

Designation of new schools in Beaumont and Camrose

According to Sec. 255.3 of the Alberta School Act, the Board must designate its schools either as public or catholic. The Board consulted with parents from both École francophone de Beaumont and École francophone de Camrose in December, as stipulated in Policy B-2011 "Opening of new schools".

The Board approved the result of the parents' vote and designated École francophone de Beaumont as a catholic school. The designation will come into effect in the 2015-2016 school year.

The Board approved the result of the parents' vote and designated École francophone de Camrose as a public school. The designation will come into effect in the 2015-2016 school year.

	Ballots	Participation	Public	Catholic
Beaumont	79	50/79 (63%)	20 (40%)	30 (60%)
Camrose	27	21/27 (78%)	20 (95%)	1 (5%)

State of high schools in Edmonton area

By way of following-up with a recommendation from Vision 20/20, the Board appointed a working group comprised of principals from Edmonton area high schools and central office administrators. They will collect student and programming data, create school profiles and seek legal advice.

The Board supports the Caron/Boutet Case

Affidavits from trustee Denis Lefebvre, the Board and the Alberta School Trustees' Association were allowed by the Supreme Court of Canada in support of the case by Gilles Caron and Pierre Boutet. Denis Lefebvre will be in Ottawa on February 13 to hear the presentations in this important case for Francophones in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Meeting with the Education Minister

On January 19, the Francophone Board chairs and superintendents met with Minister of Education Gordon Dirks. The Minister wanted information on the progress being made in schools relative to: Inspiring Education; technology and BYOD; dual-credit courses; high school redesign; commitment to curriculum prototyping; grade 3 Student Learning Assessments; weighting of diploma examination results.

The Chairs took the opportunity to describe their challenges in terms of transportation, infrastructure, governance, joint initiatives, student needs in language learning, support for under-educated students, etc.

Alberta funding for educative services offered by the Conseil des écoles fransaskoises

Alberta Education provided \$257,990 to CSCN, an amount transferred to Conseil des écoles fransaskoises to fund Alberta students enrolled at École Sans-frontières in 2014-2015. CÉF also received \$232,630 to cover a portion of lease costs retroactive to 2012-2013. Overall, a total of \$490,530 was transferred to CÉF for the francophone school in Lloydminster.

CÉF will inform parents at École Sans-frontières on March 27 whether the school will close at the end of the current school year.

École Alexandre-Taché

Workun Garrick Architects will announce in mid-March the call for proposals for contractors for the construction of the school scheduled to open in summer of 2016.

New assistant-principal at Gabrielle-Roy

Congratulations to the interim vice-principal of école Gabrielle-Roy, Heather Coffin. She is filling Pierre

Hébert's position; he is on secondment at Alberta Education. Heather holds a BA in Science and a BEd in teaching, both from Campus Saint-Jean. She has been teaching at the school 2009.

Draft policy on sexual orientation and identity

The Board charged administration with the development of a draft policy and administrative procedures on sexual identity and orientation.

Next meetings

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24 at 6 pm at Cité francophone.