 for space at Kensington School (EPSB) to accommodate École À la Découverte. As for École Desrochers, the lease with the Jasper Legion was increased by 5% for three years at an annual cost of \$105,000. The lease for the three premises within the Centre scolaire-communautaire (ACFA Centralta) in Legal for École Citadelle was negotiated at \$0 increase for a one-year

period. The lease with Covenant Health (Youville Centre) for École Alexandre-Taché was increased to \$128,290/year to reflect the addition of the new premises.

Finally, Alberta Education confirmed its full contribution to the lease of \$28,573/year for the use of Jasper Jr/Sr HS and the portable classrooms in Jasper.

Behavioural consultant

Chantal Jackson will take over the position of behavioral consultant held by Natalie Boutin. Ms. Jackson is originally from Donnelly (Alberta) and completed a BA in Psychology at the University of Alberta and an MA in counseling and psychology at City University of Seattle. She will become a registered psychologist following the completion of her internship. She has worked as a family counselor for Alberta Health Services Addiction and Mental Health and as an addiction counselor for AADAC Youth Services PChAD / Detoxification and Stabilization / Residential Treatment Programs.

Speech therapist

For the first time, Centre-Nord will benefit from the services of a full-time speech therapist, Mireille Hébert. She hails from the St. Paul region and obtained a BA from Campus Saint-Jean with a major in Psychology and a minor in Biological Sciences. She has just completed a Masters in Speech therapy at the University of Alberta.

Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at La Cité francophone on Tuesday, September 20 at 7 p.m.