

GRÂCE À MES
RACINES,
MON AVENIR SE DESSINE!

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Board Highlights for the East Central Francophone Meeting
May 25, 2015

BY-ELECTIONS

On Monday May 25th, a nomination was received for the vacant Ward 2 position representing the St. Paul area. The Board Chair, Michèle Dallaire, will follow-up with the nominee.

COMMITTEE FOR BOUNDARY REVIEW

Marc Dumont, Superintendent, explained that the revision of Francophone Authority boundaries was discussed at the last Francophone Superintendents meeting on May 8th. The Board strongly believes in the need to amend current boundaries.

PROVINCIAL BUDGET: UPDATE

Marc Dumont reported on the current situation indicating that the lack of information from Alberta Education is making it difficult to manage human resource decisions. Nevertheless, a new minister is chosen, Mr. David Eggen, himself a former teacher. The only announcement that was advertised in the election platform was the potential for reversing the budget cuts of the former governing party. Technically, what currently prevails is the original version of the March 26th budget. However, the budget submission deadline has been extended to June 30th.*

PUBLIC MEETING AT ÉCOLE DES BEAUX-LACS

Day/evening Open House: Guest Glen Taylor

Lise Gratton, school principal, expressed her satisfaction with the outcome of the event. The evening dedicated to bilingual families and the presentation by Glen Taylor was greatly appreciated by parents. Moreover, the advertising for the event as well as the open house was also an important point. New families were present, which is a good thing. It was also an experience well appreciated by the students.

Road east of the school

School Council president, Don Lafond, had followed-up with the town of Bonnyville last year, but it seems there are no short/medium term plans to rebuild the road east of the school. Board administration will be requesting a meeting with town administration in the fall.

*On May 28th, Alberta Education announced that it is reversing the March 26th budget. More details will be available following the adoption of the budget on June 25th.

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ÉCOLE DU SOMMET SCHOOL TRIP

The Superintendent presented to the Board a request from École du Sommet. The Board agreed for the school to proceed planning the trip.

SHARING SERVICES WITH THE CSNO

The Board approved sharing the services of the secretary-treasurer if the CSNO desires pursuing the agreement into the 2015-2016 school year.

PUBLIC REPRESENTATION AT THE CSCE

Guy Généreux, board member, felt it was important to bring this subject forward in light of recent media coverage at Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord (Greater North Central Francophone Education). As two years remain before the next school board elections, Guy Généreux believes it would be important to administer a new survey in school communities regarding denominational representation. Administration agreed to research how this process was implemented by other Francophone boards within the province.

The Board will investigate the possibility of eliminating or modifying the electoral districts, in light of experience with vacant positions. This would allow more than one councillor from the same school community to be elected if a position cannot be filled in another community. Also, the Athabasca project currently being studied could precipitate changes.

STUDENT DELEGATION ACELF

The Board would like students to benefit from the opportunity to send students to ACELF in Niagara Falls in September. Marc Dumont will be bringing this suggestion to school principals.

RNDGÉ

Marc Dumont was elected president of the *Regroupement national des directions générales en éducation* (national coalition of superintendents in education). The RNDGÉ represents the 28 Francophone school boards outside Québec and works closely at the political level with other national organisations such as the *Fédération nationale des conseils scolaires francophones* (national federation of Francophone school boards (FNCSF)). The election took place at the joint convention, RNDGÉ and ADIGECS (*Superintendents Association of Education in Québec*) on May 13th in Québec.

FCSFA EXAM BANK

This is a project supported by CSCE. Moreover, all teachers are required to use final exams developed under the project; teachers and principals support this practice. The project's merits were emphasized during discussions with the C2 Committee (committee established in the last round of collective agreement negotiations between the ATA and the province to find efficiencies and ways to reduce teacher workload where possible). It is important to note that teacher participation in the use of common questions and

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exams is strongly encouraged. It is used as professional development for teachers, thus contributing to the alignment between teaching, learning and the programs of study; helping to narrow the gap between a school's awarded mark and provincial exam mark. Given the small pool of teachers that share the same educational assignments, the project brings teachers together enabling them not only to collaborate at the design level of questions and exams, but to exchange best practices.

Nevertheless, administration wishes to further analyze the project in light of the provincial budget and in light of suggestions for project improvements identified by some of the other partners.

It should be noted that at the last ADEON (Francophone superintendents from the four western provinces and three territories) meeting in Winnipeg, on April 30th, several superintendents have expressed interest in developing common assessments given that Francophone school boards in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut share many curriculum foundations and seek to improve results on standardized tests such as PISA.

The FCSFA's exam bank project will be deliberated in June amongst Francophone superintendents of Alberta and with their board of directors.

ACSTA

The Association of Yukon Catholic Schools is officially a member of the ACSTA.

GRADUATION CEREMONIES

Beaux-Lacs: June 6th
Voyageur: June 13th
Beauséjour: July 4th

NEXT MEETING

JUNE 25, 2015 IN ST. PAUL

AT 4:00 P.M.

If you wish have an item placed on the agenda, personally, or as a delegation, please make your request either in writing or by calling the superintendent at least one week prior to the meeting.

For more information, please Marc Dumont at 780-812 8934.

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