

Auditor's report for 2011-2012 financial year

Trustees approved the audited financial statement presented by King & Company Chartered Accountants. For the 2011-2012 financial year, a deficit of \$204,636 was recorded on revenues of \$42,537,207 and expenses of 42,741,843\$.

On August 31, 2012, the Board had \$2,160,446 in accumulated surpluses. The balance of accumulated surpluses as at August 31, 2012 is \$1,570,549. The decrease is due to the transfer of \$600,000 from reserves for the construction of a larger gymnasium in Red Deer (École La Prairie).

Budget 2012-2013

The Board adopted the updated budget for the 2012-2013 school year. In May, the projected deficit was \$367,000; it has since increased to \$759,000. The main causes are the addition of 5.2 student aides and 0.3 teachers, a new bus route, additional costs for Bellamy software and other unforeseen expenses.

Trustees will attend a work session specially designed for them in Spring 2013 to better assess the next budget.

Three-year Education Plan and Annual Education Report

The Board adopted the 2012-2015 Three-year Education Plan and the 2011-2012 Annual Education Report. Both documents are posted on the Board's website.

Education Minister Jeff Johnson's visit to École Alexandre-Taché

On November 14, Minister Johnson visited École Alexandre-Taché (St. Albert), where he toured classrooms, talked with students and visited the student-run *Bistro*. He also met with Chair Karen Doucet, Trustee Paul Dumont and members of the school council and new school acquisition committee. All agreed that the visit and

conversations were very productive and enabled Minister Johnson to better understand the need to prioritize the Board's request for a new school in the next round of government announcements.

DAVIGNON-DESROCHERS fund

The Board thanked the family of Louis Armand Desrochers for their donation of \$15,000 to create the endowment fund DAVIGNON-DESROCHERS for students at École Desrochers in Jasper. The children of Louis A. Desrochers, represented by Pierre Desrochers – former Chair of Centre-Nord – determined that the fund will provide the school with an annual sum towards the development of students' cultural identity.

Request for Modus modular classrooms

The Board ratified administration's recommendation to request modular classrooms for École Notre Dame (2), École Sainte-Jeanne-d'Arc (4), Père-Lacombe (2) and La Prairie (2). The recommendation does not guarantee that Government will comply with the request since Government has committed to buying 40 units for the entire province. The Board is still requesting reimbursement for the relocation of a modular classroom from École La Prairie (Red Deer) to École Notre-Dame (Edmonton) last summer.

Enrolment 2012: Gains and losses

Trustees received a report analyzing the gains and losses of students since June 2012. In total, 285 students left district schools: 120 left the board's territory, 111 transferred to English schools, 48 transferred to French immersion schools and six chose home education.

Wellness Grant for Centre-Nord schools

The Board received a \$10,000 grant from the Alberta Healthy School Community Wellness Fund, an initiative sponsored by Alberta Health and the University of Alberta.

École Alexandre-Taché

The City of St. Albert informed the three boards that it was withdrawing its commitment to the Kingswood site as a possible site for the future École Alexandre-Taché because Canterra Developments will not develop the land if the City designates it for a high school. As an alternative, the City designated a 20-acre site (Badger Lands) in the northwest that could accommodate a joint 1,200 to 1,400 student school, if the Province accepts such a proposal.

École Citadelle

Work to expand two classrooms on the school's third floor is completed. The Board is still awaiting a favorable response from the Province regarding the request for \$500,000 to make leasehold improvements in the community centre in order to accommodate junior high school students and administration.

Value Management study for both schools in Legal

Representatives from Centre-Nord, Greater St. Albert Roman Catholic SD and the departments of Education and Infrastructure will participate in a Value Management study in Legal on December 19 and 20. The goal is to examine the future of both Legal schools, their programming and capital needs. The exercise will be conducted and funded by the Province.

École Joseph-Moreau

The Board proposed that the architectural plans for the modernization of École Joseph-Moreau be submitted to the Province. The work is estimated at \$11-12 million to expand and modernize the school to accommodate up to 450 students.

New bus route

A new school bus route was added on November 5 for students living in downtown Edmonton.

Government request to adopt a disclosure of expenses policy

Recently, the provincial government announced a policy on the disclosure of personal expenses for ministers, caucus members, deputy ministers and executives. Alberta Education is now encouraging school boards to implement a similar policy. Trustees will discuss the matter at its March retreat.

Date of next meeting

The next regular meeting will be held at La Cité francophone on Tuesday, January 22, 2012, at 6 p.m.