

Board Highlights

Telephone (780) 645-3888

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Highlights of the September 4, 2013 East Central Francophone Regular Meeting

Communications

Guy Généreux, Chairman and Michele Dallaire, trustee, suggest a few strategies to better inform and raise awareness among parents about the role of respective board members and better understand the operation of a school board.

Update on Student Registrations

Marc Dumont provides a summary of registrations to date. Notably, in Pre-K, enrollment increased by 55%. For the entire board, enrollment increased by about 4%.

2013-2014 Budget Update

Marc Labonte summarizes the 2013-2014 budget with student registration adjustments.

However, in a year with budgetary cuts, certain costs have become difficult to sustain, including transportation. Currently, there are three students who live in Vilna, Mannville and Athabasca, respectively. These three stops would increase transportation costs by \$100 000.

Furthermore, the Board has asked administration to find an alternative for these three students and to create bus catchment areas for all four schools.

Revenues vs. Expenses Update

The secretary-treasurer is confident that East Central Francophone Education will eliminate its accumulated deficit in two years rather than five. More specifically, at the end of the '12-'13 fiscal year, the board has managed to achieve the objectives of the accumulated deficit elimination plan. This plan, developed in conjunction with Alberta Education, allowed the board to spread its deficit elimination over a 5-year period.

Human Resources Update

Marc Dumont presents a human resources update, including new assignments, new teachers, departures and maternity leaves.

Report on Professional Development

Josée Verreault presented a summary of the first PD day. The guest speaker, Ronald Boudreau, focused on the importance of understanding francophone identity, while moving towards the new face of "Francophonie" and understanding the Francophone school's purpose stemming from the Charter.

Furthermore, Josée Verreault, Director of Educational Services, provided details of the first week's professional development training that took place in École Voyageur. The approach used was to leverage each other's strengths in teamwork and collaboration to ensure all staff maintain good habits to create a cooperative climate within the school. Nadia Rousseau will follow up with École Voyageur Staff, guiding them to achieve the goals that have been set by the school team.

C2 Committee

Marc Dumont presented the general guidelines for the implementation of the C2 Committee and work required to generate the recommendations from this committee. The committee will consist of two board members and two teachers, one from elementary level and the other from the secondary.

Overview of results

Marc Dumont, Superintendent, and Josée Verreault, Director of Educational Services, presented the preliminary results of performance tests for the Grades 3, 6 and 9.

Schedule for Regular 2013-2014 Board Meetings

Marc Dumont and Marc Labonte proposed two Board meeting schedules for the 2013-2014 year. However, it was decided that the current trustees leave the decision for the next Board formed after the October elections.

Adopting a Modified Voting Procedure

Michèle Dallaire, trustee, made a motion to adopt a bylaw to allow each school community with non-Catholic parents to vote for candidates who present themselves for the non-catholic (public) ward vacancy for the October elections. The new bylaw does not change however the fact that each of the other four wards (Cold Lake, Bonnyville, Plamondon, and St. Paul / Lac La Biche / Athabasca), will be represented by a Catholic school board trustee for each of the school communities identified as predominantly Catholic (80%) during the procedure for designating schools in 2001.

If you would like to register your name to be placed on the agenda, either as a delegation or to speak at the meeting, you may place your request in writing or by contacting the Superintendent's office at least one week prior to the Board Meeting.

Please verify the schedule of Board meetings with your school as unforeseen situations may change meeting schedules.

For more information, please contact the East Central Francophone Education Authority at: 780-645-3888 or toll free at: 1-866-645-9556.

