



**Greater St. Albert
Catholic Schools**

Board Meeting Summary

January 27, 2014

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The last regular meeting of the Board was held in St. Albert at the District Office, on Monday, January 27, 2014.

GOOD NEWS

Awards and Recognition

- Alberta Education has asked Richard S. Fowler to be featured in a video series about the role of technology in education. The Ministry recently released the Learning and Technology Policy Framework (www.education.alberta.ca/LTPF), a new policy document that describes a common vision for school authorities and government. In this vision, technology is integrated seamlessly into the learning environment and students, themselves, are using technology to achieve learning outcomes. This video series will highlight examples of schools from across the provinces that are leading the way in realizing this vision.

School Updates

- GSACRD hosted its annual Preschool/Kindergarten EXPO which was very well attended by the St. Albert & Morinville Communities. We look forward to hosting all of the new families at upcoming open houses which are being held over the next several weeks in our schools.
- MCHS received a generous donation of a new water fountain for the gym from a parent. The water fountain is being used to fill reusable water bottles. This fountain has a counter on it that records the number of plastic disposable water bottles that it saves from use and after the first two days of operation, the counter was over 500 water bottles filled. This is a fantastic way to encourage wise water use and environmental responsibility.
- The response to the Morinville Community Conversation was very positive and the information shared during the evening, both by the school and by the participants, has assisted to further a positive environment that will be used to grow and diversify the school.
- Ecole Father Jan is pleased to announce that Les Tournesols the French Immersion preschool will be hosting their program out of the school beginning in September 2014. This will provide added convenience for families will preschool and school aged children.
- R. S. Fowler senior boys basketball team were champions at the recent SAPEC tournament. Congratulations!

ACTION ITEMS

- The Board approved the 2014-2015 School Year Calendar. It is posted on the website and will be distributed to families this spring. Please note there is a fall break this year which includes an additional day off for families over the Remembrance Day weekend based on how the calendar dates fell. The calendar includes one additional instructional day (180) than in 2013-14 (179).

NEW BUSINESS

- The Board discussed the growing concern seen in the work of our schools with regards to students who find themselves in difficult situations some of whom are homeless and the need to support area agencies to provide solutions.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- The Board received a note from the Mayor's office indicating their approval of \$20,000 for organic waste collection in St. Albert schools. J.J. Nearing successfully piloted this program.
- Superintendent, D. Keohane highlighted two initiatives that confirmed the district's leadership position in the province including
 - Being one of three districts that was invited to share best practices for success in their systems with a large U.S. Delegation seeking to improve their education systems.
 - Alberta Education will be including R. S. Fowler in a video showcase to demonstrate how the school is successful in use of personal technology in the classroom.

UPCOMING INITIATIVES FOR THE BOARD

- Help us Shape Our Future: The district is working with Dialogue Partners a consultation firm to broaden the community conversation in St. Albert to understand "What GSACRD high schools should look like in the future? We encourage families, staff and students to join the conversation by linking into the public forums and the online forum that is currently live. You can view the details through the district website.

**The next Regular Meeting of the
Board of Trustees is scheduled for
Monday, February 10, 2014
7:30 p.m. at District Office
6 St. Vital Avenue, St. Albert, AB**