



Board Briefs

May 31, 2010 - Regular Meeting

The following motions were made by the Board of Living Waters CRD No. 42:

- ❖ The Board approved the 2010/2011 School Calendars as presented.
- ❖ The Board accepted the draft divisional budget for 2010/2011 as presented.
- ❖ The Board approved the Catholicity Clause for incorporation into the Living Waters CRD No. 42 teaching contracts as of January 1, 2011.
- ❖ The Board agreed to cease operations of the Central Alberta Media Services (CAMS) effective June 30, 2010.
- ❖ The Board nominated Father Jeyapaul of St. Peter Celestin Parish in Slave Lake for the ACSTA Appreciation Award.
- ❖ The Board made a motion to rescind Motion # 083/09 regarding support for Greater St. Albert.

Next meeting to be held on June 28, 2010 at the Board Office at 6:00 pm.

June 2010

A Message from the Superintendent...

The Seventh Habit

The seventh habit of highly effective people is to "sharpen the saw". Sharpening the saw refers to people taking the time to renew themselves so that they don't become dull, ineffective and tired. It talks about the need to learn more, change strategies, study new concepts and improve practice. It also talks about the need to take time away from your work, the focus of your daily routine and refresh your mind, body and spirit.

It is the end of June, and time to do exactly that. A school year is exhausting. We all know that! Our satisfaction surveys tell me that everyone has worked hard and worked smart. The school staffs have used every strategy possible to get every child to complete the year with success. The schools have been kept clean and safe. We can all look back on the year with a sense of satisfaction and completion.

Now, before we start looking at the next year and all that needs to be done, everything we know we can do better next year, mistakes we don't plan to repeat, let's all take time to just unwind! Sleep in, go fishing, take the kids camping, go to Disneyland, go home to visit the family, take a trip, lay around in a hammock all day, do the gardening that didn't get done in May or June, go to Europe, go to a spa, go to the back yard, go to the lake, go to the mountains. Read books that aren't about teaching, social studies, or high yield strategies, or about the latest trends in special needs care. Read a silly love story or a blood curdling horror. Stay up late, sleep in late, and eat something other than a sandwich whenever you feel like eating it as opposed to when you've got time.

In other words- take a vacation! And enjoy every minute of it. You deserve it!

Carol Lemay

Celebrating our Retirees

John Detka, St. Joseph School..... 7 Years of Service
Mike McAndrews, Holy Redeemer School..... 15 Years of Service
Gerry, Melanson , St. Joseph School.....33 Years of Service

As a chapter closes in your life, and a new one starts for you, may your years be filled with all the things you've been looking forward to!

Many thanks for your commitment, hard work and dedication towards Catholic Education.

May God bless you all with your future endeavors!





Celebrating our Mentorship/Induction Program

Remember your first teaching job? You had just finished your degree and you were ready to face the world as a new teacher. You had plans, dreams, aspirations and enthusiasm to set up your classroom and get started. Before you knew it, you were inundated with forms to fill out, procedures and routines to follow, classroom space to organize, lesson plans and unit plans to prepare. Yikes! No one had prepared you for collecting hot dog money! For those of us who survived the first months of teaching, we quickly came to realize that the University had not prepared us for the realities that we were facing. However, if we took the time to think back to what helped us get through that first year...we can all possibly identify a significant person, an act of kindness or some type of support that helped to pull us through.

Over the past year, Living Waters Catholic Regional Division No 42, has been a participant in year one of the Northern Tier Project. The intent of the Northern Tier Project is to provide support for new teachers entering the profession or for teachers new to the province who are teaching in the Northern Tier. The Northern Tier is comprised of eleven school divisions. To be a part of the Northern Tier certain measures are used such as socio-economic status, teacher and student mobility, student achievement, the education level of the mother, etc. Some of these variables we have no control over, while others we can impact positively if the right supports are in place.

Mentors, protégés, administrators and our mentorship/induction team have worked hard over the past three years in developing an induction program that can support all teachers new to the division. We have found ways for our mentors and protégés to meet, collaborate, model and observe each other in the classroom. Protégé workshops were facilitated throughout the year to provide strategies, templates, and time for conversations focused on teaching practice. A Mentorship Steering committee was formed to help in the organization of our induction program and it also provided us with support and program feedback. Staff members from across the division provided sessions on DPA and FNMI to our protégés, and Francoise Ruban from the Alberta Teachers Association helped to facilitate sessions to build lateral collegial capacity in our mentors.

We are greatly appreciative of the participation and contribution of all who took part in our program and we look forward to building on our program in the years to come. We understand and value the importance of providing supports to our new staff members to ensure their success as they begin their journey in the teaching profession. This investment is very important to the Division and well worth it. The protégés in turn will become mentors and master teachers.

I am sure, we all have first year teaching stories to share, some lessons learned, highlights, lowlights and success stories, and hopefully someplace in the milieu of our story telling we are able to remember someone who made a difference to help us get through our first year of teaching and thanked them wholeheartedly!

*Jo-Anne Lanctot
Deputy Superintendent*

Facilities Update

Summer is rapidly approaching and with it the mad rush to clean the schools prior to the new school year and complete the major construction projects too.

All custodial and maintenance staff should have their summer schedules completed and handed in to their Administrators for approval by now. Teachers are encouraged to check with their principals about access to the schools during the summer months. While there are no direct restrictions on teaching staff entering the schools over the summer months please be considerate and remember that cleaning of classrooms and waxing of floors or construction may prohibit entry at certain times of the day or week. The custodial and maintenance staff have a limited window of time to ensure the school is ready for your return in the fall.

All staff who are not working over the summer period should also remove any personal belongings from the school prior to the end of the school year. The custodial staff is not responsible for items that may get lost due to the constant shifting to allow for cleaning each area. Also keep in mind that there are outside groups utilizing our facilities during the summer months as well and it is hard to watch over the entire school when only 2 or 3 people are there cleaning.

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation and I hope that everyone has a great summer and returns to us safely in the fall.

*Kevin Robinson
Facilities Manager*

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Joseph Graduation	June 26, 2010
Board Meeting	June 28, 2010
CASS: Start-Rite Program Olds, AB	July 5-9, 2010

Congratulations to Holy Redeemer School for placing 39th out of 273 schools on the Fraser Institute Report. Well done!!