

## Board Meeting Highlights

**November 24, 2015**

**Trustees:** Guy Pelletier (Chairperson), Anne Marie Watson (Vice-Chairperson), David Bouchard, Murray Hollman, Adriana LaGrange, Diane MacKay, and Liam McNiff

### **2014-2015 Audited Financial Statements**

Representatives from the auditing firm of MNP were in attendance to provide the Board with an overview of the 2014-2015 Audited Financial Statements. It has been confirmed that these statements were filed in accordance with Canadian audit standards with no incidences of fraud or non-compliance.

### **2014-2015 Annual Education Results Report**

The Board of Trustees were presented with the Annual Education Results Report (AERR) for the 2014-2015 school year. This report provides an overview of Division results as compared to the province. A summary of these results can be found attached to this email.

### **Division Education Plan for 2015-2018**

The Board of Trustees were presented with the 2015-2018 Three-year Division Education Plan. This plan highlights our Division's priorities, trends and potential issues for the next three school years. Our priorities include an emphasis on "LIFT" (Literacy, Inclusion, Faith and Technology). The report can be found attached to this email.

### **Fine Arts Pilot Project**

The Associate Superintendent of Inclusive Education and the Director of Inclusive Education provided the Board with an update regarding the Fine Arts Pilot Project that has been launched at three of our schools this year. This Comprehensive Music Program is designed to expose elementary students to all areas of music, including singing, listening, moving, reading, writing, creating music and playing all types of instruments. This multi-faceted program gives students the opportunity to choose what areas of music they would like to explore. The overall goal of the program is to create a greater enjoyment and appreciation of music.

### **Syrian Refugee Families**

The City of Red Deer awaits the arrival of 200-250 refugees from Syria. Our Division will use a translator to help inform these new Canadians about education in Alberta as well as the differences between the public and Catholic school systems. Our Division is most concerned about the social, mental and emotional wellbeing of these refugees and will welcome students into our schools with open arms. We have a strong ESL Program and Counsellors on hand to help assist these students and their families with integrating into their new country.

### **Capital Project Updates**

#### **St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School in Innisfail**

Alberta Infrastructure's review has delayed this tender. Tenders for this project are now expected to close in December 2015 with construction starting in the new year.

#### **St. Gregory the Great Catholic School in Blackfalds**

Construction will begin in the spring.

#### **St. Joseph High School in Red Deer**

Structural steel on the remainder of the building has begun.

#### **St. Francis of Assisi Middle School Addition in Red Deer**

Work has begun on the foundation of the addition.

The next board meeting is on January 26, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.



**Guy Pelletier**

Board Chair