

## Official enrolments 2013-2014

Trustees are pleased with the strong increase in enrolments – 9.1 % - the second highest since the Board’s formation in 1994. In 2006-2007, Centre-Nord experienced a 21 % increase. The student count went from 2,577 last year to 2,806 this year. Four schools registered significant increases: À la Découverte (+37), Sainte-Jeanne-d’Arc (+39), Père-Lacombe (+40) and Gabrielle-Roy (+79).

Six years ago, the district had 254 Kindergarten children, which decreased to 229 and 230 the following years, but there are 338 Kindergarten children this year.

To meet this unexpected increase, Centre-Nord hired an additional seven teachers and eight educational assistants since the approval of the preliminary budget last May.

## Negotiations with ATA

The Board ratified a collective agreement with the Alberta Teachers' Association for the period from September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2016; teachers ratified the agreement earlier in October.

The main changes are:

- a) Salary: September 1, 2012 (0%), September 1, 2013 (0%), September 1, 2014 (0.17% adjustment to the provincial average), September 1, 2015 (2.0%);
- b) Lump sum payment: 1% of salary to employees under contract November 15, 2015;
- c) Personal days: A second personal day at Board cost and the possibility of taking a personal day to extend the summer, Christmas or spring holidays if the teacher: i) finds a substitute; ii) informs the principal at least 10 days in advance; iii) receives approval from school principal and superintendent confirming that the absence will not affect school operations;
- d) Benefits: the employer contribution to the group insurance plans will increase to 95.5 % on September 1, 2014, and 96% on September 1, 2015.

## C2 Committee

In spring 2013, a provincial framework agreement was ratified by the Government of Alberta, ATA and ASBA to determine what jurisdiction-initiated tasks or policies could be eliminated or modified to reduce teacher workload and improve teacher efficacy. As a result, Centre-Nord formed a joint teacher/district committee to meet from September 2013 to June 2016.

A teacher survey was conducted between September 18 and 23. Out of 215 certified staff members, 135 (63%) responded. The 105 pages of comments were compiled, categorized and analyzed.

The C2 Committee elaborated a preliminary action plan for the next three years. An initial report was submitted to Alberta Education, ATA, ASBA and Centre-Nord.

## Test results and performance examinations for the diploma

Trustees were informed of the results of Grade 3, 6 and 9 provincial achievement tests in June 2013, and those of the grade 12 diploma examinations written in January and June 2013.

### Overall average « Acceptable » (85% target) for 13 achievement tests 3-6-9

CSCN			Province		
2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
83.2	79.3	83.3	79.3	79.1	79.0
17.0	16.1	17.0	19.5	20.8	18.9

### Overall average « Acceptable » (85 % target) for 8 diploma exams (grade 12)

CSCN			Province		
2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
72.1	76.0	84.0	81.9	83.1	84.6
17.4	16.9	15.2	20.2	20.9	21.7

## 2014-2015 school calendar

Trustees will consult school council members and staff relative to the proposed 2014-2015 school calendar. The main dates are:

- Teachers back at school for three days in August
- First day for students on September 2
- Three-day fall break for students in November
- PD days in September, October, November, March and May
- Holiday break from Friday, December 19 to Monday, January 5
- Last day for students and staff on Friday, June 26

## École Alexandre-Taché

Last week, the Minister of Infrastructure revealed possible changes to the P3 model (public-private partnership) to design, build and maintain 19 new schools in Alberta, including École Alexandre-Taché in St. Albert.

The P3 proposal is part of a major commitment by Premier Alison Redford to build 50 new schools and modernize 70 others.

It was reported that a single consortium submitted a proposal apparently because others currently do not have the capacity to build 19 schools simultaneously. Centre-Nord administrators are confident the Province will find solutions or financing to ensure that École Alexandre-Taché will open its doors in September 2016.

## École Citadelle

Renovations started last July are almost complete and include a gym storage adjacent to the community centre's gymnasium. Minister Johnson has not yet responded favorably to Centre-Nord's request for a \$350,000 reimbursement for the necessary renovations.

## Royal Bank of Canada donation

RBC donated \$15,000 to support Projet ESPOIR's work in mental health: last year, RBC donated \$10,000.

## Next meeting of the Board

The next regular Board meeting will be held at La Cité francophone on Tuesday, November 26, 2013 at 6 p.m.