

Board of Trustees Report: February 2021

Our regularly scheduled Board meeting was held January 25, 2021.

Good News:

Ecole Secondaire St. Albert Catholic High School community donated almost \$20K in gifts, gift cards and food items for families in need in their own school community. Christmas Hampers were put together and delivered by staff. The school community generosity and compassion helped make Christmas a little brighter for those families.

As part of their Advent retreat, students at **Betha Kennedy** created homemade Christmas cards and hand delivered them to all their neighbours surrounding the school. Many phone calls, emails, FB messages and even a letter to the Editor of the Gazette were received, thanking the BK students for being so thoughtful. As part of **BK's** building positive community relations, Students created gift bags with a "virtual" hug included for their senior friends at River Ridge Seniors Community.

Legal School again contributed to their town-wide Christmas Hamper drive coordinated by the Emile Men of Service (formerly the Knights of Columbus) in conjunction with Ecole Citadelle. 23 Hampers were made for families in the community with a full Christmas meal, presents and food beyond the Christmas season.

Legal School's grade 5/6 class organized a service project in December as part of their Global Read Aloud project. Their book, "Indian No More" by Charlene Willing, dealt with the topic of racism towards Indigenous Peoples so the students wanted their service project to address tolerance and acceptance. The class chose to support the Centre for Race and Culture in Edmonton in their work to promote inclusion and a society free of racism and discrimination. The students created a "Maker" store and sold homemade crafts, ornaments and toys to other students in the school as well as collecting bottles from home throughout December. They raised over \$350 for their project.

Sister Alphonse Academy were awarded a grant of \$1,000 from United Way – Denton's Make your Mark on Poverty Initiative. **SAA** is organizing a virtual auction to raise dollars to support vulnerable youth (Catholic Social Service). Their virtual auction will take place in March. The school have started collecting donations for this exciting event.

Sister Alphonse Academy were awarded \$2,350.00 from the Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools Education Foundation to put towards the purchase of technology. Six new Chromebooks and a technology tub from the Learning Technology Services Department have been ordered to assist with student participation.

Board Business:

The Board reviewed and approved, or accepted, the following Action items:

- Formation of an Ad Hoc Awards Committee
- Formation of an Ad Hoc Trustee Handbook Committee
- Board Policy 7: Board Operations
- Policy 11: Board Delegation of Authority
- Policy 13: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters
- Policy 15: School Closure / Transfer of Students

Superintendent's Report

Updates and/or reports were provided on the following:

- Inclusive Education Programming Report
- School Results Reviews (SRR)
- First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Report
- 2020-2021 Quarterly Financial Report
- 2020-2021 School Facilities Utilization Report
- 2020-2021 Fee Waiver Report
- 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 Instructional Year Calendars

Upcoming Division Events

- Schools Open Houses held virtually this year.

Upcoming Board Initiatives:

- Alberta School Boards Association Full-day Advocacy Planning workshop – Feb. 8th
- Meeting with Legal Town Council – Feb 18th
- Meeting with MLA Renaud (Tentative) – Feb 24th
- Zone 2/3 Trustee Coffee Conversation – March 9th
- Board of Trustees Annual Board Planning Retreat - April 15 – 16.
- Alberta School Councils Association – April 23-25.
- Edwin Parr Zone 2/3 Awards Banquet – May 21.

Special Meeting: February 1, 2021

The Board held a special meeting on **Monday, February 1, 2021** with one agenda item. We passed a unanimous motion to write letters to Premier Kenney, Education Minister LaGrange, Health Minister Shandro and Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Deena Hinshaw, requesting that all school staff personnel be considered for front of the line status when Phase 2 of the Covid-19 vaccines are rolled out. The motion included inviting our sister Boards, St. Albert Public, Sturgeon Public and Centre-Nord Francophone School Division to be co-signors of the letters, but if any or all of them did not wish to join our initiative, the letters would be sent without them as partners. I am pleased to report that all three other Boards joined us as co-signatories on the letters and they were sent **February 4th**.

Our February **Committee of the Whole Meeting** was held **Monday, February 8**. The Committee of the Whole Meeting sets agenda items for the Board Meeting.

The **next Regular Meeting of the Board** is scheduled for **Monday, February 22, 2021, at 3:30 p.m.** The meeting will be livestreamed to the community. All Regular Board Meetings are usually open to the public (note: presently, meetings are only held virtually).